

# UCLA

## Presentations

### Title

Users and uses of a digital data archive: A case study of DANS

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# Users and uses of a digital data archive: A case study of DANS

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DANS visiting scholars

ANDS: Andrew Treloar

LANL: Herbert van de Sompel

KNOWeSCAPE 2017, Sofia, Bulgaria  
February 22, 2017



Christine Borgman



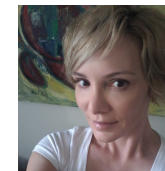
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Irene Pasquetto



Bernie Randles



Milena Golshan

**UCLA** Center for  
Knowledge Infrastructures

<https://knowledgeinfrastructures.gseis.ucla.edu>

*Data Archiving and Networked Services*

**DANS**

<https://dans.knaw.nl/en>

# Overview of talk

- Motivation for study of DANS users and uses
- Research questions and methods
- Findings from interviews
- Discussion of results
- Implications for knowledge infrastructures

# Knowledge Landscapes and Knowledge Infrastructures

- **Knowledge landscapes:** “large knowledge spaces and systems that organize and order them”

KNOWeSCAPE. <http://knowescape.org/about/>

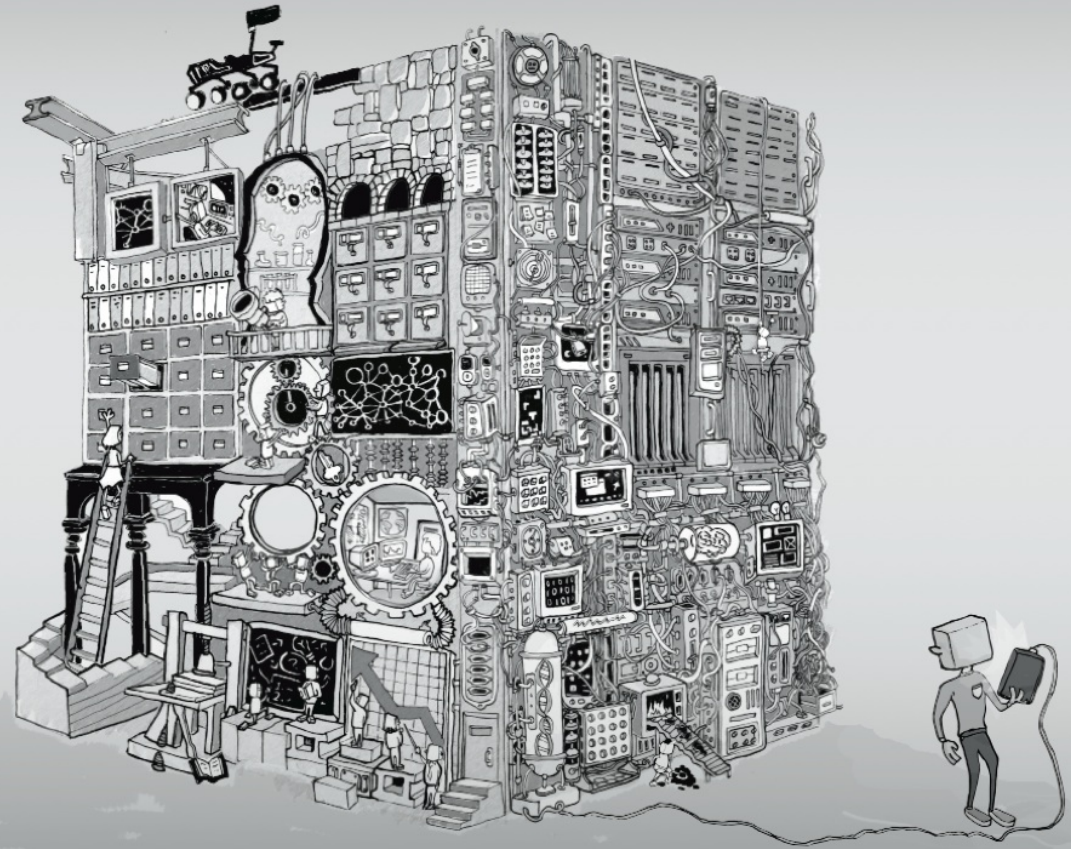
- **Knowledge infrastructures:** “robust networks of people, artifacts, and institutions that generate, share, and maintain specific knowledge about the human and natural worlds”

Edwards, P. N. (2010). *A Vast Machine: Computer Models, Climate Data, and the Politics of Global Warming*. Cambridge, MA: The MIT Press.

