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Where does data curation fit within the educational landscape? Is data curation emerging as an area distinct from other fields or disciplines? Is data curation emerging as a specialization within the information disciplines? Or as a set of interdisciplinary best practices employed by those who work with digital assets?

Data curation has emerged rapidly within professional and research practice, more rapidly than higher education curricula or professional training. Four roles have been evidenced by the research: data authors or creators, data scientists or specialists, data managers, and data librarians or archivists.

Preliminary findings found that there was no clear role defined for library involvement in curation and preservation of research data. Within archival studies, and library and information science (LIS) programs there is a gap on data management and curation.