

# Digital Collections

## Texas Online Research Data Repository

**ARE YOU A** researcher interested in finding an online home for your data that is publicly accessible for sharing? Currently, all major US governmental granting agencies are requiring researchers who apply for and receive publicly funded grants to have a data management plan that makes their research data and any published articles publicly accessible. For data, this means an online research data repository.

For the past year, staff at Alkek Library have been working with other academic libraries throughout Texas to develop such a repository. The **Texas Digital Library** (TDL) consortium is coordinating this initiative, while Texas State staff have served on both development and implementation groups.

The repository has been created and is beginning an initial piloting stage. The pilot

will occur between May and July. Following this, a state repository will be launched hopefully this fall for faculty researchers and upper level graduate students on both university and state levels.

The **online Texas Research Data Repository** will use **Dataverse**, an open source Harvard University application that is used globally by universities to share, preserve, cite, and analyze research data. Dataverse allows easy workflows for researchers to upload their research data. Discipline-specific metadata or descriptions may also be added to datasets for



interoperability and sharing. Dataverse contains wider collaboration tools and options for public viewing and downloading of datasets. Notably, researchers will be able to cite their data via online data citations (DOI's). This citation and direct access to research data allows verification and confirmation by other researchers. Sharing data also opens global collaboration among researchers. Hopefully, the larger state data repository will drive further research and possibilities for synthesis forward.

More information regarding the Texas Research Data Repository will be made available this fall.

*by Ray Uzwyshyn, Director, Collections & Digital Services*