

Focus group 3: Human element of ELN implementation

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Problems that the group wants to solve:

Convincing people - carrot and stick, different standards and ways of working, make it mandatory?, large institutions, people used to different systems previously.

Existing ELN not adequate

Fear of new technology

Time consuming

Technical support

Cost

Keeping control of data, legal obligations to granting organizations and sensitive data

Not convinced that an ELN will save you time.

Accessing data at end of projects.

Possible long-term solutions to these problems:

Using other ELN type products eg. cloud based, MS Office but what happens when people leave?

Devices at each bench for accessing ELN.

Use phones to scan lab notebooks and set to upload to cloud.

Research Data Management strategy incorporating policy and infrastructure to gain support for a solution.

Get support from boss and departmental support (IT and directors)- establish absolute working parameters

Communicate between all groups about what is necessary for everyone needs, and then build upon what would be nice. Not everyone likes the same format

Use two platforms - reference vs free text depending on what the user requires

Quick wins:

Create a mailing list for researchers interested in ELNs in Univ