

<https://rd-alliance.org/cop-agreement-components>

Name: Psychological Data Community of Practice

Introduction

Aligning with RDA's mission, the purpose of the Psychology RDA Community of Practice (CoP) is to raise awareness of the importance of data sharing, and to provide support with respect to the technical skills needed for FAIR data sharing within the Psychology community. This CoP brings together Psychology researchers with an interest in open, transparent, and reproducible research methods and practices. The CoP will link with the equivalent CoPs in cogent disciplines (e.g., Neuroscience) and with other organisations such as the UK Reproducibility Network (UKRN), the European Open Science Cloud (EOSC), the Software Sustainability Institute (SSI), Open Life Sciences, and The Carpentries. This CoP will facilitate the sharing of effective practice, expertise, and computational tools that support FAIR data sharing.

User scenario(s) or use case(s)

This CoP has emerged as a result of the increasing emphasis in the adoption of open and reproducible research practices by funders, national, and international bodies. The focus of the CoP will be primarily on Early Career Researchers who may not have the local support in place that is needed for the successful adoption of effective and transparent data management and research management practices.

Objectives

The main objectives associated with this CoP are in terms of providing researchers with the technical skills needed in order to implement transparent research practices within their own workflows. These practices include (but are not limited to) pre-registration of research protocols, the use of open source software for data collection and analysis, reproducible analysis pipelines (including reproducing system-level dependencies), FAIR data, and reproducible analysis code associated with research outputs.

Value Proposition

This CoP is aimed at providing Early Career Researchers with the knowledge and skills needed in order to produce open, FAIR, and transparent research workflows that will increase the proportion of research results that are fully reproducible by other researchers.

Engagement

This CoP has been proposed by Andrew Stewart (University of Manchester), Etienne Roesch (University of Reading) and Jim Grange (Keele University). All three are institutional leads for open and transparent research practices, and sit on the Institutional Leads group of the UK Reproducibility Network (UKRN). They are all co-investigators on the 5-year Research England Development (RED) Fund programme of research "Growing and Embedding Open Research in Institutional Practice and Culture". This £8.5m project aims to increase the skills base amongst UK researchers (across disciplines) to allow them to adopt transparent research practices in their own programmes of research. Andrew is also a Fellow of the Software Sustainability Institute (whose focus is on the recognition of the importance of research software, including the provision of best-practice software development skills, in research in the research environment). Both Andrew and Etienne are

qualified Carpentry Instructors. This CoP will interact closely with the UKRN and the SSI. It will also interact with partners such as ELIXIR-UK (the co-lead for which sits on our advisory board). Initial activity of this CoP will be funded via the RDA/EOSC Community of Practice award, and via interactions with other Psychologists within the UKRN.

Outcomes

The main focus of this CoP will be to provide Psychologists with the knowledge and technical skills needed to adopt effective and open data and research management practices.

Operational Mechanisms

The CoP will be led in the first instance by Andrew Stewart (University of Manchester), Etienne Roesch (University of Reading), and Jim Grange (Keele University) with an advisory board composed of Carole Goble (University of Manchester), Rachael Ainsworth (University of Manchester), and Shoaib Sufi (University of Manchester). The CoP will meet primarily on-line on a monthly basis initially. The first year's worth of activities will focus on skills training in the tools needed for the adoption of open and reproducible research practices.

Timeline

The timeline will begin once contracts for the RDA/EOSC Community of Practice funding have been signed. This will provide the funding for 15 x €500 training fellowships to support skills training for open and reproducible research. The timeline is as follows:

Date	Milestone Description	Notes
Start date as agreed in contract (Month 0)	Start of the project	
M+1	Adverts circulated	Starts 8 weeks period for applicants to submit (including motivations, experience, scope of community, and letter of support by host institution)
M+4	Decision announced	Email invitations, institutions send invoices to Manchester and Reading to receive Fellowship funding
M+5	All fellowships paid	
M+5	Kick off event	
Every month	Meet up	Alternating between round table and expert-led discussion (together psych + neuro) using Gather Town. These experts will include representatives from RDA, EOSC, UKRN, SSI, and related organisations.
Ongoing	Keeping in touch via Gather Town	

Ongoing	Fellow organised (PI, Co-I facilitated) training sessions	
M +11	Reports from each of the funded fellows on training experience, evidence of engagement, feedback etc	
M + 12	Our report to RDA/EOSC	

Potential Group Members & Supporting Organisations

Initial leadership will be from Andrew Stewart (University of Manchester), Etienne Roesch (University of Reading), and Jim Grange (Keele University) with an advisory board composed of Carole Goble (University of Manchester), Rachael Ainsworth (University of Manchester), and Shoaib Sufi (University of Manchester). Fellows funded via the RDA/EOSC project will be encouraged to put themselves forward to act as co-leads towards the end of the funding period, with the expectation that the initial leads will step down and be replaced by ECRs trained via the RDA/EOSC award towards the end of the training award period. Initial membership of the Psychology CoP will be those supported by the RDA/EOSC CoP training award.

Adherence to RDA Guiding Principles and Code of Conduct

I confirm that this CoP will operate according to the RDA Guiding Principles and Code of Conduct.