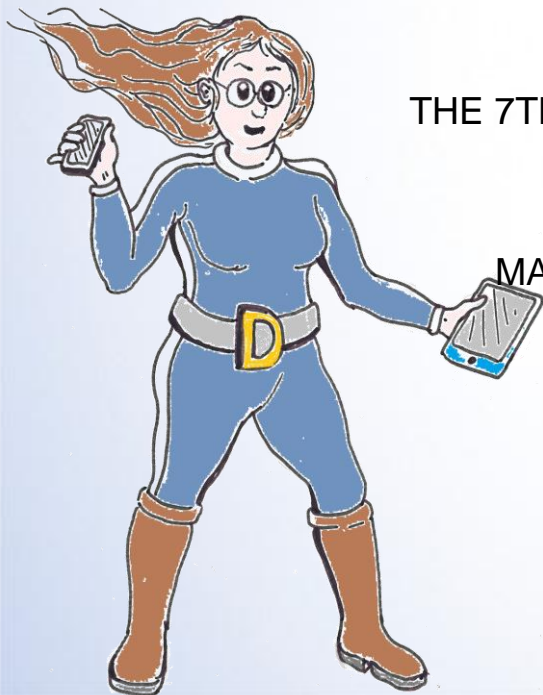


# DATA LIBRARIAN

## HELPING RESEARCHERS WITH DATA ISSUES

THE 7TH UNICA SCHOLARLY COMMUNICATION SEMINAR,  
THURSDAY 27 NOVEMBER 2014

MARI ELISA KUUSNIEMI, RESEARCH SERVICES,  
HELSINKI UNIVERSITY LIBRARY



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# CONTENT

BACKGROUND

RDM IN-HOUSE TRAINING FOR LIBRARIANS

RDM SERVICES

THE MOST IMPORTANT SKILL OF DATA LIBRARIAN

THE ROLE OF DATA LIBRARIAN



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# FIGURES

- The University of Helsinki (UH)
  - 40,000 students and staff members
- + The Helsinki university central hospital
- Helsinki University Library
  - 4 campus libraries and some branch libraries
  - 240 staff members



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# GENERAL BACKGROUND

- The research data policy of Helsinki University is under construction.
  - It will be published in January 2015
  - The library is involved in this work.
- Meetings for research support services, since 2011.
  - Support services: IT Center, research administration (ethics, legal matters), archive, National Library.
  - The library coordinates meetings.



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# IN-HOUSE TRAINING FOR LIBRARY STAFF

Study year 2012-2013



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# PARTICIPANTS IN IN-HOUSE TRAINING

- In 2012 we started the one year in-house training in the Helsinki University Library.
- Participants:
  - 15 library staff members => 17 at the end of the training
  - from every campus library
  - various expertises
    - IL teachers, information specialists, librarians
- Coordinator Mari Elisa Kuusniemi (information specialist)



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# WORKSHOPS

*10 workshops, 3 h/session*

Topics:

- Basic information about research data management
- Research data storage and preservation
- Data management plans
- Data documentation and metadata
- LIBER: Ten recommendations for libraries to get started with research data management
- etc.



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# EXPERT VISITORS IN WORKSHOPS

- Researchers telling about their research data
  - Usage of data and ethics
  - Data models and metadata
- Preservation of data: data archive providers
- Metadata: expert of persistent identification from the National Library of Finland
- Usage of a data source: expert in national health statistics and registries



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# ASSIGNMENTS BETWEEN WORKSHOPS

- Find job advertisements for "Data Librarian".
  - What skills do you have already?
  - What skills do you need to get?
- Find Data Management support websites by other libraries.
  - Which are the main topics?
- Pick up an interesting RDM issue and teach it to others.
- Give a short presentation about a research data archive in your subject field.
  1. Find a data archive.
  2. Learn to use it.
  3. Teach it to the others.



# RESEARCH PROJECT

1. First a literature review about the topic.
2. Research (surveys, interview studies)
  - Subjects: researchers, ICT services, other libraries
3. Research report: presentation to others



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# HOW DID WE GET THE PARTICIPANTS INVOLVED?

