

Whereas

Researchers in all disciplines are faced with a range of data management needs as research becomes more collaborative, data-intensive, and computational,

And data management requires a long-term commitment to a storage environment where the security of sensitive data and the integrity of all research data is ensured,

And data sharing and re-use increase the accountability, visibility, impact, and return on investment in research,

And the Office of Science and Technology Policy (OSTP) has directed federal agencies to mandate that digitally formatted research data, to the extent feasible and consistent with applicable law and policy, should be stored and publicly accessible to search, retrieve, and analyze,

And most large Federal funding agencies (NIH, NSF, DOE, DOT, NASA, DOD, CDC, NOAA, USDA, USGS) now require data management plans for the preservation and access of research data,

And current practices at UVM, assembled on an ad hoc basis, do not meet current user needs or look forward in support of strategic initiatives and goals,

And an institutional commitment to providing technical expertise and support services is required to meet researcher needs, funding imperatives, and public policy goals,

Therefore be it resolved that the University of Vermont should

- Charge a joint Administration/Faculty Senate committee (drawing from relevant units such as the University Libraries, the Office of the Vice President for Research, and Enterprise Technology Services, and faculty representatives from likely user groups) to develop a programmatic and financial plan by October, 2017 to provide the University with core services and tools for managing data throughout the data life cycle.

Following the creation of this plan, the University of Vermont should

- Promote these services and tools and encourage faculty to use them to manage and share their data.
- Provide ongoing financial support to the units providing services and tools, including support for the infrastructure, personnel, education, and training.
- Develop a research data management policy, establishing the University's commitment to long term data management.