sonraí
Irish Data Stewardship Network

Data Stewardship in Ireland: Challenges and Opportunities

Programme and Speaker Biographies

June 19th and 20th, 2024

Dora Allman Room, the Hub

University College Cork

Welcome

Dear Colleagues,

We are delighted to welcome you to what we hope will be the first of many annual Sonraí Irish Data Stewardship Network conferences.

In 2022 the Higher Education Authority funded key initiatives in Ireland's transition towards Open Research identified by Ireland's National Open Research Forum. The 2022 Open Research Fund call was designed to implement six priority actions in Ireland's National Action Plan for Open Research 2022-2030. The establishment of a national data stewardship network was one of the priority actions, Sonraí Irish Data Stewardship Network is the outcome of that call.

Sonraí aims to enable the development of data stewardship skills across the national research landscape through raising the profile data stewards, greater recognition of the need for data stewardship, professionalisation of the role of data steward and skills, and knowledge development throughout the emerging community. By developing these skills nationally, we can ensure the curation, preservation and dissemination of our national data assets, and the continued growth and development of our FAIR (Findable, Accessible, Interoperable, Reusable) data landscape.

Embedding FAIR and Open Data practices across the national landscape requires collaborative effort. Over the next two days, we will hear from key experts, stakeholders, funders, and infrastructure providers as well as other initiatives and projects on how we can work together to meet this challenge. We hope you enjoy the sessions, make new connections, and explore opportunities for collaboration.

Best wishes
Dr. Aoife Coffey and the Sonraí project team

19th & 20th June 2024 | Dora Allman Room, UCC Hub

Conference Schedule

Day One	Day Two
10.00 - 10.30 Registration, tea & coffee	**9.00 - 9.30** Tea & Coffee
10.30 - 11.00 Welcome & Opening Remarks by UCC President Prof. John O'Halloran & Sonrai project leader Dr. Aoife Coffey	**9.30 - 10.00** Prof. Anita Maguire Head of School of Chemistry and Director UCC's Future Pharmaceuticals, University College Cork & Chair of the National Forum on Research Integrity
11.00 - 11.30 Keynote: Dr. Daniel Bangert, Director, 4TU.ResearchData, TU Delft.	**10.00 - 10.30** Dr. David O'Connell, Director of Research Support and Policy UCC ABOARD project 'Roadmap to Embedding Open Research Practices in Ireland'
11.30 - 12.30 Panel Session: National Research Data Infrastructure – bringing FAIR, researchers and data stewards together	**10.30 - 11.00 Break**
12.30 - 13.30 Lunch	**11.00 - 11.30** Prof. Marcus Munafo, University of Bristol, 'UK Reproducibility Network',
13.30 - 14.30 'Supporting open and FAIR data in Ireland', with four presentations: 1. 'A Review of Open Research in Connected Health Ecosystems (ROCHE)' 2. 'TRaining for OPen research in an Irish Context (TROPIC)' 3. 'An Irish National Research Data Management Framework' 4. 'Developing a PID roadmap for Ireland'	**11.30 - 12.00** Dr.Jess Butler, Data Scientist, NHS Grampian, Research Fellow, University of Aberdeen, 'Research Culture and Rewards for Open Science'.
14.30 - 15.30 Panel Session: What is the role of data stewards in the research landscape?	**12.00-13.00** 1. Next steps and sustainability of Sonraí Dr. Aoife Coffey 2. Reflections on the two days, Dr. Darren Dahly
15.30 - 15.45 Break	**13.00 - 14.00 Lunch**
15.45 - 16.30 Keynote: Dr Lisa Griffith, Director, Digital Repository of Ireland	Conference room is available until 17.00 please feel free to hang around and network

Speakers

Dr Daniel Bangert
[4TU.ResearchData](#)
[ORCiD](#)

Daniel is Director of [4TU.ResearchData](#), an international data repository for science, engineering and design, based in the Netherlands. He has a background in open research and research data management across a range of national and institutional contexts, including working in Ireland as National Open Research Coordinator, and positions in Germany and Australia supporting open research in European projects and academic libraries.

During his talk titled '*Enabling FAIR research data: what does it take?*' Daniel will discuss key elements of FAIR data support, highlighting work at 4TU.ResearchData as an international data repository, organisational structures for data stewardship at 4TU Federation universities, and recent initiatives to enable and incentivise FAIR research outputs.

