In This Issue

- Arch | Research and Data Repository
- Employee Resource Leadership Initiative
- Inaugural Broader Impacts Forum for Faculty and Staff
- NURAP Travel Award Winners
- Upcoming Events of Interest

NURAP brings together staff from across the university with the aim of improving institutional cohesiveness in research administration and fostering professional excellence by providing forums to discuss current policies, exchange best practices, and network.

Sunset over the Evanston campus pond. Photo by NURAP member Tracy Ye.
Scientists and scholars produce more than books and journal articles to document their research findings. Datasets, processing scripts, protocols, images, audio, video, and figures are all necessary components for scientists to understand, reproduce, and build upon each other’s work. To collect, preserve, and provide access to supplemental research materials, Northwestern University Libraries launched Arch, a research and data repository, to support open science.

Arch is an open access repository for the research and scholarly output of Northwestern University. Faculty and staff can log in with NetID credentials can deposit, describe, and organize research materials for public access and long-term preservation. All deposited items receive a Digital Object Identifier (DOI) for persistent linking and citation. This service is backed by librarians who use their expertise to help curate, share, and preserve these materials to ensure their long-term use in the scientific endeavor.

Examples of deposited materials:

- Datasets supporting publications
- Instructional documentation
- Code for data processing and analysis
- Presentations: slides, audio, video
- Collections of related materials
- Grey literature: working papers, technical reports

Beyond funding agencies and journals requiring public access to research data, there is a cultural movement in science toward reproducible research practices. The reproducibility crisis in the sciences and social science underlines the importance of open access to research literature and supplemental content. Using Arch is one method for communicating and sharing the diversity of scholarly outputs your labs and research teams are producing.

To set up a consultation or ask a question, contact Chris Diaz at chris-diaz@northwestern.edu or 847-467-6693.
Employee Resource Groups (ERGs), sometimes referred to as advisory groups, affinity groups, business resource groups, or employee networks, are often comprised of employees that are linked by personal characteristics or have a shared interest or goal within an organization. While they are typically initiated by employees, ERGs are important drivers of talent, strategy and business outcomes. They act as a resource for members by fostering a diverse, inclusive workplace that’s aligned with the organization’s mission, values, goals, business practices, and objectives. ERGs offer employees community, camaraderie, and connection to the organization, giving them a sense of belonging. Moreover, ERGs introduce new and current employees to the organizational culture, and help build and maintain employee engagement and satisfaction.

In May 2017, the global nonprofit organization, Catalyst, hosted their annual Employee Resource Leadership Initiative (ERLI) Conference on Leveraging ERGs to Redefine Leadership at the BMO Institute for Learning in Toronto, Canada. The keynote speaker and panelists included a number of c-suite executives from top rated corporations such as BMO Financial Group, Chubb, Nationwide Insurance, Deloitte, and PwC Canada. The conference breakout sessions covered topics on influencing inclusion across your organization; fostering inclusive and agile cultures; developing leaders through sponsorship; leading conversations about gender, race, and ethnicity; and measuring climates of inclusion. Also, there were opportunities to network and develop connections with ERG leaders—chairs, co-chairs, and committee leads—as well as executive sponsors and advisors throughout North America.
Inaugural Broader Impacts Forum for Faculty and Staff

A primary goal of research is to contribute to important societal outcomes, but doing so takes effort to form connections and manage relationships that are mutually beneficial. A committee of administrative staff within the Office for Research Development, Office of the Provost, Searle Center for Advancing Learning and Teaching, Office of Community Education Partnerships, and Science in Society hosted the inaugural forum of Broader Impacts at Northwestern University on February 5, 2018.

The day-long event allowed Northwestern researchers and staff of all disciplines to interact with community partners, and to share best practices, leverage resources, and build community around broader impacts of research.

Watch for follow-up resources and encourage your group’s faculty and staff to attend the event next year!

Congratulations to the NURAP Travel Award Winners

Sheila Chhim, Associate Research Administrator, Institute for Public Health and Medicine
Tanikka Mitchell, Coordinator of Research Programs, OSR Information Team
Elizabeth Christian, Research Study Coordinator, Center for Global Health
Emily Klees, Accounting Specialist Senior, Neurological Surgery

Miss a recent NURAP event?

Check our Events webpage to find resources such as slides, handouts, and videos.

Recent NURAP@Noon:
- Overview of TGS Training Grant Support Office
- NIH FORMS E Tips
- NCURA Webinar: Data Transfers and Use Agreements
Upcoming Events of Interest:

- NU Knowledge at Noon (Faculty research presentations to staff, sponsored by ORI), March 29, 2018 at 12pm – 1pm
  Presenter: Assistant Professor Marco Gallio
  Title: How Simple(r) Brains Process Temperature and Pain
  Evanston: Ruan Conference Center, Chambers Hall
  Chicago videoconference: Rubloff, Room 750

- Conversations with President Schapiro, April 4, 2018 at 10am – 11:30am in Chicago (Thorne Auditorium) and April 12, 2018 10am – 11:30am in Evanston (McCormick Foundation Center)

- Research Administration Training Seminar
  * Spring 2018 Training: April 24, 26, 30, and May 1 (Evanston campus)
  * Summer 2018 Training: July (Chicago campus) – dates TBD

- NURAP co-sponsored live-stream of SRA Women Leaders in Research Administration Webinar, March 27, 2018
  Evanston: Kellogg Global Hub, 1st floor, room 1410
  Chicago: Shirley Ryan Ability Lab, 10th floor, Auditorium A

- NCURA Region IV Spring Meeting, April 15-18, 2018 in Des Moines, IA

- 10th Annual Meeting of the National Organization of Research Development Professionals (NORDP), May 7-9, 2018 in Arlington, VA

- Annual NCURA Meeting, August 5-8, 2018 in Washington DC

- Seeking Solutions for Research Integrity National Conference (free to attend), September 23, 2018 at The Ohio State University

Contact Us

To suggest or contribute content for future issues of The Rap Up, contact us by email at nurap@northwestern.edu

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