- An expectancy and target survey in the beginning
- We decided our learning goals together
- Workshops as interactive as possible
- We taught each other
- Survey in the middle of course: "How has it been? Any improvement suggestions?"
- Assignments between workshops required quite a lot work.
- Etc.



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# RESULTS FROM IN-HOUSE TRAINING

- 20 staff members familiar with basics of RDM.
- A plan for research data management support and training services:
  1. Strategy for organizing RDM services
  2. Communication and web services
  3. Training and information services
  4. Technical services



# LESSONS LEARNED

- Learning by doing works great.
- Don't start with pondering about the role of library, start with the facts.
  - ⇒ Take the role you want!
- Taking the skills into practice is not an easy task.
  - ⇒ Support needed



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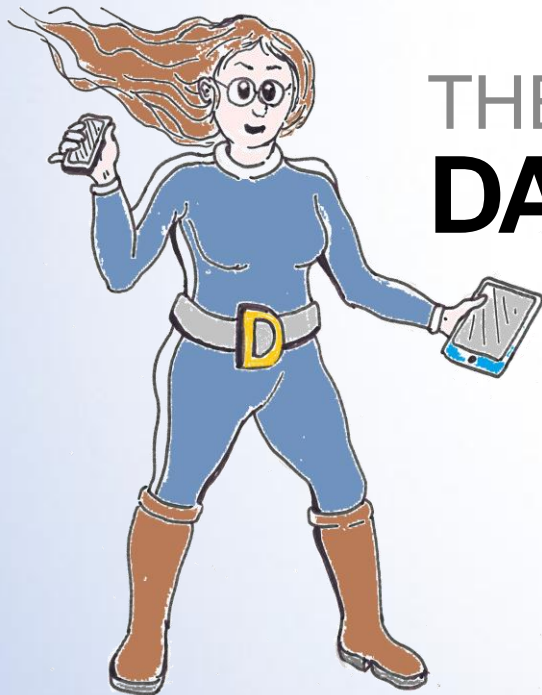
# RDM SERVICES NOW (AND IN THE NEAR FUTURE)

- Consulting service
  - “Ask about RDM”-service
- Education services
  - The library gives the basic education of RDM to the doctoral schools.
- RDM webpages
- DMP tool-project started 2014



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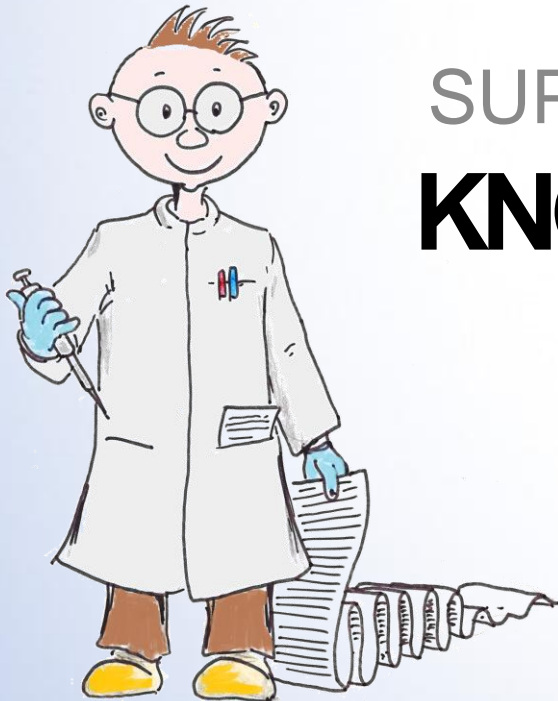
# THE MOST IMPORTANT SKILL OF **DATA LIBRARIAN?**