# Sustaining Access to Scholarship

depends upon  
building better

# Knowledge Infrastructures



Knowledge Infrastructures:  
Intellectual Frameworks and Research Challenges

*Report of a workshop sponsored by the National Science Foundation and the Sloan Foundation*

*University of Michigan School of Information, 25-28 May 2012*



# Open access policies

- Research Councils of the UK
- European Union
- Australian Research Council
- U.S. Federal research policy
- Taiwan, China, India...
- Individual countries, funding agencies



Supported by  
**wellcome**trust

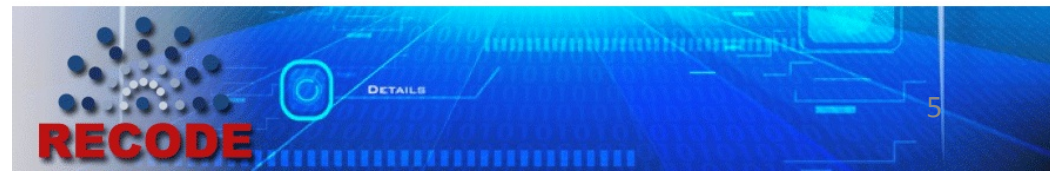


Australian Government  
National Health and Medical Research Council

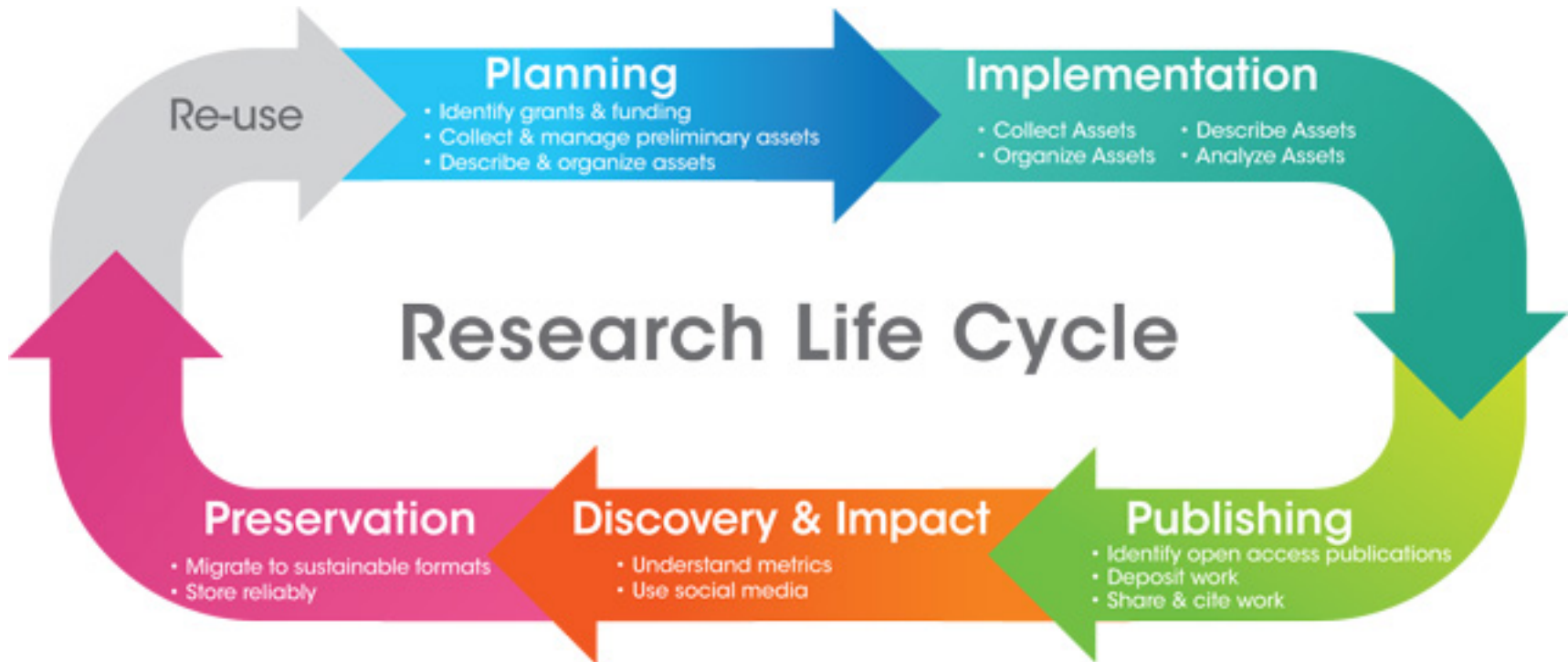


National Science Foundation  
WHERE DISCOVERIES BEGIN

Policy RECommendations for Open Access to Research Data in Europe



# When to invest in data?





# Research Questions

1. What are the roles of data archives in knowledge infrastructures?
2. How do stakeholder roles in digital archives vary?
  - a. Contributors to a digital data archive
  - b. Consumers of data from a digital archive
  - c. Archivists who manage the digital data archive



# DANS as a Digital Data Archive

- Netherlands government funding; about 50 staff
- Data Seal of Approval
- Participates in international research infrastructure projects
- 50+ years of social science and humanities data
- Published datasets in EASY: 32,000+
- About 3.5 million files; total 5TB

# Research Methods

- Document analysis
