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We believe that the continuing advances in research requires a commitment from the academic research universities to provide open access to their research results, including the data. Funding agencies like the NSF, NIH, NEH, and IMLS are now starting to require more extensive sharing of the results and data from funded research. Our question: how are the member institutions of the Association of Research Libraries responding to these new requirements?

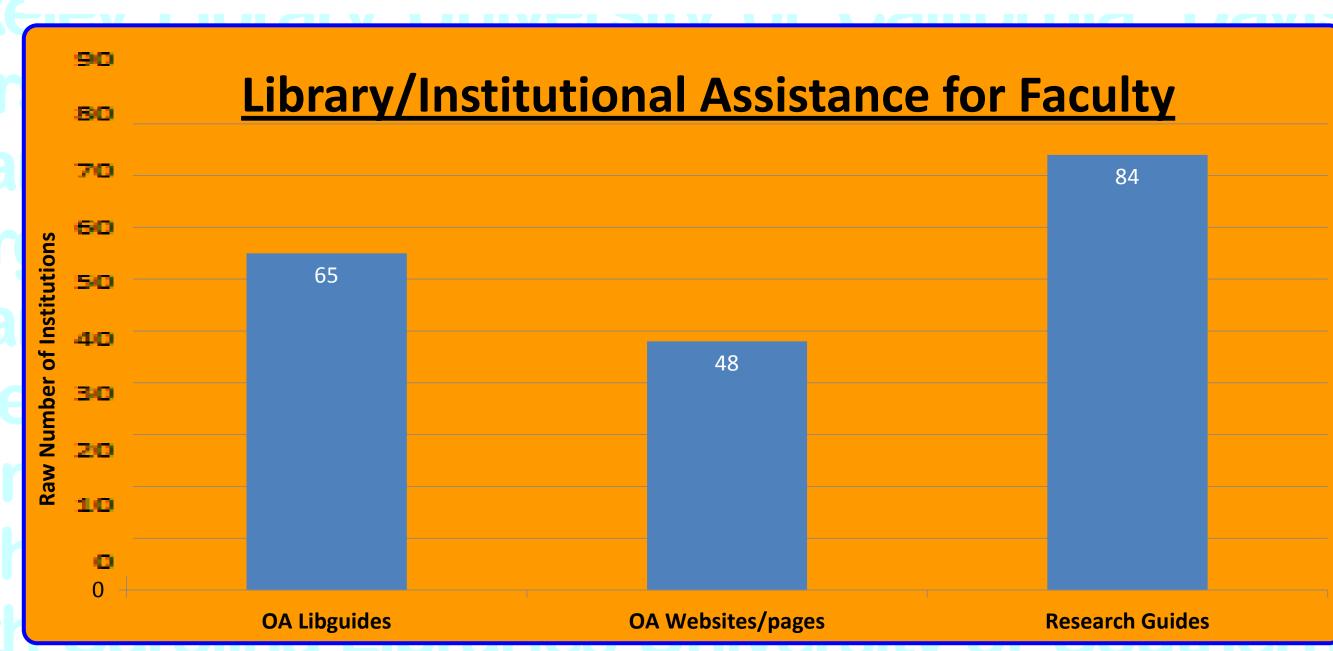
This summary is an environmental scan of the current state of ARL member libraries and their institutions. We looked at several areas: research data policy; Open Access education, guidance and support, especially for faculty; scholarly communication guidance, education and support; data access and data management guidance, tools, and education; and consortium memberships. Our methodology: all data collected are from the institution, library and organization websites. For the purposes of this informal study, we made no attempt to verify information with further inquiry. We conducted no surveys or interviews, nor did we contact any of the libraries or institutions. Our goal was to acquire a snapshot of the current environment from a public perspective, and we may undertake a more thorough analysis of several of these areas in the future.

US ARL Member Academic Institutions and Open Access

Signed Berlin Declaration 13%
Faculty Discussion of OA 13%
Faculty Support of OA 35%

ARL libraries are active supporters of the Open Access movement. They work with faculty to educate them and to encourage them to adopt OA principles for their publishing and data sharing needs. Faculty support for OA appears to be the key to institutional adoption of an OA policy. The above statistics show how many of the 99 US ARL member institutions have faculty support for OA initiatives including data access, those with faculty discussing the issue, and the number of institutions that have signed the Berlin Declaration to Knowledge in the Sciences and Humanities in support of Open Access. ARL, ACRL and ASERL are also signatories.

The chart below shows that many ARL libraries and institutions provide libguides, research guides, websites and web pages supporting open access, data access and data management issues and tools, and scholarly communication issues and tools. Many institutions provide more than one resource.



SPARC

THE SCHOLARLY PUBLISHING
& ACADEMIC RESOURCES COALITION

CONSORTIAL PARTICIPATION

ASERL

CIRLA
WRLC

CIC

ASERL

ASERL

ASERL

ASERL

ASERL

ASERL

ASERL

COPE: Compart for Open Access F.