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SUPPORTING RESEARCH

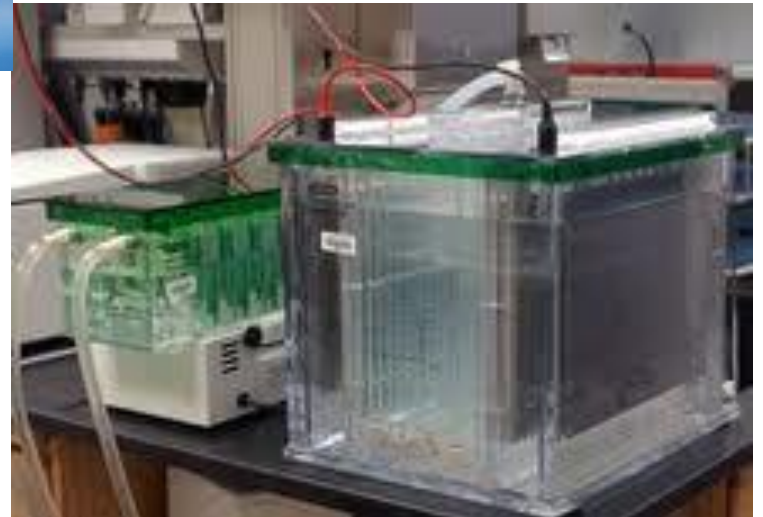
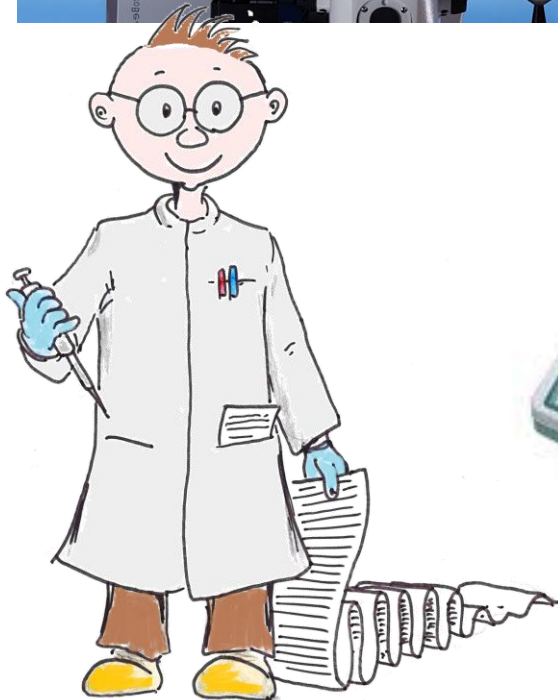
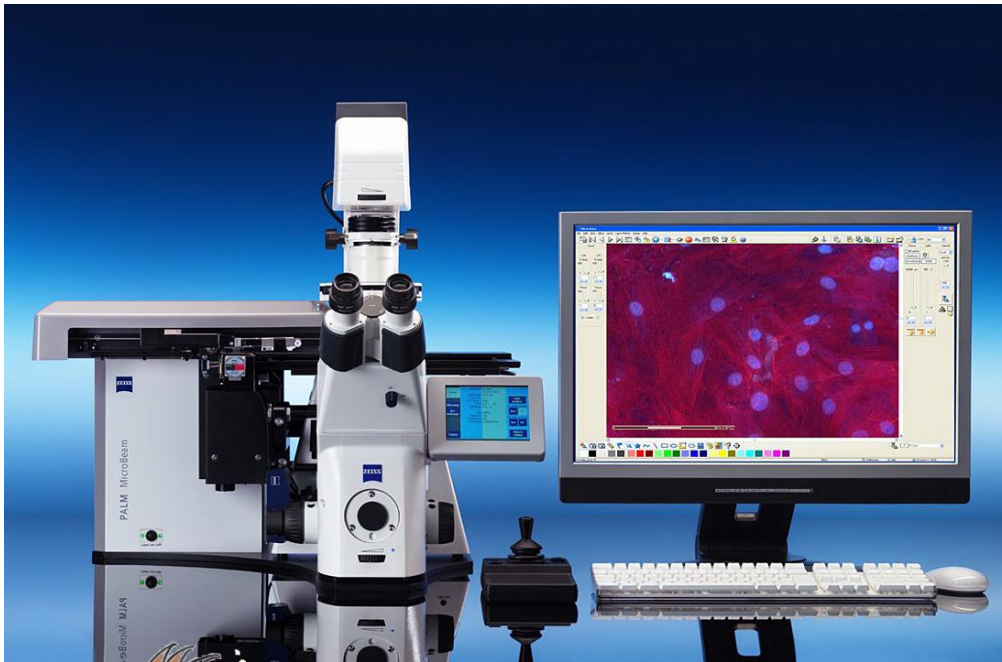
# KNOW YOUR TARGET GROUP