- Ethnography
- Mining transaction logs
- Interviews
  - DANS data contributors
  - DANS data consumers
  - DANS archivists and staff



A. Scharnhorst, C. Borgman, DANS 2014

# DANS Interviews 2015-2016

Stakeholders/ Participants	Number of Interviews	Domain Expertise	Occupation
Data contributors	9	Archaeology, History, Paleogeography (3) Labor Economics (1) Linguistics (1) Oral Histories (1) Information Science (1) Theology (1) Biology (1)	Academic staff (4) Cultural institution staff (3) Private company staff (1 interview with 2 staff) Unaffiliated (1)
Data consumers	8	Archaeology, History (6) Political Science, Sociology, Public Administration (3)	Academic staff (3) Cultural institution staff (2) Citizen scientists (1) Students (2)
DANS staff	10	Archaeology and humanities (6) IT Development (4)	Archivists Project Managers IT developers

# Findings

- Data types
- Data contributors
- Data consumers
- DANS archivists and staff
- Infrastructure roles of data archives

# DANS data

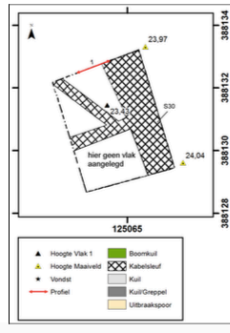


Afbeelding 8 (links). Profleurfur nr. 1, Profiel nr. 2. Foto (Fotonummer 3) genomen naar het zuiden.

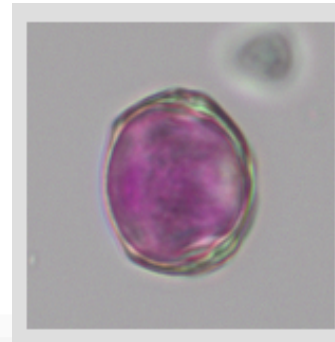
Wilgen, L. R. van (SOB Research) (2104).DANS.  
<https://doi.org/10.17026/dans-z5y-tdb6>



Afbeelding 46. Profleurfur nr. 7, Vlak 1. Duidelijk zichtbaar is de verstering door kabels en leidt 13) genomen naar het noordoosten.



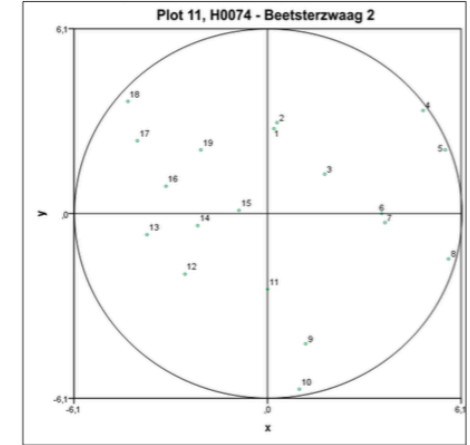
Afbeelding 47. Profleurfur nr. 7, Vlak 1. Schaal 1: 100.



