

# BUILDING RDM COMMUNITIES @ VRIJE UNIVERSITEIT AMSTERDAM



**VU**  **VRIJE  
UNIVERSITEIT  
AMSTERDAM**

LOOKING FURTHER

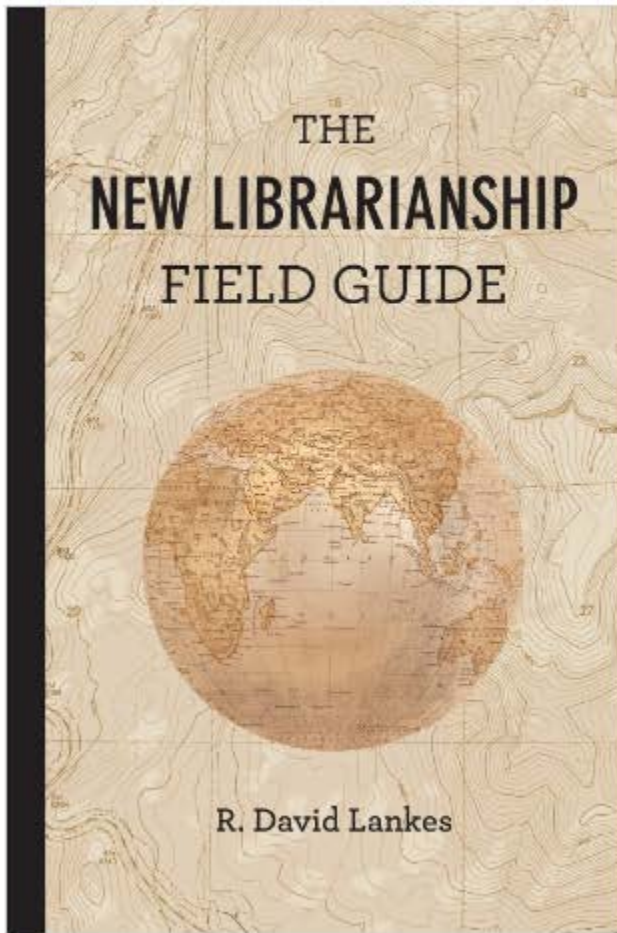
# HELLO!



I AM MARIA CRUZ

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# THE COMMUNITY-CENTERED LIBRARY



## The New Librarianship Field Guide

By R. David Lankes

How librarians can be radical positive change agents in their communities, dedicated to learning and making a difference.

David Lankes reminds librarians of their mission: ***“to improve society by facilitating knowledge creation in their communities.”***

See also: Cruz, Maria. (2019, February). The Community-Centred Library: Building RDM Communities at the VU Amsterdam. Zenodo. <http://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.2558289>

# THE COMMUNITY-CENTERED LIBRARY

Bad Libraries Build  
Collections, Good Libraries  
Build Services, Great Libraries  
Build Communities



<https://davidlankes.org/the-bad-the-good-and-the-great/>

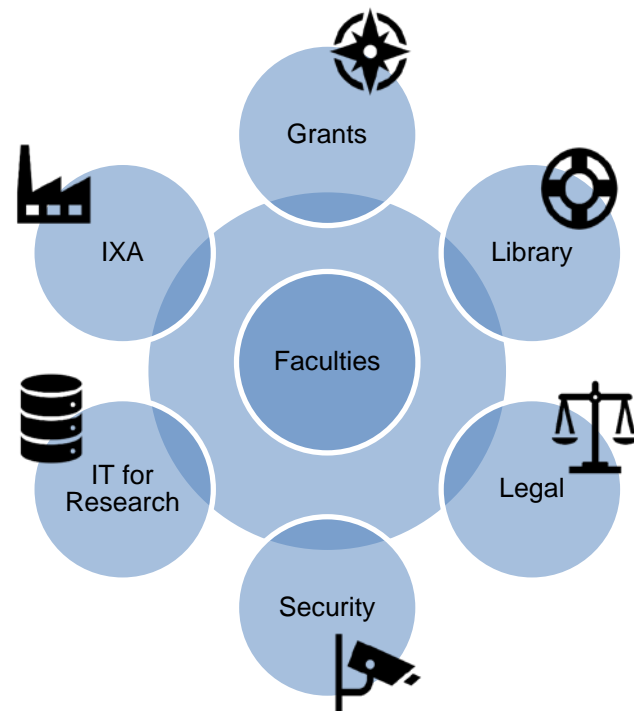
“It is not the collection or array of services that makes a library great, it is the difference it makes in the community.”

