



# Research support services



## CARNEGIE RESEARCH COMMONS

The Carnegie Research Commons is a research environment intended for use by postgraduate students at master's and doctoral level, as well as academic staff and researchers at Stellenbosch University.

It is equipped with computers, workstations and seminar rooms, as well as areas for discussion and relaxation. The main aim of the Research Commons is to enhance the Library's contribution to postgraduate throughput and research output by providing an environment conducive to research, and offering services that directly support research endeavours of postgraduate students and researchers.

Services offered include:

- #SmartResearcher workshop series
- Referencing, reference management software, MS Office and more
- Technical support for document formatting, computer or Wi-Fi issues, and printing
- A reference collection of academic textbooks focused on the research process
- Four seminar rooms for group discussions and meetings

### Contact the librarians here:

Marié Roux: [mr@sun.ac.za](mailto:mr@sun.ac.za)  
Letlao Seloma:  
[letlaos@sun.ac.za](mailto:letlaos@sun.ac.za)

## UNIQUE AUTHOR IDENTIFIER: ORCID



The most recognized system for administering unique author identifiers is ORCID (Open Researcher & Contributor ID), an initiative that aims to create a central registry of unique author identifiers, including a mechanism to link between different author ID schemes, such as ResearcherID. ORCID is rapidly becoming a universal system. It brings together disparate publication data and interoperate with a wide variety of information systems.

**You are invited to create your ORCID iD and connect it with your Stellenbosch University identity.**

If you already have an ORCID iD, please sign in to the SU portal and connect your iD with your SU identity, following the steps using this link: <https://libguides.sun.ac.za/ORCID>.

## RESEARCH IMPACT - BIBLIOMETRICS

**Contact person for Research Impact, ORCID:**

Marié Roux: [mr@sun.ac.za](mailto:mr@sun.ac.za)

The following types of citation analysis (bibliometric) reports are available on request:

- Author analysis: Number of citations, H-index, highest cited articles by author.
- Article analysis: Number of times an article has been cited, article level metrics (altmetrics).
- Journal analysis: Journal Impact Factor; SJR (SCImago Journal Rank); SNIP (Source Normalized Impact per Paper).
- Faculty or department analysis: Summary of citation performance per faculty, department, or research group.

The following tools are used for these analyses: SciVal, Scopus, Web of Science, Altmetrics, Dimensions, Google Scholar, etc. Go to this library guide for more information: <https://libguides.sun.ac.za/researchimpact>

## INCREASE YOUR IMPACT

Develop a plan for communicating your research by following the steps below:

- Create and maintain online profiles (e.g. [GoogleScholar](#), [ResearchGate](#))
- Use persistent identifiers (e.g. [ORCID](#)s, [DOIs](#)) to disambiguate yourself as author/link to your work
- Publish in Open Access journals or choose Open Access options
- Post pre- or post-prints to repositories ([SUNScholar](#)) / Publish your data to data repositories ([SUNScholarData](#))
- Make social media engagement about your research a regular habit

# FACULTY LIBRARIAN SUPPORT



## Teaching and Curriculum Support

- Information & digital literacy sessions (incl. AI literacy)
- Course reading lists – prescribed works support
- Student consultations (in person or online)
- Library Guides online learning platform



## Researcher and Research Support

- Advanced literature searches, incl. advising on evidence synthesis reviews
- Research consultations (in person or online)
- Publishing advice and journal selection, incl. Open Access agreements
- Research impact & data management: ORCID, profiles, metrics & RMD support



## Collection Development

- Aligning collections with teaching and research needs
- Consultation and evaluation of resources, including purchasing

Contact your faculty librarian here:  
<https://libguides.sun.ac.za/>

**SUPPORTING UNDERGRADUATE TEACHING, POSTGRADUATE STUDENTS AND DEPARTMENTAL RESEARCH ACTIVITY**

## DATA VISUALISATION SERVICES

Data visualisation services are available in the form of workshops and consultation services. The topics presented in four workshops are the following:

- Overview of tools for effective data analysis and visualisation
- Principles of data visualisation
- Introduction to Tableau Public and Flourish (2 different tools for data visualisation)
- Introduction to Microsoft Power Bi

We encourage you to attend the first two workshops in this list and then you should be able to choose which visualisation tool you would like to learn more about. You are also welcome to book a consultation where we will give advice based on your specific needs.

**Contact person for Data Visualisation:**

Marié Roux: [mr@sun.ac.za](mailto:mr@sun.ac.za)



Power BI



tableau



# OPEN ACCESS

## WHAT IS IT?



Open access (OA) is the practice of providing unrestricted and free access to peer-reviewed scholarly publications contrasting with the traditional publishing model. In open access, authors generally publish under the Creative Commons Attribution License (CC BY). This license allows free, immediate access and re-use of publications as long as credit is given to the original creator.

### Gold open access

Publishers make research articles immediately and freely available in peer-reviewed journals. Article Processing Charges (APC) to cover publication costs may apply.

### Green open access

Also known as self-archiving, authors agree that their published article or final manuscript could be freely available in an institutional repository or researcher profile account. Example: SUNScholar.

### Diamond open access

Peer-reviewed monographs or an open journal platform that allows publishing and unrestricted access with no fees to both the author and reader. Example: SUNJournals.