## Study 4. HOSP plots

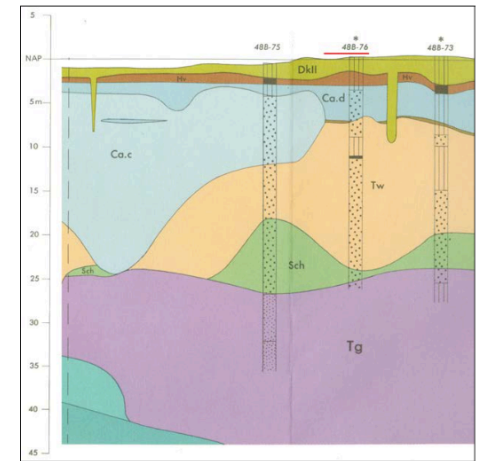
The HOSP plots of study 4 are all circular plots with a varying radius. The y axis is orientated to the North. Each plot is divided in one or more subplots of 0.01 ha, the total number depending on its rounded area. A plot with a radius of 9.1 m has as area 0.0260 ha. Rounded in units of 0.01 ha the area consists of 3 units. So the plot is divided in 3 subplots and the circle is divided in three equal parts of 120°, moving clockwise from the North. Those dividing lines for the subplots are not drawn in the maps.

Plot 11



Plot 11. Tree positions with tree numbers at first recording, area is  $\pi \times 0.061^2 = 0.0117$  ha. There is only one subplot.

<https://easy.dans.knaw.nl/ui/datasets/id/easy-dataset:63812/tab/2>



Afbeelding 6. De globale ligging van het plangebied (rood gemarkeerd), geprojecteerd (zie Afbeelding 5) van de Geologische Kaart van Nederland.

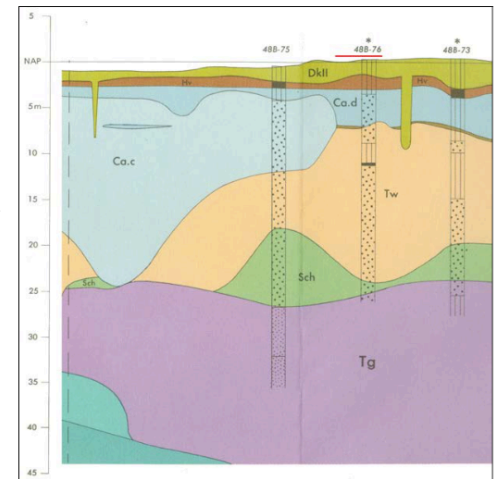
Bosch, J. E. van den (SOB Research) (2102). DANS.  
<https://doi.org/10.17026/dans-2cg-tg88>