<https://davidlankes.org/the-bad-the-good-and-the-great-2/>



# WHY BUILDING RDM COMMUNITIES?

- There isn't a unique authority on this subject.
- > Knowledge, services and expertise are distributed and offered in a fragmented manner, both internally and externally:
  - > Internally at the VU: Library, IT, Grants Office, Legal Dpt., IXA (Knowledge Transfer Office), Faculties.
  - > Externally: SURF, DANS, EOSC, NWO, ZonMw, etc.



# WHY BUILDING RDM COMMUNITIES?

- “The main obstacles to data management and sharing are cultural, not technological.”

- > (Teperek, Marta. (2018, November). Data Stewardship – towards cultural change in data management. Zenodo.  
<http://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.1485805>)



- > “The major challenge is human rather than technical”
  - > “The size of the data challenge is measured in people rather than in PB”

- > (By Simon Hodson, Executive Director CODATA.  
<https://codata.org/blog/2019/01/30/blog-posts-on-the-springer-nature-data-dialogues-from-participants-in-the-codata-rda-schools-of-research-data-science/>)



# A COMMUNITY APPROACH TO RDM



*It's about empowering researchers and RDM support staff*

# ESTABLISHING COMMUNITIES OF PRACTICE

***“RDM knowledge is tacit, used in day to day practice but not well documented, so hard to capture without relationships and regular interactions between key individuals”***

Higman, R., Teperek, M. and Kingsley, D. (2017) ‘Creating a Community of Data Champions’, *International Journal of Digital Curation*, 12(2), pp. 96–106. doi: 10.2218/ijdc.v12i2.562.



# LIBRARIES AS MATCHMAKERS

*“A library should be a participatory system that allows a community to share passions, expertise, and resources.”*

Lankes, R. David. 2016. *The New Librarianship Field Guide*. Cambridge, Massachusetts: MIT Press.



# EMPOWERING SUPPORT STAFF



# RDM SUPPORT NETWORK

## WHO IS INVOLVED?

- Coordinated by the Library
- Composition
  - > Staff from the VU Library Research Data Services
  - > Research Support staff from the VU Faculties and Research Institutes
  - > RDM contacts at ACTA, Vumc, PThU

## MEETINGS

- Started in January 2019
- Meetings
  - > 24 January 2019
  - > 4 April 2019
  - > 13 June 2019

## ASPIRATIONS

- > “Share experiences and discuss on practical matters and RDM-VU issues.”
- > “Collaborate in improving RDM practices and facilities at the VU.”
- > “Share ideas and current projects; get feedback and advice on complex topics”
- > “Exchange experiences and best practices.”

# EMPOWERING RESEARCHERS

## DATA CONVERSATIONS

Let's talk open science  
and research data!



**17 June 2019 12:00-12:30**

Global Room (HG-1A-36)

**12:00 - 12:15** Welcome with free lunch

**12:15 - 12:35** [Wido van Peursen](#)

Github as a meeting place for  
Biblical scholars. Open Science and  
community building

**12:35 - 12:55** [Tomas Knapen](#)

Open science methods:  
Lessons from neuroimaging

**12:55 - 13:15** [Kristina Hettne](#)

FAIR principles applied: a case study in  
reproducible data science research

**13:15 - 13:30** [Esther Plomp](#)

Following laboratory protocols:  
Filling in the gaps using protocols.io



David Lankes: “Knowledge is created through conversations – if you are in the knowledge business you are in the conversation business.”