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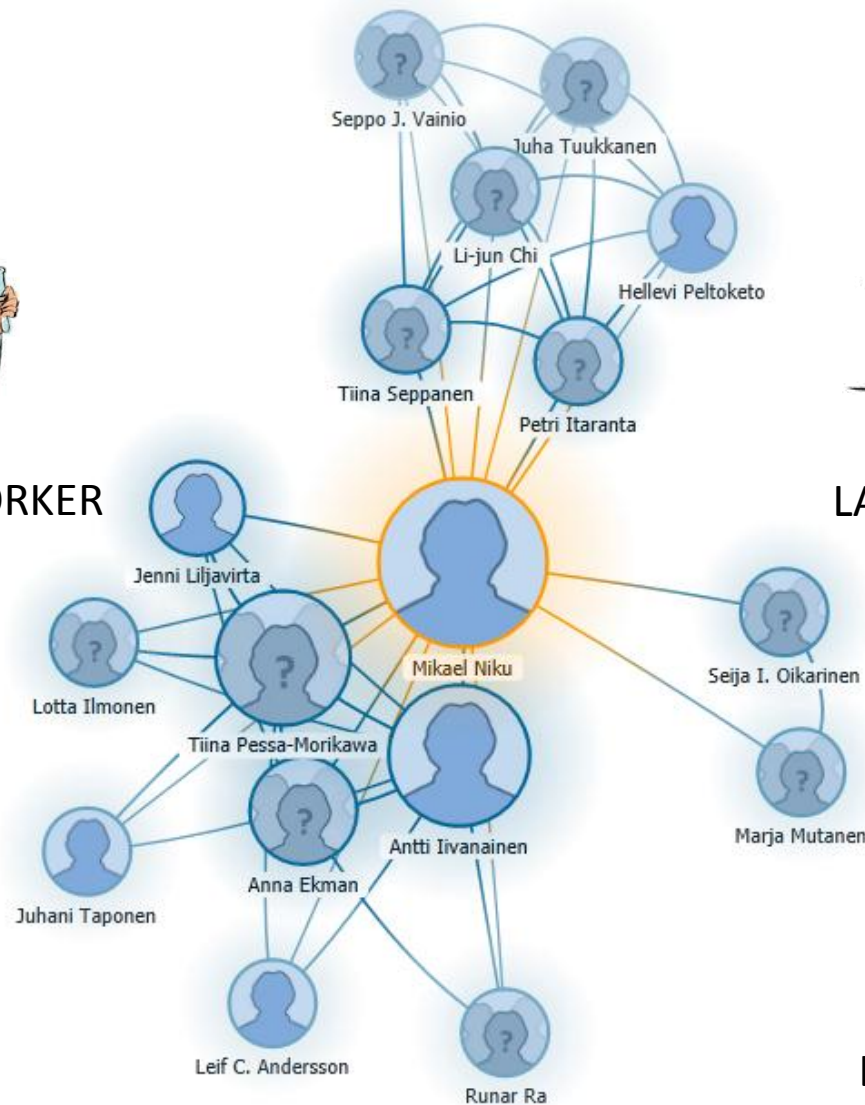
HE USES THESE INSTRUMENTS