Prof. Kalpana Shankar
University College Dublin
[ORCiD](#), [Website](#)

Kalpana is a Professor of Information and Communication Studies at University College Dublin. Her research and teaching focus on the research ecosystem itself, open data, and data archives and sharing, as well as other work on research evaluation and peer review.

Given mandates for open science in Irish and European research funding with the need for protecting commercialisation/intellectual property, how does the Irish research ecosystem balance these competing drivers? What kind of policies are needed to support researchers, funders, research offices, and technology transfer offices? Drawing on digital health research and innovation as a case study, she will report on early results from ROCHE, a National Open Research Forum (NORF) Strand ll.

Dermot is an Associate Professor of Psychology at Maynooth University, with research interests centred around cognitive science. He is a strong supporter of open access publishing, serving as action editor for the open access journal Collabra, and is the current Chair of the Scientific Advisory Board of PsyArxiv, the largest preprint server for research in psychology. The TROPIC project (TRaining for OPen research in an Irish Context) aims to develop and pilot a national open research training programme to upskill researchers in the fundamentals of open research practices. Through the development of a training programme that is accessible to different disciplines and researcher career stages, TROPIC promotes the development of core research values and equip researchers with transferable competencies and skills, including how to conduct and use research in a trustworthy, transparent, and ethical manner to the benefit of individuals, science and society; how to manage and use research outputs effectively, and aligned to best practice in open research.

Dr Dermot Lynott
Maynooth University
ORCiD

Armin Straube
University of Limerick
ORCiD
LinkedIn

Armin is the Research Data Manager at the University of Limerick. His tasks include teaching and consultancy around open research in general and research data in particular. He is a member of the Research Data Alliance, an EOSC FAIR champion, and the project lead of the NORF funded iFrame project. He particularly enjoys running hands-on Data Carpentry workshops for researchers.

The Irish National Research Data Management Framework Project (iFrame) aims at developing a national research data management framework. Aims include surveying the current state of service provision; helping research performing institutions to align with best practices and to upgrade their services; engaging stakeholders to clarify sector-wide RDM roles and responsibilities and agree on national reference policy guidelines; and evaluating the feasibility of national support services regarding technical service provision and in access to discipline specific expertise.

As MoreBrain's lead on strategy and research, Josh draws on his decade-and-a-half experience of leadership in open research infrastructures, programme management, and community of practice development. He moved into open research infrastructures after working as a librarian at the University of Brighton, and joined Jisc in 2010, to shape their investments and innovation programme for improving research information management in the UK.

Persistent Identifiers (PIDs), such as ORCID IDs or DOIs, are a critical component of a modern, digital research system. NORF and their PID Task Force have been working with experts from MoreBrains Cooperative on a project to develop a PID roadmap for Ireland. This is part of the National Action Plan for Open Research and is aligned with national priorities including the Impact 2030 agenda, and the European Open Science Cloud.

Josh Brown

MoreBrains

ORCiD

Website

MORE+BRAINS

Dr Lisa Griffith

Digital Repository of Ireland

ORCiD

dri — Digital Repository of Ireland — Taisclann Dhigiteach na hÉireann

Dr Lisa Griffith is Director at the Digital Repository of Ireland (DRI). She previously worked as the DRI membership manager and for five years as programme manager at DRI. Lisa is actively involved in Ireland's National Open Research Forum (NORF), sitting on their Steering Group, Grants Oversight Committee and chairing the National PID Taskforce. Lisa came to DRI from roles in higher education and cultural heritage having worked at the Research Support Office in DCU and the National Print Museum. Lisa holds a PhD in history from Trinity College Dublin.

Prof. Anita Maguire
University College Cork

ORCiD
Website

Anita is a Professor of Pharmaceutical Chemistry, Head of School of Chemistry and Director UCC's Future Pharmaceuticals, having completed two terms as Vice President for Research & Innovation (2011-21) at University College Cork. She is a Co-PI and co-theme lead in SSPC, The Science Foundation Ireland Research Centre for Pharmaceuticals. She is the inaugural Chair of the National Forum on Research Integrity in Ireland established in 2015.

She will share some perspectives on the links between research data management and research integrity, and on the challenges and benefits of structured data management as a PI and research mentor.