Regnummer	Beschrijving	Benaming van de onderscheiden beroepsklassen, met de daartoe behorende beroepen	Positie in het beroep (aangegeven door A, B, C of D)	Lettijd in jaren	Beneden 12 jaar												
					12	13	14 - 15	16 - 17	18 - 22	1878 en later		1878 - 1874		1873 - 1872		1871 - 1867	
M	V	M	V	M	V	M	V	M	V	M	V	M	V	M	V	M	V
1	Aanroep, diamant, glas, kalk, steenen, enz.																
2	Aanroep op porselein																
3	Fabricage van aanroep (niet porselein, ternaocita)	A															
4	1 Kachelbakkers, pofbakkers, enz.)	A															
5	Fabricage van aanroep (niet porselein, ternaocita)	B															
6	2 Kachelbakkers, pofbakkers, enz.)	B															
7	Fabricage van aanroep (niet porselein, ternaocita)	C															
8	3 Kachelbakkers, pofbakkers, enz.)	C															
9	Fabricage van aanroep (niet porselein, ternaocita)	D															
10	4 Kachelbakkers, pofbakkers, enz.)	D															
11	Fabricage van aanroep (niet porselein, ternaocita)	A															
12	5 Fabricage van labakspijnen	A															
13	6 Fabricage van labakspijnen	B															
14	7 Fabricage van labakspijnen	B															
15	8 Fabricage van labakspijnen	C															
16	9 Diamantklovers	A															
17	10 Diamantklovers	D															
18	11 Diamantklovers (niet versterken)	B															
19	12 Diamantklovers (niet versterken)	B															
20	13 Diamantklovers (niet versterken)	C															
21	14 Diamantklovers (niet versterken)	D															
22	15 Diamantklovers (niet versterken)	A															
23	16 Diamantklovers (niet versterken)	A															
24	17 Fabricage van parketvloeren	D															
25	18 Fabricage van parketvloeren	A															
26	19 Fabricage van marmeren vloeren	A															
27	20 Fabricage van marmeren vloeren	D															
28	21 Fabricage van marmeren vloeren	D															
29	22 Fabricage van marmeren vloeren	D															
30	23 Fabricage van marmeren vloeren	D															
31	24 Fabricage van marmeren vloeren	D															
32	25 Fabricage van marmeren vloeren	D															

<https://easy.dans.knaw.nl/ui/datasets/id/easy-dataset:65225/tab/2>

# Who contributes data to DANS?

- Archaeologists
  - Companies that conduct site surveys
  - University researchers
- Researchers in other fields
  - Public policy, economics, geography
  - Sociology, linguistics, oral history...
- Staff on behalf of data collectors
  - Institutional librarian
  - Head of the department



**Afbeelding 6.** De globale ligging van het plangebied (rood gemarkeerd), geprojecteerd (zie Afbeelding 5) van de Geologische Kaart van Nederland.

Bosch, J. E. van den (SOB Research) (2102). DANS.  
<https://doi.org/10.17026/dans-2cg-tg88>

# Why do they contribute data to DANS?

- Meet legal requirements
- Get credit for data
- Share data with others
- Preserve data for long term
- Control access to their data



Afbeelding 8 (links), Proefleuf nr. 1, Profiel nr. 2. Foto (Fotonummer 3) genomen naar het zuid.

Wilgen, L. R. van (SOB Research) (2104).DANS.  
<https://doi.org/10.17026/dans-z5y-tdb6>

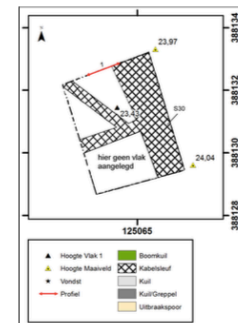


# Controlling access to deposited data

- Contributor goals
  - To identify consumers of their data
  - To control how their data are used
- Consumer requirements
  - Register with DANS
  - Request permission from data contributor



Abbeelding 46. Proefstuf nr. 7, Vlak 1. Duidelijk zichtbaar is de verstering door kabels en leidr 13) genomen naar het noordoosten.



Abbeelding 47. Proefstuf nr. 7, Vlak 1. Schaal 1: 100.

Wilgen, L. R. van (SOB Research) (2104).DANS.  
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# Types of Access

Access	
Open (everyone)	825
Open (registered users)	22522
Restricted ('archaeology' group)	7613
Restricted (request permission)	2625
Other	468

<https://easy.dans.knaw.nl/ui/browse>

# Granularity of access

Overview

Description

Data files (6)

You need to log in to be able to view/access (some of) the files. [Log In](#)

You need to have special permission to be able to access (some of) the files. You can request permission after logging in.

