

DeiC Front Office support for participation in international events

Date

DeiC Front Office representatives' participation in international conferences and networking events to build-up knowledge about FAIR Data Management and EOSC internationally and to share and utilize the acquired knowledge nationally

11.3.
2026

Report by Jitka Stilund Hansen, Senior Executive Research Data Management Officer, DTU Library

Report on my participation in the IDCC 2026, generously supported by DeiC.

1. 20th International Digital Curation Conference, Zagreb, Croatia. 16-18 February

Link to page and program: [20th International Digital Curation Conference | DCC](#) On Monday 16 February, a range of workshops organized by different stakeholders were offered.

Link to conference material on Zenodo: [Search IDCC26 Conference Materials](#).

It wasn't possible to participate virtually.

2. Rationale for choosing the specific event

The Digital Curation Centre is a major stakeholder in developing research data management (RDM) and digital data curation practices. Thus, their international conference is a unique venue to join the international curation community for knowledge exchange and learning.

DTU has developed its data publication and curation practices around our data repository service, DTU Data. DTU Library supports researchers in other RDM practices such as writing data management plans (DMPs). We teach our researchers and engage in many projects at DTU, nationally and internationally.

DTU Data is CTS-certified, and we aspire to develop our preservation service further in 2026. Therefore, the participation in IDCC was timely and needed as part of the development any RDM support office should aim for.

With the Danish national repository service under development, we can learn much from each other - both from individual institutions and from their collaboration.

Also, there is an increasing need to offer better DMP tools at DTU (and perhaps at other universities too), why the conference is an important venue for learning about new approaches to DMP services.

3. Event activities

On Monday 16 Feb, I attended two workshops about “Paths to sustainable infrastructures” and “Evolving data management plans”. Apart from this, during the 2-day conference, there was keynote talks, five parallel sessions and several posters on display with dedicated poster sessions.

My DTU colleague, Ding He, who is a data steward also attended the conference and found it extremely useful and professional. It was a great opportunity to align our views and confirming the RDM challenges we share although in different support functions at our university.

It was nice to engage with Sandra and Brigitta from DeiC in person.

I met several people that I have been in contact with earlier, i.e. from the FIDELIS network, Skills4EOSC fellowship program, as well as international webinars and networks. I made new contacts of use for long-term preservation and DMP services.

4. Most significant outcomes

There was nothing unfavourable or unsuccessful about the conference – one would have liked even more time for the informal networking.

I gained a lot of information about particularly these areas:

- Handling of sensitive data in archives and long-term preservation. Since DK is not developing a national infrastructure for storage of sensitive data, the DeiC board needs to explain to the universities that this is an increasingly important need for the research data lifecycle and for better reuse of data in accordance with the National FAIR strategy.
- Developments in data management plans. It was evident that the DeiC DMP tool is not up-to-date or developing. We need to discuss nationally, why we are not developing this tool to accommodate changing and developing needs of researchers and institutions.

- Data citation practices. Current data citation practices and lack of standardised data availability statements (DAS) make it extremely difficult to track data reuse. A small step for academic libraries is to develop standardized DAS to facilitate tracking data reuse. DTU Library is currently looking into the output tracking, since it is becoming increasingly important for researchers to track the use of data, instruments and facilities that they have provided access to.
- Data quality. The keynote speaker, professor in Ecology, Antica Čulina, is devoted to increasing reproducibility and data quality through better practices throughout the research life cycle. From her presentation, it was clear that, research libraries can be direct facilitators of improved data quality by providing infrastructure for pre-registration of studies and linking to the produced data, code and articles.

5. Suggested follow-up actions

We have invited a librarian from Helsinki university to present the talk "Developing Trusted Preservation Services for Sensitive Research Data: A Case Study" (<https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.18942174>) to a National RDM network lunch meeting on 10 April 2026. Also, this case is relevant for the Nordic Data Stewardship Network meeting in May 2026 in Helsinki.

While I was attending the conference with my colleague Ding He, data steward at DTU BRiGHT, we agreed on initiating a data stewardship network at DTU.

I will share my highlights/take-home messages from IDCC 2026 at a DeiC front-office webinar on 20 March. It is coordinated with impressions from Sandra and Brigita.

DeiC needs to consult DM Rådgivende Forum on the need for developing DeiC DMP or substituting it with a new (machine-actionable) tool.



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