David is UCC's Director of Research Support & Policy and Co-lead of the CoARA National Chapter for Ireland and the NORF-funded project 'The Roadmap to Embedding Open Research Practices in Ireland (ABOARD)'. Focused on incentivising Open Research practices in Ireland, and led by Dr. David O'Connell and Dr. Sally Smith (TCD), this project brings together a strong national consortium of research-performing organisations, research-funding organisations and key researcher groups to engage in deep, iterative dialogue with key stakeholders across the Irish research landscape. The project, one of thirteen new consortia-based projects designed to advance the implementation of the National Action Plan for Open Research 2022-2030, plans to use a consultation-driven approach to reach agreement on core commitments and concrete steps to effectively incentivise Open Research practices, develop a statement on the use of Responsible Research Metrics, and support the development of Responsible Research Assessment.

Dr David O'Connell

University College Cork

Prof. Marcus Munafo
University of Bristol
ORCiD

Marcus is a Professor of Biological Psychology at the University of Bristol where he is also Associate Pro Vice Chancellor for Research Culture. His research interests include the use of different causal inferences methods to understand the social and behavioural determinants of physical and mental health outcomes. He is Chair of the MRC Neurosciences and Mental Health Board, and of the UK Reproducibility Network Supervisory Board.

The statistician W Edwards Deming, who championed quality control in automobile manufacturing and transformed the reliability of the industry famously said, "*A bad system beats a good person every time*". At present, academic research relies heavily on trust in individuals – it is opaque, artisanal, lacks protection against human fallibility, and incentivises getting published over getting the right answer. He will discuss evidence for each of these problems, and systems solutions to addressing them.

Jess is the Lead Data Scientist at NHS Grampian and a Senior Research Fellow at the University of Aberdeen. She runs Grampian's collaboration with The Health Foundation and four other NHS centres across the UK. This is a six-year project working to reduce health inequalities. The team's specialty is working with big, messy, high-security health and social care data. Dr Butlers focus is creating useful analysis for policy makers and care providers. Right now, they are working on understanding inequalities in children's mental healthcare.

Dr Butler also has an interest in open science and good research culture. Scientists should be (but aren't) rewarded for doing rigorous science. She recently gave evidence about this to the House of Commons Science & Technology committee.

Dr Jess Butler
NHS Grampian and
University of Aberdeen
ORCiD
Website

Panel Session 1

National Research Data Infrastructures – bringing FAIR, researchers and data stewards together.

This panel session on National Research Data Infrastructures explores how the FAIR principles can unite researchers, data stewards, and infrastructure providers fostering collaboration and improving data management practices. We will discuss how supporting existing infrastructure and developing where there are gaps directly supports researchers and FAIR research outputs. Some questions we hope to consider include;

- What is the role of infrastructure in FAIR?
- What do robust FAIR supporting infrastructures look like? Active to archival? National or local? Thematic or multidisciplinary?
- What are the steps towards national research data infrastructure and who takes responsibility?
- How can data stewards support data infrastructure and vice versa?

Panellists

Dr. Aileen O'Carroll	Vanessa Buckley
Aileen joined DRI in 2011 and was central to establishment and management of the Irish Qualitative Data Archive (IQDA), national archive for social science qualitative research datasets. She provides expert advice on research ethics, privacy, data protection and GDPR.	Vanessa joined the Irish Social Science Data Archive (ISSDA) in 2023 as a data manager. Vanessa is responsible for activities relating to data deposit, collection development and description providing support for ISSDA data providers and users. LinkedIn

Niall Wilson	Brian Clayton	Dr. Orla Muphy (Chair)
Niall is the Infrastructure Manager of the Irish Centre for High-End Computing (ICHEC) at University of Galway. Niall is responsible for coordinating efforts to ensure the continued high service levels and performance of the ICHEC systems and for managing the procurement and deployment of new HPC and data management systems.	Brian is a Senior Infrastructure Engineer in IT Services, UCC. He works in Linux, storage, and virtualisation, for research and central services. He is a project partner in the IRLDAT project which aims to design a national infrastructure for active research data.	Orla is a senior Lecturer and Head of Department of Digital Humanities in UCC and a Sonraí Project partner.

Panel Session 2

What is the role of data stewards in the research landscape?

This panel session delves into the crucial role of data stewards in the research landscape, highlighting their responsibilities in managing, curating, and ensuring the quality of research data. We will discuss how data stewards facilitate compliance with best practice, enhance reproducibility and play a key role in supporting our research community. Some questions we hope to consider include;

- Why do we need more data stewards?
- Where can data stewards deliver the most value or have the greatest impact?
- How should services be provided? What are the existing models of data stewardship services? At University/College/ research group level?

19th & 20th June 2024 | Dora Allman Room, UCC Hub

- What funding models and drivers could produce a sustainable, inclusive, and well stewarded research data lifecycle?

