Landesinitiative NFDI – central coordination of RDM activities in the German federal state of North Rhine-Westphalia

Content

The Landesinitiative NFDI (state initiative national research data infrastructure) addresses the challenges of building up infrastructures and services for research data management (RDM) among higher education institutions in the German federal State of North Rhine-Westphalia (NRW). In NRW, Germany’s most populous state with the highest number of students (approximately 760,000) and seventy higher education institutions, these organisations are self-governing: due to the higher education autonomy act they are free to develop own individual approaches and solutions for building up infrastructures, such as technical RDM applications and services. Among the institutions, the status quo of institutional RDM activities is very heterogeneous, but all the universities need to provide generic infrastructure for RDM to support their scientists. One of the main goals of the Landesinitiative NFDI is to support the local universities in this process. The initiative, as a central point of contact for RDM in NRW, connects the different players, projects and institutions and stimulates communication to avoid redundant development efforts and achieve synergy effects for all stakeholders. The Landesinitiative NFDI accompanies, for instance, the application for new storage infrastructure by three different consortia of universities in NRW as well as an initiative for digital long-term preservation infrastructure for all higher education institutions in NRW.

Despite institutional concerns, scientists and infrastructure partners are to participate in building up a national research data infrastructure (“Nationale Forschungsdateninfrastruktur” (NFDI)), recommended by the Council for Scientific Information Infrastructures (“Rat für Informationseinrichtungen” (RfII)). The Landesinitiative NFDI supports this development providing expert advice as well as fostering networking and communication between relevant parties of the scientific communities and infrastructure providers.

The poster focuses on the results of the work of the Landesinitiative NFDI and gives an overview of activities and challenges regarding RDM among higher education institutions in NRW.

The Landesinitiative NFDI is funded by the Ministry of Science and Culture of the Federal Government of NRW and the “Digitale Hochschule NRW” (Digital University NRW, DH-NRW). The DH-NRW is a collaboration of 42 universities in NRW who joined forces to foster digitalisation in research, teaching as well as infrastructure and management.

Type of abstract

Poster

Summary

The Landesinitiative NFDI (state initiative national research data infrastructure) addresses the challenges of building up infrastructures and services for RDM among higher education institutions in the German federal State of North Rhine-Westphalia (NRW). As a central point of contact for RDM the initiative fosters communication and exchange between the different players to avoid redundant development efforts and achieve synergy effects for all stakeholders. The poster focuses on the results of the work of the Landesinitiative NFDI and gives an overview of activities and challenges regarding RDM among higher education institutions in NRW.

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