Download

View details

Dataset Contents / original

Dataset Contents

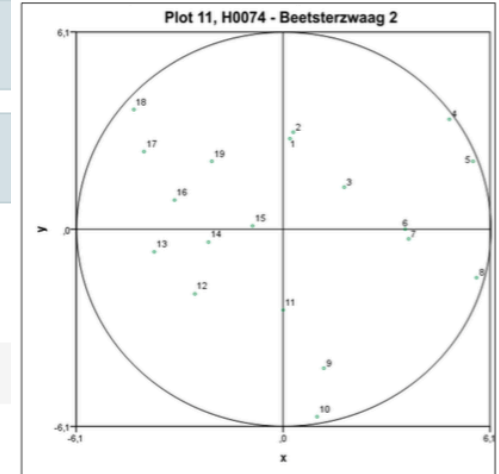
original

<input type="checkbox"/>	Name ▲	Size ▾	Accessible ▲
<input type="checkbox"/>	FEM growth and yield data Monocultures - Silver Birch - plot data book.pdf	353295	Yes
<input type="checkbox"/>	FEM growth and yield data Monocultures - Silver Birch - plot information.csv	6282	Requires granted permission request
<input type="checkbox"/>	FEM growth and yield data Monocultures - Silver Birch - plot level.csv	21235	Requires granted permission request
<input type="checkbox"/>	FEM growth and yield data Monocultures - Silver Birch - tree level.csv	190875	Requires granted permission request
<input type="checkbox"/>	FEM growth and yield data Monocultures - Silver Birch - tree maps atlas.pdf	1017162	Yes
<input type="checkbox"/>	Read me - FEM growth and yield data Monocultures - Silver Birch.pdf	205772	Yes

## Study 4. HOSP plots

The HOSP plots of study 4 are all circular plots with a varying radius. The y axes is orientated to the North. Each plot is divided in one or more subplots of 0.01 ha, the total number depending on its rounded area. A plot with a radius of 9.1 m has as area 0.0260 ha. Rounded in units of 0.01 ha the area consists of 3 units. So the plot is divided in 3 subplots and the circle is divided in three equal parts of 120°, moving clockwise from the North. Those dividing lines for the subplots are not drawn in the maps.

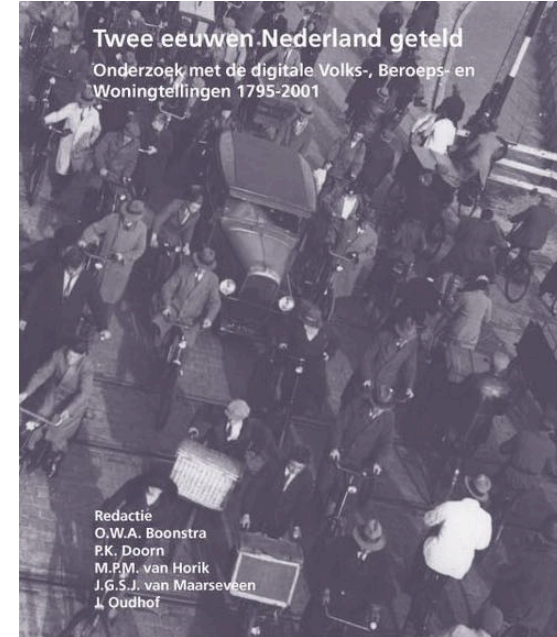
Plot 11



Plot 11. Tree positions with tree numbers at first recording, area is  $\pi \times 0.061^2 = 0.0117$  ha. There is only one subplot.

# Who consumes data from DANS?

- Archaeologists
  - Companies that conduct site surveys
  - University researchers
- Researchers in other fields
  - Public policy, economics, geography
  - Sociology, linguistics, oral history...
- Students, teachers, visiting scholars
- Local history guides, genealogists
- Museum curators, amateur scientists...



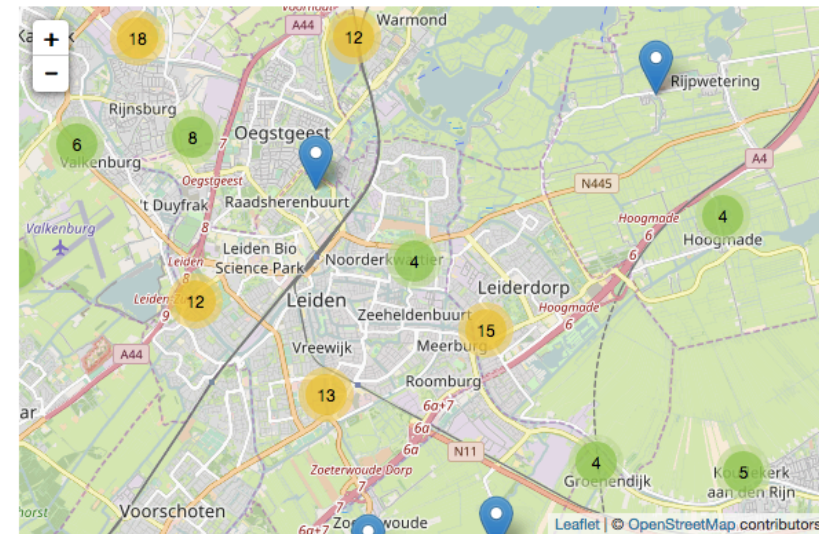
[http://www.volkstellingen.nl/nl/vt\\_bundel/index.jpg](http://www.volkstellingen.nl/nl/vt_bundel/index.jpg)