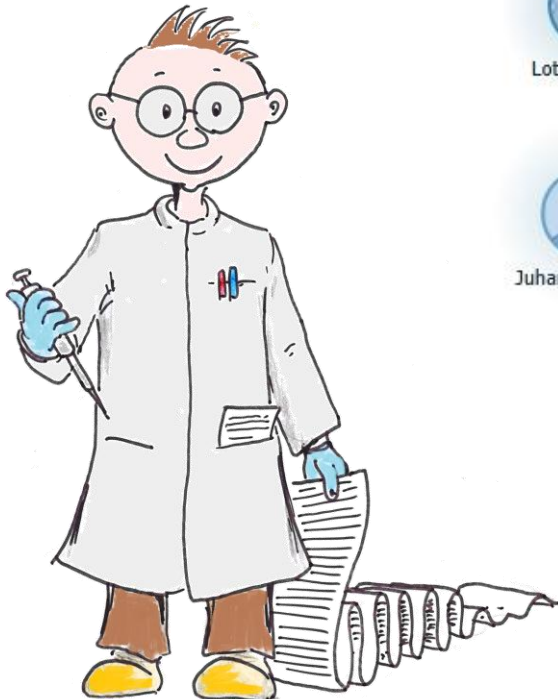
LABORATORY WORKER



LABORATORY WORKER



LABORATORY WORKER

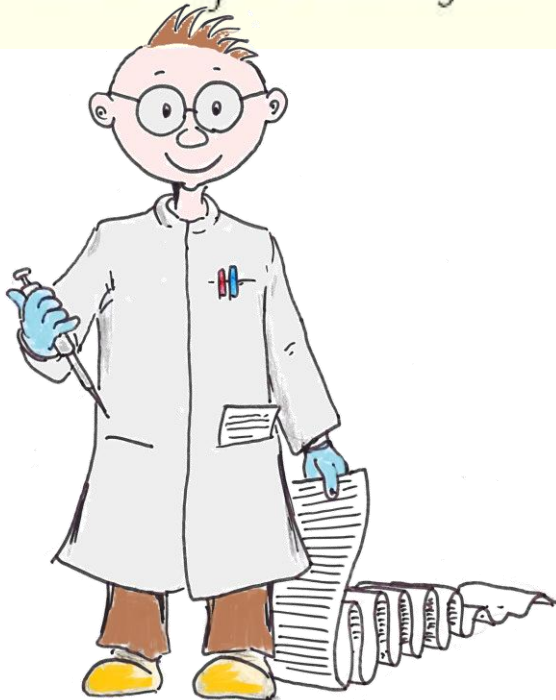


HE WORKS AND PUBLISHES WITH THEM





Preveterinary students will observe demos in anatomy and other subjects at Future Day 2008



