Implementing research data management policy at Vilnius University

Lessons and Challenges

About

Topic:
how the research data management policy is implemented at Vilnius University, what is the situation in Lithuania, what activities does the library carry out, what challenges do it face.

Vilnius University:
- Founded in 1579.
- Academic staff – 2 926.
- Students – 19 996.

About Vilnius University Library –

VU Central Library - 1570
- Historic library of humanitarian and social sciences
- Cultural Heritage Collections' Research Centre
- Library serving the faculties located at the central campus of VU

VU Scholarly Communication and Information Centre – 2013
- Library serving Sunrise (Saulėtekis) Valley science, studies and business communities
- Library for physical, technological and life sciences; social sciences library
- Library serving four faculties at Sunrise (Saulėtekis) campus of VU

Overview

Country level:
- No national policy – in planning.
- „Guidelines on open access to scientific publications and data" was accepted by the Research Council of Lithuania (2016).

E-infrastructure:
- ***The National Open Access Research Data Archive (MIDAS)***
- The Lithuanian HSM data archive (LiDA)
- The Crystallography Open Database (COD)
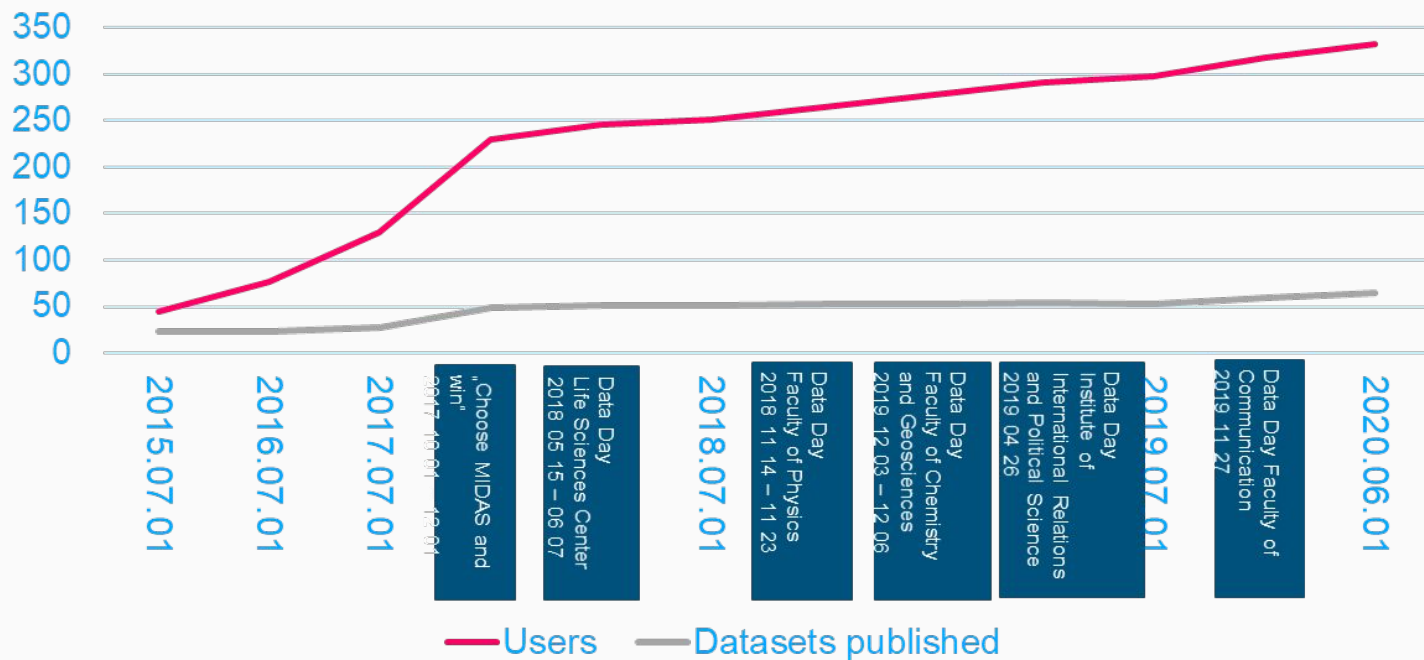
Institutional level:
- Guidelines for Scientific Research Data Management (2016):
- MIDAS management group (chairman – VU vice-rector)
- Library responsibilities:
identify the needs of researchers for and coordinate the implementation of RDM services; communicate about RDM; consult on the preparation of RDMP; organize RDM training; etc;
- VUL staff: 1 data manager; 1 information manager (OS/OA)

Library activities

- VU RDM communication strategy and plan (2017, accepted by VU Vice rector)
- Campaign „*Choose MIDAS and Win*"
- „*MIDAS Friendship Days*" at VU
- „*Data Days*" at the faculties (2018 – 2020). „Data Days" as one of the best examples of collaboration with academia has been included in the EC RDA book „Engaging Researchers with Research Data Management: The Cookbook"
- Online tool „*DMP Wizard*"
- Course for doctoral students „*Research data management: planning, security, promotion, citation*" (0.2 credits; one faculty)
- RDM subsection (2017): https://biblioteka.vu.lt/en/science-and-studies/scholarly
- communication/research-data-management
- Communication, dissemination, consultations..., etc.

STILL.......: MIDAS usage statistics

@LIBEREurope

Survey about research data management

Questions:

- Do you use the National Open Access Research Data Archive?
- Where do you store your research data?
- Where do you publish research data if it is prescribed by your funding organization?
- What improvements would encourage more researchers to manage the research data?

And answers:

So,

Theoretically, the policy is approved; in practice - does not work properly.
There are many tools and services on offer, but there is still not enough information.
Researchers don't want to waste time if it doesn't benefit them.

What could help change the situation?
Providing national policy.
A changes in the research culture.
Increasing the number of library specialists and improving skills and competence.
Data stewards - for data management.
Increasing the awareness of researchers about RDM.
Improvement of the data archive, development of its functionalities and services.
Stronger support from faculty and university authorities.

Thanks!

Dr Žibutė Petrauskienė
Director of the Department
Vilnius University Library
http://biblioteka.vu.lt
zibute.petrauskiene@mb.vu.lt
LIBER RDM WG