Data Sharing: Where Scholarship meets Policy and Practice

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Data are essential to the process of scholarship, but remained largely invisible until the era of “big data.” The transition from process to product suggests that research data have become valuable objects in themselves to be captured, shared, reused, and sustained for the long term. Scientists, policy makers, governments, business, and the public alike now see great potential in reuse of research data. To reuse data requires that data creators are willing and able to share them. Therein lies the rub. Data also have become contentious intellectual property to be protected, whether for proprietary, confidentiality, competition, or other reasons. Data practices are local, varying from field to field, individual to individual, and country to country. Enthusiasm for big data is obscuring the complexity and diversity of data in scholarship and the challenges for stewardship. Public policy leans toward open access to research data, but rarely with the public investment necessary to sustain access. This talk will explore the stakes and stakeholders in research data and implications for policy and practice.

Christine L. Borgman, Distinguished Professor and Presidential Chair in Information Studies at UCLA, is the author of more than 250 [publications](http://works.bepress.com/borgman/) in information studies, computer science, and communication. These include three books from MIT Press, [*Big Data, Little Data, No Data: Scholarship in the Networked World*](https://mitpress.mit.edu/index.php?q=big-data)(2015), winner of the 2015 American Publishers Award for Professional and Scholarly Excellence (PROSE Award) in Computing and Information Sciences; [*Scholarship in the Digital Age: Information, Infrastructure, and the Internet*](http://mitpress.mit.edu/catalog/item/default.asp?ttype=2&tid=11333)(2007); and [*From Gutenberg to the Global Information Infrastructure: Access to Information in a Networked World*](http://mitpress.mit.edu/catalog/item/default.asp?ttype=2&tid=9661) (2000). The latter two books won the [Best Information Science Book of the Year](http://www.asis.org/awards/book.html) award from the [Association for Information Science and Technology](https://www.asist.org/) (ASIST). She is a Fellow of the [American Association for the Advancement of Science](http://www.aaas.org/) and of the [Association for Computing Machinery](http://www.acm.org/); a member of the Board of Directors of the [Electronic Privacy Information Center](http://epic.org/); U.S. Co-Chair of the CODATA-ICSTI Task Group on Data Citation and Attribution; and previously served on the U.S. National Academies’ [Board on Research Data and Information](http://sites.nationalacademies.org/pga/brdi/index.htm) and the U.S. National [CODATA](http://www.codata.org/). Prof. Borgman directs the [Center for Knowledge Infrastructures](https://knowledgeinfrastructures.gseis.ucla.edu/) at UCLA with funding from the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation and the National Science Foundation. She is conducting a study of the users and uses of data archives with collaborators at [DANS](http://www.dans.knaw.nl/en), the Data Archiving and Networked Services in the Hague, where she was a Visiting Scholar.