Hardy Schwamm (Chair)

Hardy leads the Research Services Team at University College Cork Library. Championing Open Research, he advocates for Open Access publishing, good practices in research data management, and tries to untangle citation metrics.

LinkedIn
ORCiD

Panellists

Dr. Sharon Kappala	**Lindsay Dowling**	**Dr. Chris Burbidge**
Sharon is a health scientist working within health research, data, and policy areas, currently based in the Research Innovation and Infrastructures Unit in Research Funding and Strategy department at the Health Research Board, Ireland. Her role integrates key strands of HRB strategy, funding, national and international health data landscape and policy.	Lindsay leads the newly established Open Research Support Unit in TU Dublin and is currently completing a postgraduate certificate in Data Stewardship. She is the national lead on the OpenAire OSTrails project, a Horizon Europe funded project, which aims to develop machine actionable DMPs through a common approach and to standardise FAIR assessment tools. ORCID LinkedIn	Chris works at the SFI Research Center in Applied Geosciences (iCRAG) as Senior Research Scientist in Earth Analytics, supporting Research Professorship PhD and post-doctoral researchers, plus researchers and faculty across iCRAG on analytics and machine learning techniques in their research, and coaching on mathematical and statistical analysis.

Dr. Janine Strandberg	Dr. Guilia Caldoni	Dr. Curtis Sharma
Janine is the Data Steward for the Faculty of Architecture and the Built Environment at Delft University of Technology (TU Delft) in the Netherlands. At TU Delft, Data Stewards are immersed within the faculties, working directly with researchers within a specific domain. Data Stewards work closely with other support staff within the university as well as with external organisations to assist researchers with balancing the wide variety of requirements and considerations concerning research data management. ORCiD LinkedIn	Guilia is a Data Steward at the University of Bologna. Biologist by training, with experience as a researcher in cellular and molecular biology, the focus of her activity as Data Steward is the proper management of data in the biomedical/clinical field. She provides support to the university's researchers by fostering and promoting Open Science practices and FAIR data management. She is actively involved in national and international networks fostering dialogue and coordination among Data Stewards and experts from different institutions. ORCiD LinkedIn	Curtis is currently a project manager and community manager with the EU/UKRI-funded project Skills4EOSC, where he leads Work Package 6 – Professional Networks for Lifelong Learning. He is currently working with initiatives in several European countries to establish new RDM/Data Steward Networks, and with specific research communities to set up thematic FAIR data networks. He is working with researchers in AI and Health Technology to evaluate and recommend FAIR practices in these areas. ORCiD LinkedIn

Sonraí Project Team

sonraí Irish **Data** **Stewardship** Network

Dr Aoife Coffey, Project Lead, UCC

Dr Junwen Luo, UCC

Jenny O'Neill, HEAnet

Dr Darren Dahly, UCC, CRF

Dr Brendan Palmer, UCC, CRF

Dr Orla Murphy, UCC

Dr Johanna Archbold, ATU, ATU Sligo & ATU St Angelas

Prof. Marcus Munafo, Uni of Bristol

Dr Chris Burbidge, iCRAG, UCD

Maeve Hynes, TUS

More about UCC

Location

UCC is located in the western part of Cork city, 1 km from the city centre.

The main parts of UCC's campus are along Western Road and College Road.

The conference will be held in the **Dora Allman Room** which is on the fourth floor of **the Hub.** The Hub building is centrally located on UCCs main campus between the Quad and the Kane Building.

From the City Center on foot or bicycle

From the city centre (Patrick Street/Grand Parade), take Washington Street to the west. Pass the old Court House (on your right) and later the River Lee Hotel (on your left). At the next traffic lights, enter the UCC College Gates.

[Bicycle parking locations map](#) shows the available bicycle parking throughout campus.

To walk from the city centre to UCC takes 15-20 minutes.

From the City Centre by bus

Cork Bus Station is located at Parnell Place in the city centre. The bus station is served by all Bus Eireann local and intercity services. Bus fare is €1.95 or €1.35 with a Leap card.

UCC is served by public transport by two City Bus routes **(No 205 and No 208),** connecting the campus to Cork City Centre via Washington and St Patrick Streets. Bus stops are located on College Road / O'Donovan's Road (Route No 205) and Western Road (Route No 208).

