



Statement on Research Data Management

Preamble

Mount Saint Vincent University (MSVU) is committed to meeting the challenges and opportunities involved in the responsible and effective management of research data. The University recognizes the central role of data in research, as data not only represents the outcome of research investigation but also provides a foundation for future research. The appropriate management of research data and facilitating appropriate access to that data form the basis of modern scholarship and discovery. Research data is an important asset that must be stewarded, protected, and appropriately safeguarded.

Purpose

The purpose of this document is to outline the University's commitment to research data management.

Responsibilities

Members of the university community have the responsibility to appropriately use, maintain, and safeguard research data. This statement provides a framework to protect research data, while providing flexibility to support the broad range of academic, research and administrative activities. The responsibilities described below reflect the expectations of the [Tri-Agency Statement of Principles on Digital Data Management](#).

Researchers

Responsibilities of MSVU **researchers** include:

- incorporating best practices for data management into their research;
- developing data management plans that guides responsible collection, security, formatting, preservation and sharing of data throughout the entire lifecycle of the research project and beyond;
- following the requirements of applicable institutional and/or funding agency policies and professional or disciplinary standards;
- acknowledging and citing datasets that contribute to their research; and
- staying abreast of standards and expectations of their disciplinary community.

University

Responsibilities of the university include:

- providing their researchers with an environment that enables best practices in data stewardship;
- delivering, or supporting access to, repositories or other platforms that securely preserve, curate and provide continued access to research data;

- supporting researchers in their efforts to establish and implement data management practices that are consistent with ethical, legal and commercial obligations, as well as tri-agency requirements, including the [Tri-Council Policy Statement: Ethical Conduct for Research Involving Humans](#) – 2nd edition, the [Tri-Agency Framework: Responsible Conduct of Research](#) and other relevant policies;
- providing researchers with guidance to properly manage their data in accordance with both the principles outlined above and research community best practices, including the development of data management plans;
- recognizing data as an important research output and fostering excellence in data management;
- promoting the importance of data management to researchers, staff and students; and,
- developing data management policies, ensuring that these policies are in accordance with the principles outlined above, provincial and national laws, and, can accommodate the rapidly evolving research communities' best practices.

Procedures and Review

MSVU is committed to the development of a strategy, standard operating procedures, templates, and training materials to support research data management in our community. As the context for research data management evolves, MSVU will review and revise this statement as appropriate.