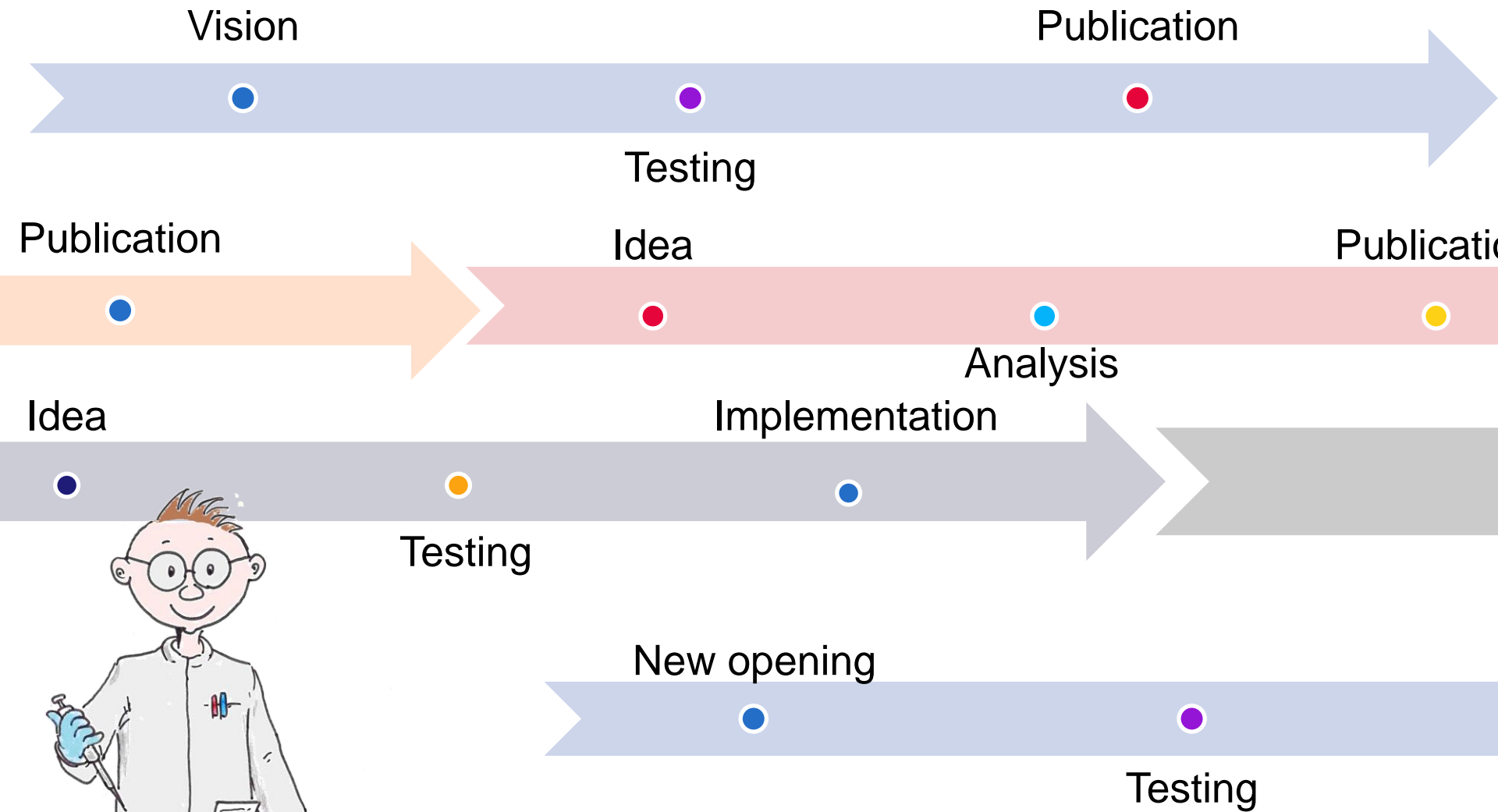
HE TEACHES AND SUPERVISES STUDENTS  
AND POSTGRADUATES

# teaching



**TEACHERS'  
ACADEMY**

HE DEVELOPS TEACHING IN HIS FACULTY



**THESE ARE THE MOST IMPORTANT PROJECTS  
RIGHT NOW**

(Note: He is writing three articles at the same time.)



# teaching



community



Academy

Vision



GRANTS



ALL THESE ARE IN THE RESEARCHER'S THOUGHTS

## RDM EDUCATION

## SUBJECT REPOSITORIES

# DATA MANAGEMENT PLAN

# teaching

# community

# Vision

# Publication

# Testing

# GRANTS

# ENDING

## DATA SHARING

## COPYRIGHTS

The data librarian thinks:  
"WHAT, WHEN AND FOR WHOM?"



# DATA LIBRARIAN MEDIATES

Researchers and students ↔ Information of the RDM best practices

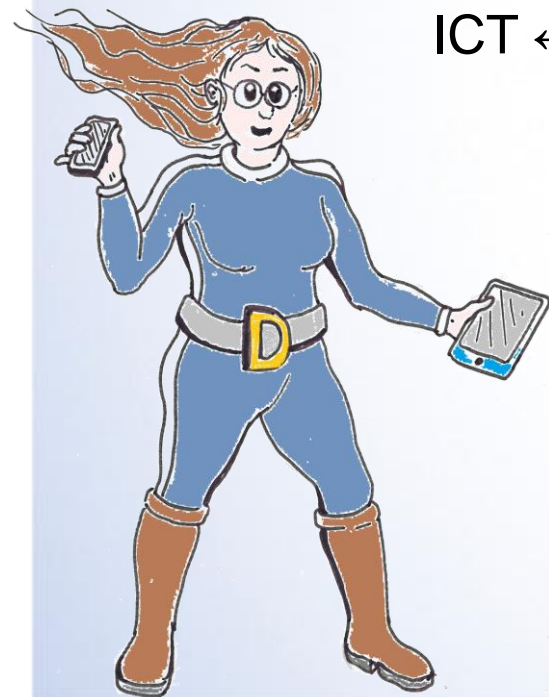
Researchers and students ↔ Data management policy

Researchers ↔ Data management tools

Researchers ↔ Development projects of data management tools

RDM services:

ICT ↔ Lawyers ↔ Archive ↔ Administration ↔ Library



DATA LIBRARIAN KNOWS WHO KNOWS



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# THANK YOU!

Mari Elisa Kuusniemi

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Read more about UH RDM services:  
LIBER Case Study: [Developing Research  
Data Management Training and  
Support at Helsinki University Library](#)

*Annikki Roos*