# How do users search in DANS?

34,029 RESULTS IN PUBLISHED DATASETS

List Map

Showing the first 5000 locations of 34029 results, please reduce the results to see them on the map



<https://easy.dans.knaw.nl/ui/?wicket:interface=:1:1:::>

- Browse topics
- Browse spatial regions
- Search for place names
  - Archaeology sites
  - Building sites
- Few known item searches
- Open access datasets are most used

# How are DANS data used?

- To assess geographic regions
- To use map data in other research
- To compare to other data
- To create new products, e.g., local history guidebooks

<http://www.intlconnect.illinois.edu/jobsearch>



# DANS as Invisible Infrastructure

- DANS data delivered via external websites
- DANS as “back office-front office” services
- DANS as metadata harvesting source



<http://adst.org/oral-history/oral-history-interviews/>



# Visible roles of archivists

- Acquire data
  - Work with contributors
  - Seek useful data
- Disseminate data
  - Assist users in searching
  - Outreach to communities
- Staff help desk



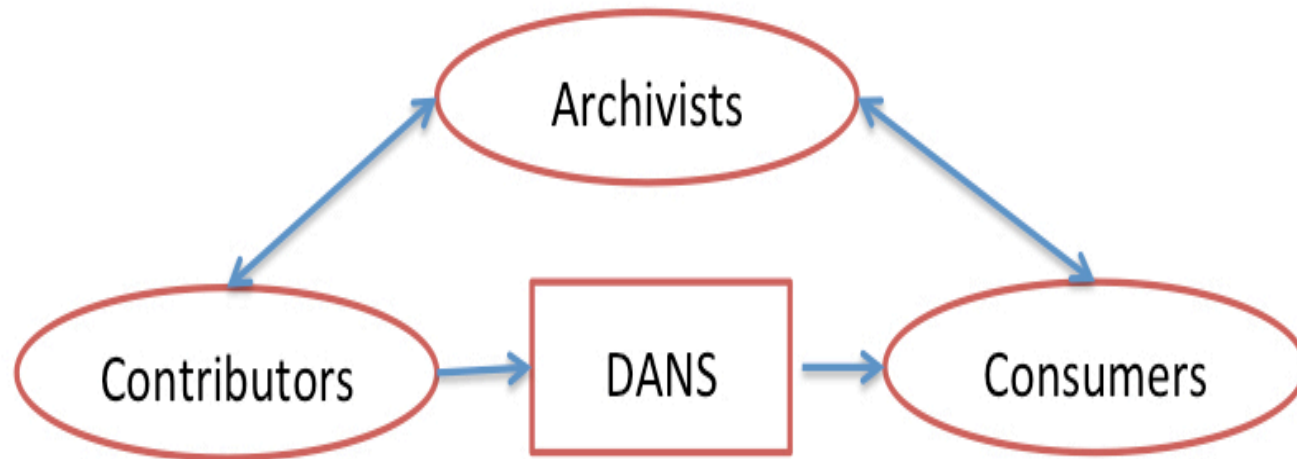
# Invisible roles of archivists

- Curate data
  - Ingest, clean, verify anonymity
  - Migrate data to other formats
  - Describe, document, add metadata
  - Preserve the data in long term
- Bring expertise
  - Subject domain experts
  - Metadata and cataloging experts
  - Design and software engineering
  - Statistics and data analysis