CUR: Council on Undergraduate R.

FCLA/CSUL

TRLN

OhioLINK

NDLTD

ASERL

SCOAP3

NDLTD

ASSERL

ASSOCIATION OF R.

Www.arl.org > about arl > membership

ASERL: Association of Southeaster.

CDL: California Digital Library (7)

CIC: Committee on Institutional C.

CIRLA: Chesapeake Information at

COAPI: Compact for Open Access F.

CUR: Council on Undergraduate R.

FCLA/CSUL: Florida Center for Library

METAL MOTHERST Research Library (1)

MetaArchive: MetaArchive Coope

NDLTD: Networked Digital Library (1)

MetaArchive: MetaArchive Coope

NDLTD: Networked Digital Library (27)

NERL: NorthEast Research Librarie

OCA: Open Content Alliance (27)

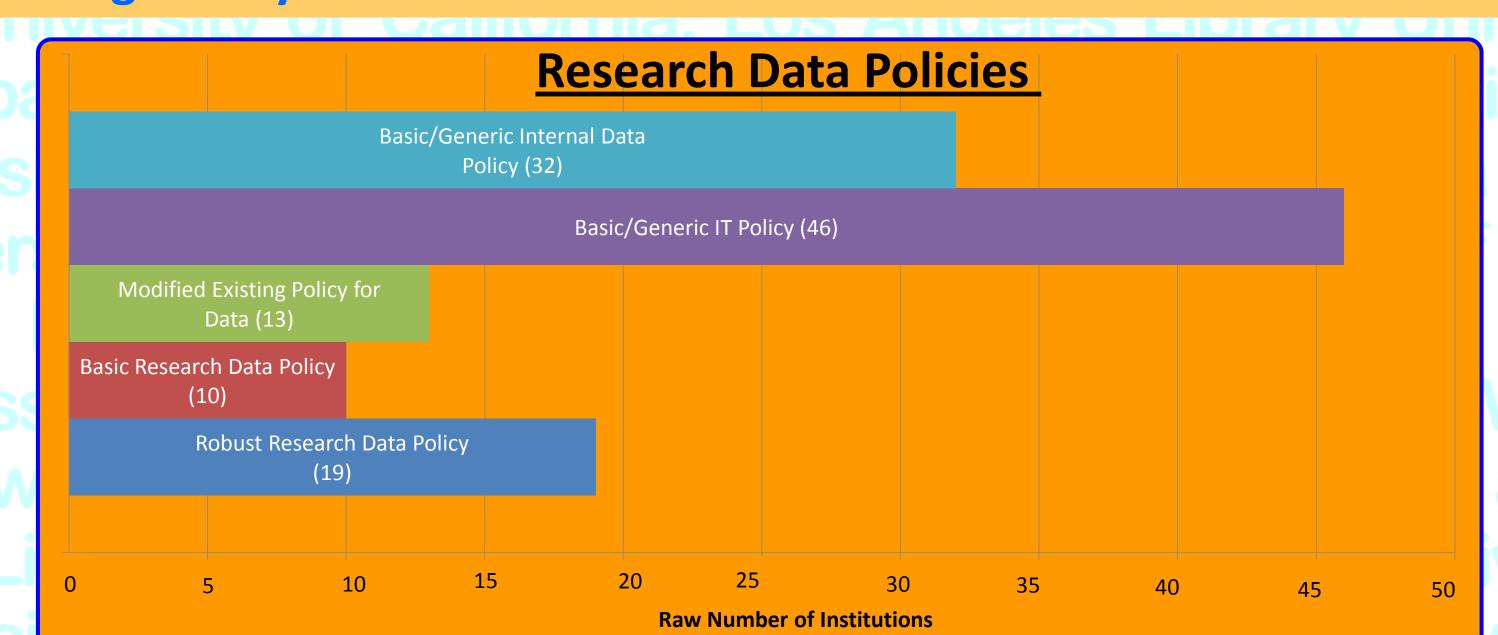
COPE: Compact for Open Access Publishing Equity (9)
CUR: Council on Undergraduate Research (34)
FCLA/CSUL: Florida Center for Library Automation/ Council of State University Libraries (2)
GWLA: Greater Western Library Alliance (25)
LDL: LOUISana Digital Library (1)
MetaArchive: MetaArchive Cooperative (9)
NDLTD: Networked Digital Library of Thesis and Dissertations (28)
NERL: NorthEast Research Libraries Consortium (25)
OCA: Open Content Alliance (27)
OhioLINK: Ohio Library and Information Network (5)
ORAU: Oak Ridge Associated Universities (43)
PKP: Public Knowledge Project (4)
SCOAP3: Sponsoring Consortium for Open Access Publishing in Particle Physics (59)
SPARC: Scholarly Publishing and Academic Resources Coalition (86)
TDL: Texas Digital Library (4)
TRLN: Triangle Research Libraries Network (3)
VIVA: Virtual Library of Virginia (2)
WRLC: Washington Research Library Consortium (3)

American academic libraries belong to many groups. ARL and ACRL are two of the major national organizations. There are regional groups including ASERL and NERL, OA groups like OCA, SPARC and COAPI, discipline-specific organizations such as SCOAP3 and national groups like NDLTD, all of which enhance and extend the capabilities of their members. The above chart shows a sampling of some of these organizations and consortiums, and the relative participation between consortia. Every US ARL member belongs to at least one, and many members belong to multiple groups.

