**Draft Text for Requesting Information on Small Databases ("Dinky Databases")**

The Data Management/Curation Task Force is currently collecting information on the many small databases supported by faculty alone, departments, and other groups on campus when those databases contain research data and data that would be better served by support and integration into something centralized. For instance, many faculty create and maintain citation databases, some with annotations and/or indexing, for their research. Other examples include specimen databases with information on samples.

While these are small, they are often still critical research resources. These are sometimes maintained simply on local computers, resulting in a burden at the local level and no added benefits or value that might otherwise be possible if there was centralized support. Please let us know if you have or know of any of these small databases at UF or with UF researchers. We’re collecting information to support future conversations on possible centralized support options for easier work for everyone and greater returns. Also, depending on the type of database, it may be that there are options we can support now. Please let us know, and we'd be happy to schedule a time to visit your office or for a phone call to discuss further.

*(The Data Task Force is creating a*[*listing of dinky databases for follow-up, and the list is here.*](https://docs.google.com/spreadsheet/ccc?key=0AoYPOTobTSykdDNUeEprN01DQzlBdE10T19BRnRLRUE&usp=sharing)*)*