No 205: Rossa Avenue MTU – UCC (College Road) – Dyke Parade - Washington Street - St. Patrick Street – Parnell Place Bus Station / MacCurtain St – Kent Train Station (every 15 mins)

No 208: Curraheen (Marymount Hospice) – Bishopstown – City Centre (St. Patrick Street) – Mayfield – Ashmount – Lotabeg (every 10 mins during daytime)

19th & 20th June 2024 | Dora Allman Room, UCC Hub

Bus routes serving UCC map. Also see the National Journey Planner.

From Kent Train Station

City bus No 205 services operate between Kent Station and UCC. Bus fare is €1.95 or €1.35 with a Leap card.

Taxis from the train station to UCC cost about €12-15
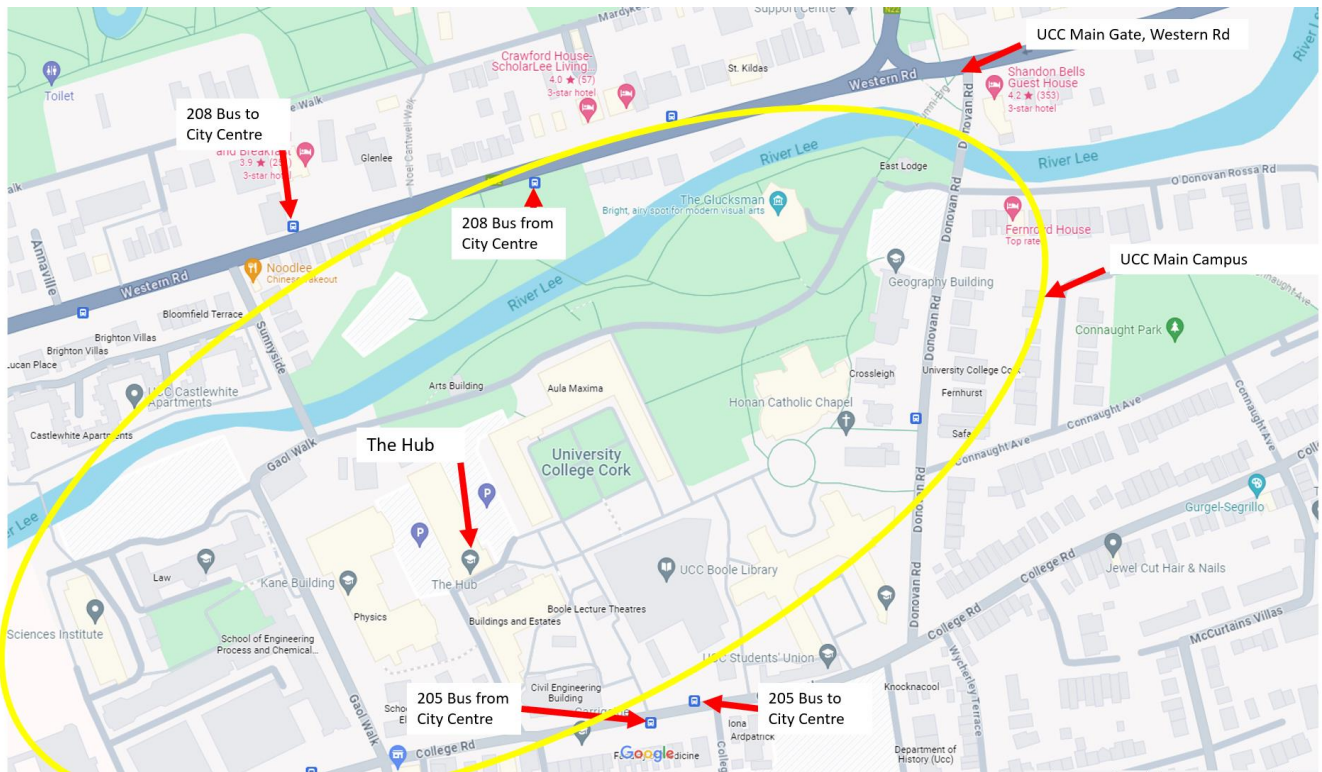
Route from train and bus stations to UCC

From Airport

Cork Airport is 8 km south of Cork city centre.

Bus connections to/from the airport are provided by Bus Eireann (route No 226 to Cork Bus Station). See the National Journey Planner.

A taxi journey to UCC will take 10–20 minutes and will cost about €20

Parking

Parking in UCC is limited please consult this link for more Information about Parking

Map 1 UCC Campus map showing the main entrance from Western Rd and the Hub Building.

Thank you!