# DATA CONVERSATIONS



## Data Conversations - a success story



*'Data Conversations' is a series of informal and inclusive events for researchers from all disciplines and career stages to share their experiences of collecting, managing and sharing research data*



*The power of Data Conversations, is that it provides a neutral space, which cuts across the boundaries of the faculties and disciplines, where researchers can make new connections and learn from each other, supported by experts from the Library*

**Dr Maria J Cruz**



<https://www.lancaster.ac.uk/library/news-training-and-events/news/2019/data-conversations/>  
<https://www.rd-alliance.org/blogs/building-connections-through-data-conversations-lancaster-university.html-0>



# DATA CONVERSATIONS AT THE VU A FULL HOUSE FOR THE 1<sup>ST</sup> EDITION



**Esther Plomp**  
@PhDToothFAIRy

Full house at the first #vudatacon!



12:18 PM · Jun 17, 2019 · Twitter for Android

3 Retweets 8 Likes



**Joshua Sendall**  
@JSendall

1st edition of @VUamsterdam Data Conversations is off to a great start! First up is @PeursenWTVan talking about #OpenScience and Biblical Research #vudatacon @UBVU @gravana #OpenResearch



12:24 PM · Jun 17, 2019 · Twitter Web Client

8 Retweets 18 Likes



# DATA CONVERSATIONS AT THE VU DIVERSE DISCIPLINES – COMMON THEME



Leah Bührmann  
@LeahBuehrmann

Contribute to [#openscience](#) by making your data, methods, and results freely accessible for everyone [#vudatacon](#) the field of neuroscience as a great example for facilitating research through sharing resources: [openneuro.org](#) [#teamup](#) to [#improve](#) [#health](#) [@VU\\_Science](#)



1:35 PM · Jun 17, 2019 · Twitter for iPhone

3 Retweets 9 Likes



ETCBC  
@etcbc\_vu

Very diverse disciplines at first [#vudatacon](#) Biblical studies, neuroimaging, teeth analysis, but open methodology (not only open data and open access) is recurrent theme in presentations by [@PeursenWTVan](#) [@Tknapien](#) [@KristinaHettne](#) [@PhDToothFAIRy](#)

1:45 PM · Jun 17, 2019 from Amsterdam, The Netherlands · Twitter for iPhone

3 Retweets 9 Likes

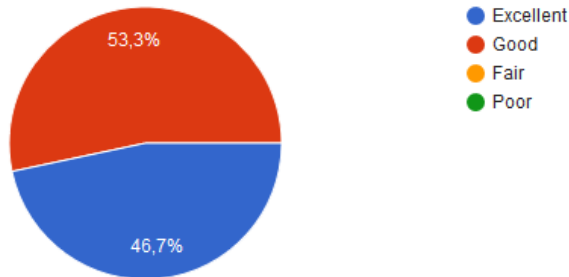
Open Data, Open Methods,  
Reproducible Research

# DATA CONVERSATIONS AT THE VU

## FEEDBACK & LESSONS LEARNED

What is your overall rating of this event?

15 antwoorden



***"The quality of the talks was excellent. The topics were broad enough to appeal to wide audience in a way that was both accessible and engaging."***

***"I thoroughly enjoyed it!"***

### WHAT PARTICIPANTS LIKED THE MOST?

*"The open and relaxed atmosphere"*

*"to talk about Open science, get in touch with fellow researchers, get new ideas, get inspired"*

### SOME SUGGESTIONS FOR IMPROVEMENT

*"Have one less speaker and allow for more time for discussion (but lunch time is perfect time!)."*

*"Open Science stories: how do you practice open science?"*

*"I'd love to see some hands-on courses"*

*"A mix of presentations and workshop"*

# WHAT'S NEXT?



## Keep building and maintaining both communities and build bridges between them

- Let the community members shape their communities
  - > What do the RDM Support Network members need to keep learning from each other and how can we (the Library) facilitate that?
  - > Evaluate Data Conversations and keep fine tuning it together with the researcher and research support community to make sure it meets the research community's needs and expectations
- Build a Data Champions community?
- Organise Data/Software Carpentries?