## OPEN ACCESS PUBLISHING SUPPORT

Contact: [sngcobo@sun.ac.za](mailto:sngcobo@sun.ac.za)

Authors affiliated with Stellenbosch University are eligible to publish OA in hybrid journals without article processing charges (APCs) and at a discount in Fully open access journals. More than 13 publishers, each with list of journal titles that are part of the agreement to allow SU authors to publish open access. These agreements are also known as 'read and publish', because they provide access to paywalled publications and enable authors to publish open access at discounted or No APCs at all. **For more information about the publishers and to view titles eligible for OA publishing, please visit <https://libguides.sun.ac.za/OApublishing>.**

Examples: American Chemical Society (ACS); Association for Computing Machinery (ACM); Cambridge University Press (CUP); Elsevier, Emerald; IOP Science Extra; Oxford Journals; Royal Society of Chemistry (RSC); SAGE; Springer Nature, ScienceDirect; Taylor and Francis; The Company of Biologists and Wiley.

## SU OPEN ACCESS PLATFORMS

Contact: [scholar@sun.ac.za](mailto:scholar@sun.ac.za)

### SUNScholar (Institutional research repository at Stellenbosch University)

- Theses and dissertations are submitted electronically to SUNScholar each year during two graduation periods.
- For more information on the submission procedure, see the library webpage for guidance under HELP | Online thesis submission. <https://www.su.ac.za/en/library/help/thesis-and-dissertation-submission>.

### SUNJournals (Open Access journals hosted by Stellenbosch University)

- For more information on the Open Journal System (OJS) known as SUNJournals please follow the link <https://www.su.ac.za/en/library/research/open-access/sunjournals>.

### SUNDigital Collections (Digital heritage repository)

- For more information on SUNDigital collections follow the link <https://digital.lib.sun.ac.za/>.

## BENEFITS OF OPEN ACCESS

- Increased visibility and impact: Access to publications is not restricted, enabling wider reach to global audience
- Accelerated discovery: With open access, researchers can read and build on the findings of others without restriction.
- Social justice: Public interest and enrichment. Open access allows taxpayers to benefit from the results of their investment through equitable access to knowledge.
- Improved education: Open access means that educators and students have unrestricted access to latest research.

# RESEARCH DATA SERVICES

## WHAT IS IT?

### What is research data?

Research data refers to the recorded factual materials that are commonly accepted within the scientific community as evidence that may be used to validate research findings.

### What is research data management?

Research data management (RDM) is a compilation of various small practices that makes research data easy to understand, less likely to be lost, and more likely to be usable during the research process or years later.

### Why is research data management important?

- The benefits of publicly-funded research should flow back to the public.
- Management of research projects in a more efficient manner.
- Compliance with research funder mandate.
- Compliance with legal and ethical requirements.
- To facilitate the reproducibility and re-usability of research findings.
- Duplication of research efforts can be reduced – along with the associated costs.

### What is SunDMP?

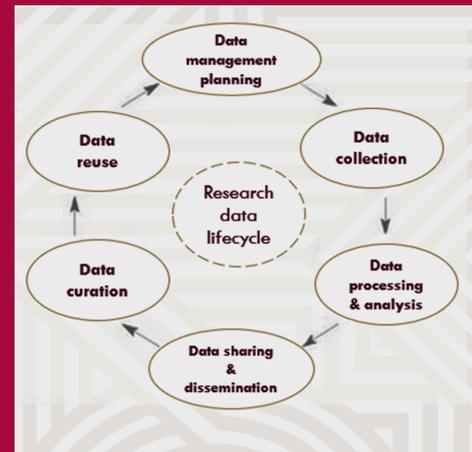
Data Management Plans (DMPs) are created in order to assist researchers with the management of their research data. DMP templates are often based on specific funder requirements which are outlined in funder policy documents. Researchers can access Stellenbosch University institutional Data Management Planning software, SunDMP to create a DMP.

#### Go to:

<https://dmp.sun.ac.za/wizard>

## RDM SUPPORT SERVICES

- Providing relevant information via the Research Data Management webpages, the Research Data Management Library Guide and the SUNScholarData Library Guide.
- Data stewardship: Hosting and managing SUNScholarData (Stellenbosch University's institutional research data repository).
- Online training sessions, webinars, in-person workshops and personalised consultations. These services address the following aspects of research data management:
  - Data management planning
  - Recommended file formats
  - Data documentation
  - Data discoverability
  - Legal issues
  - File naming conventions
  - Data storage
  - Metadata
  - Ethical compliance
  - Data reuse



## WHY PUBLISH DATA THROUGH SUNSCHOLARDATA?

- **Ease of use:** SUNScholarData is an intuitive piece of technology that is easy to use.
- **Discovery and re-use:** SUNScholarData enables the discovery and reuse of research data
- **Funder mandates:** SUNScholarData advocates for compliance with funder mandates and academic publishers
- **Accessibility:** SUNScholar increased the reach and accessibility of research data
- **Support:** Librarians can provide specialised support to SU researchers and postgraduates either in-person, telephonically or online.
- **Quality control:** Research data submitted to SUNScholarData is subjected to a curation process which entails data quality review that increases its long-term value.
- **Future proof:** The curation service provided by the Library leads to the organisation, enhancement and preservation of research data in the future, thereby mitigating the risk of technological obsolescence.

### Library guides:

Research Data Management: <https://libguides.sun.ac.za/ResearchDataManagement>

SUNScholarData: <https://libguides.sun.ac.za/SUNScholarData>

Contact Kirchner van Deventer here:

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