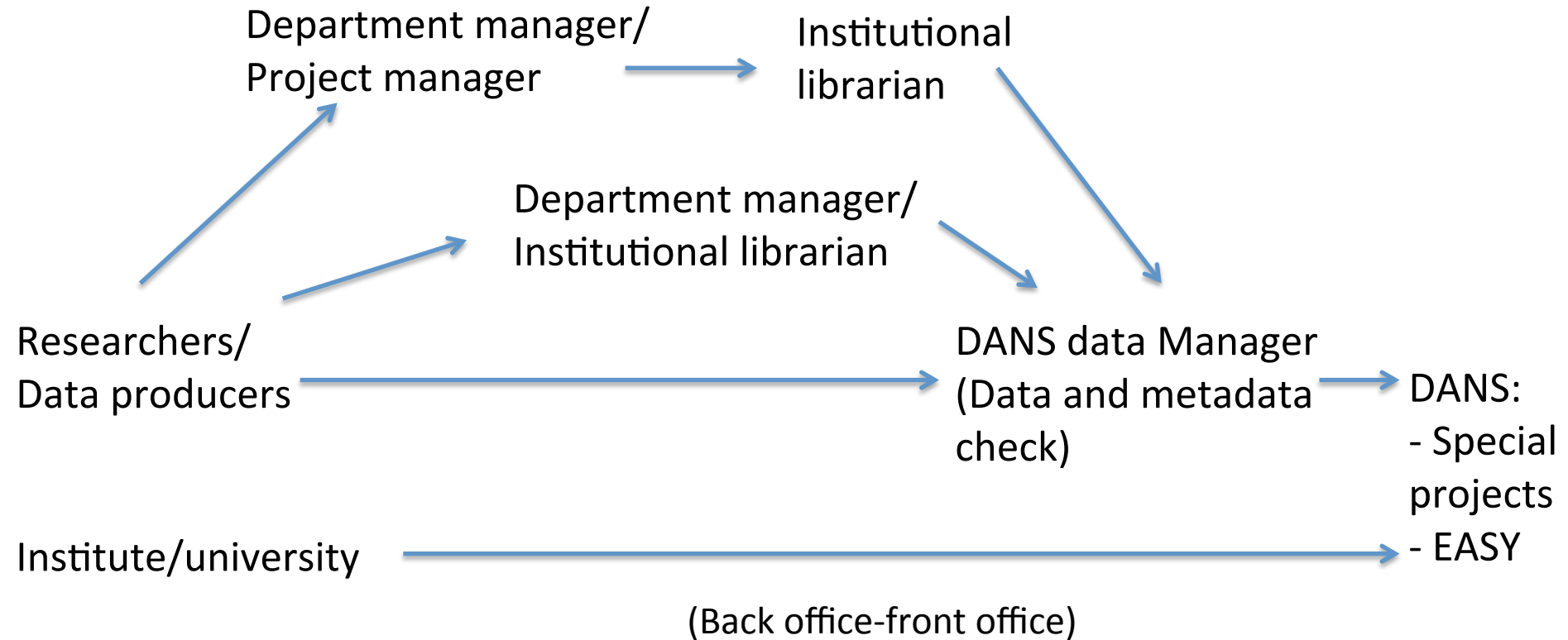


#archivist

# Mediation and Stakeholders



# Mediation and Stakeholders



# Discussion of findings

- Data archive content is community driven
- Archives are a source of trust in data
- Archive uses and users are diverse
- Access to data is mediated by
  - Archivists
  - Contributors who retain control over data
  - Institutional policies for contribution
  - Services that deliver data

# Implications for Infrastructures

- Invisible work shapes knowledge spaces
- Interdisciplinary data archives
  - Acquire a disparate array of datasets
  - Attract a diverse array of contributors and consumers
  - Are difficult to search due to their diversity
- Incentives to contribute data vary by stakeholder
  - Legal responsibility for archaeological reports
  - Assure preservation and access
  - Transfer responsibility while maintaining control
- Interoperability of data archives with publishers, libraries, project sites, could increase access

# Acknowledgements



Christine Borgman



Peter Darch



Ashley Sands



Irene Pasquetto



Bernie Randles



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