Consortiums appear to have an important function because they foster collaboration, increase the diffusion of knowledge, encourage involvement, and strengthen the voice of the library profession. Many of these groups support OA initiatives.

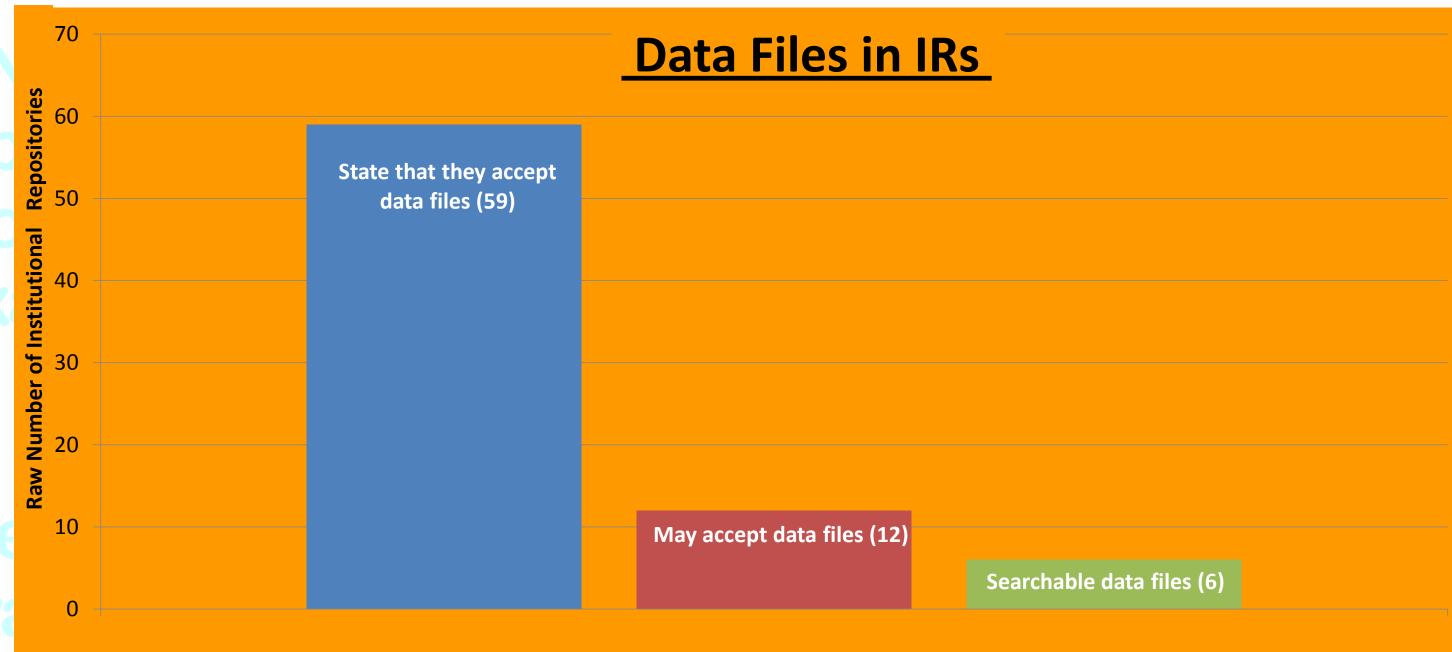
What did we learn from our research?

- ARL members are active in the OA movement by providing information, guidance, assistance and encouragement to faculty and their institutions, and to each other thru their membership in consortia.
- Institutions appear to be gradually developing new and more comprehensive research data policies to meet addressing needs.
- Research data support within institutional repositories is highly varied, with few presently offering searchable data.



Academic research institutions have many network, IT, internal data, research, data classification, copyright & intellectual property and research conduct policies. Many current policies appear to treat research data in an ad hoc fashion.

Robust research data policies are emerging and are important because they address the special requirements of research data: definitions, sharing, access, security, documentation, ownership, transferring, and retention.



*Open*DOAR

The Directory of Open Access Repositories

Together the ARL libraries and their institutions host over 160 institutional repositories. More than 130 are listed in the OpenDOAR registry. This chart shows the number of IRs that indicate that they accept data files, the number that don't make it clear if they accept data files, and the number that have searchable data files.





