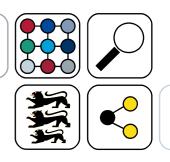# bwFDM-Communities Newsletter

## What do researchers want?

**March 2015**

### Research Requirements

During our project meeting in mid-February all demands and requirements concerning research data management that were uttered by researchers in Baden-Württemberg were grouped into thematic categories. On the whole, 2479 individual user stories were recorded and analysed. Main thematic categories which have emerged are:

Archiving/Storage
Digitalisation
Funding and Projects
Formats and Unified Standards
RDM Information
IT Infrastructure
Licensing
Open Access
Individual Support
Project and Data Documentation
Legal Issues
Repositories
Scientific Data Culture
Academic Collaboration
Access to External Data

This preliminary list of categories alone provides a good overview of topics that are important to our researchers
The category *RDM Information* played a role in over 20% of all user stories which highlights a significant deficit and demand in this particular area. The issues of *Individual Support* (for example via an IT expert) and *IT Infrastructure* are the second and third most frequently mentioned categories. All other categories usually subsume around 100 individual user stories.
The Federal Government as well as the EU have established a digital agenda [1] [2] and Baden-Württemberg introduced its eScience strategy last year [3]. We hope to provide feedback to these initiatives so that new developments conform to actual requirements of researchers. We are confident that researchers will be able to profit from new services within the course of this year already.

### Politics

In December, the ban on cooperation between the federal government and the federal states in the higher education sector was revoked. [4]. From now on, federal government may support „academic projects of supra-regional relevance" for unlimited periods of time. How this decision will influence the funding policies of the DFG or whether, in the spirit of the digital agenda, it will lead to better permanent and supra-national access to valuable data is difficult to determine at this point, considering the collision of interests that usually accompanies the allocation of federal funds. We will provide more information about this topic as soon as possible.

## Infobox

**Did you know?**
- the popular service bwSync&Share has augmented its storage capacities to 25GB per user
- ex US security advisor Condoleezza Rice serves on the board of directors of Dropbox

**Workshops for interdisciplinary interest groups:**

**LSDMA Community Forum 2015**
<u>Topic</u>: Large Scale Data Management and Analysis - Community Reports
<u>Date</u>: March 25th-26th, Berlin

**RDA-/DINI-Workshop 2015**
<u>Topic</u>: Data Modells and Standards
<u>Date</u>: May 28th-29th, Karlsruhe

**DATA 2015**
<u>Topic</u>: Data Management Technologies and Applications
<u>Date</u>: July 20th-22nd, Colmar (Alsace)

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[1] http://www.bmwi.de/DE/Themen/Digitale-Welt/digitale-agenda.html
[2] http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-11-1524_de.htm?locale=en
[3] https://mwk.baden-wuerttemberg.de/fileadmin/redaktion/m-mwk/intern/dateien/pdf/Forschung/066_PM_Anlage_E-Science_Web.pdf
[4] http://www.bundesrat.de/DE/plenum/plenum-kompakt/14/929/002.html