

From: John Nerbonne <j.nerbonne@rug.nl>  
Subject: Re: Science WS in Geneva - registration and statements  
Date: March 26, 2015 2:56:30 PM GMT+01:00  
To: Peter Wittenburg <Peter.Wittenburg@mpi.nl>, Jamie Shiers <Jamie.Shiers@cern.ch>

Dear colleagues,

Perhaps I might add some questions/statements in preparation for the meeting in two weeks in Geneva.

With respect to policy and practice:

My view may be parochial, so I'll begin by saying that I'm a linguist working in the Netherlands. Archiving data is something we hear a lot about -- the Dutch universities have all initiated data committees and archiving requirements in the wake of scandals such as that surrounding Diderich Stapel, who confessed to fabricated data throughout a good part of a twenty-year career. But so far these seem to be motivated by the wish to avoid more scandals, so they emphasize archiving requirements, but not making it easy to find data, nor the positive side for science of getting more research done based on the same data. Could RDA see this imbalance as an opportunity?

With respect to RDA activities:

The need for engaging a "middle layer of data scientists" resonates with me a good deal. I don't hear about RDA much outside of its communications.

With respect to Data Science:

I do see one "grass roots" initiative, namely the Mind Repository, which I and other colleagues have contributed to. <http://read.psych.uni-potsdam.de/> Is there a way for RDA to benefit from this and other like-minded efforts?

Regards,

John

On Sun, Mar 22, 2015 at 1:54 PM, Peter Wittenburg <Peter.Wittenburg@mpi.nl> wrote:  
Dear Science WS participants,

Thanks to you since most of you have registered now at the Workshop cite to make sure that you are able to pass the security controls. Please register if you did not do this yet: <https://indico.cern.ch/event/370271/overview>

We received one cancellation - Walter Thiel cannot come since he has to take care of another obligation has to do with his new role as managing director of his Max Planck Institute.

From many of you I received emails when I could have a chat with you about possible comments/statements on "data issues" to be addressed. Those who have not yet reacted, please let me know when you will have time during the coming week and how to best contact you.

We just returned from intensive discussions at the 5th RDA plenary and we will report to you in Geneva. There was one very interesting "policy" level talk (many of us found this a remarkable talk) from Naoyuki Tsunematsu who is Senior Advisor of the Japanese Science&Technology council. I included the two essentials from his talk in the two attached slides. Amongst others it explains why Japan joined RDA as a funder. His view may interest you. If you are interested in his talk there is a (lengthy) video recording here <https://rd-alliance.org/plenary-meetings/fifth-plenary/programme.html>

Best regards  
Peter

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