

Resume: LYNN WOOLFREY

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SUMMARY

I am a research data specialist with more than 20 years' experience curating and sharing African research data and promoting Open Data in Africa. I manage [DataFirst](#)'s Research Data Service and Open Data site, based at the University of Cape Town, South Africa. Our data service promotes high quality research by providing the essential research infrastructure for discovering, downloading, and analysing African data. I also train data managers in government and research institutions in South African and other African countries. I have a master's degree in Information Studies from the University of Cape Town. My thesis examined data systems for fact-based policymaking in African countries.

EDUCATION

1983: Rhodes University: BA Degree
1984: University of Natal (Pietermaritzburg): Postgraduate Diploma in Information Studies
1993: University of South Africa: BBibl Honours Degree
2010: University of Cape Town: MPhil in Information Studies

WORK EXPERIENCE

1990 – 2000: Information Officer, University of Cape Town, SALDRU

In 1993 SALDRU conducted a seminal household survey to collect data to inform Post-Apartheid policymaking. As their Information Officer I was responsible for management of the statistical material and data from SALDRU surveys, and data management advisor to SALDRU based survey teams.

2001 – Current: Manager, DataFirst Data Service, University of Cape Town

I have been responsible for Data Services at DataFirst since 2001. DataFirst also undertakes projects to improve the management and usage of African microdata. In this regard I trained African data managers for the OECD funded [Accelerated Data Program](#) and run research data management workshops for Postgraduate students at the University of Cape Town.

AFFILIATIONS AND AWARDS

Committee member of [CODATA South Africa](#) 2014-2017
2010-2016: African Regional Secretary for the [IASSIST](#) (International Association of Social Science Information Service and Technology)
DataFirst is a member of the International Council for Science's [World Data Service](#) (WDS)
DataFirst's repository is the only repository in Africa which has been accredited with the [Data Seal of Approval](#), an international accreditation for data repositories.

PUBLICATIONS

1. Woolfrey, L. 2007. [A survey data archive network in Africa – possibilities and practicalities](#). IASSIST Quarterly 31(1)
2. Woolfrey, L. 2007. [The establishment of the African Association of Statistical Data Archivists](#). IASSIST Quarterly 31(2)
3. Woolfrey, L. 2009. [Knowledge utilisation for governance in Africa: evidence-based decision-making and the role of survey data archives in the region](#). Information Development 25(1).
4. Woolfrey, L. 2013. [Innovations for the curation and sharing of African social survey data](#). *Data Science Journal*, Volume 12, 10 April
5. Woolfrey, L. 2013. [Leveraging data in African countries: Curating government microdata for research](#). Cape Town: DataFirst. (DataFirst Technical Paper 22).
6. Woolfrey, L. and Fry, J. 2015. [Managing university research microdata collections](#). *New Review of Academic Librarianship*, 21:1–14, 2015. DOI:10.1080/13614533.2015.1031911
7. Macdonald, S., Dillo, I., Lafferty-Hess, S. Woolfrey, L., and Vardigan, M. 2016. Demonstrating Repository Trustworthiness through the Data Seal of Approval. *IASSIST Quarterly Volume 40 Number 3* http://www.iassistdata.org/sites/default/files/vol_40-3_6_13.pdf
8. Woolfrey L. 2017. Data Management Plan: Opening access to economic data to prevent tobacco related diseases in Africa. *Research Ideas and Outcomes* 3: e1483
<https://doi.org/10.3897/rio.3.e14837>

COMMISSIONED RESEARCH

Boyko, E. Greenwell, G. Thomas, W. and Woolfrey, L. 2010. INDEPTH Network iSHARE assessment report. Knoxville, TN: Metadata Technology. Report prepared for the [INDEPTH network](#) on the curation and dissemination of their research data)

Woolfrey, L. Audit of data sources for South Africa’s development indicators. 2011. Report prepared for the [Programme to Support Pro-poor Policy Development](#) in South Africa (PSPPD)

Woolfrey, L. 2013. [South African labour market microdata scoping study](#). Report prepared for the Human Sciences Research Council’s [Labour Market Intelligence Partnership](#).

Ritchie, F., Green, E., Montgomery, A., Woolfrey, L., et al. 2015. [Enabling data linkage to maximise the value of public health research data](#). 2015. Report prepared for the [Wellcome Trust](#) and the [Public Health Research Data Forum](#)

Woolfrey, L. 2014. South African research infrastructure: A proposal for a national data service for the humanities and social sciences. Report prepared for the South African Department of Science and Technology’s Research Infrastructure Roadmap Project.

Woolfrey, L. 2014. [UCT Research Data Management policy project](#). Report prepared for the University of Cape Town's Research Office.

Woolfrey, L. 2014. [An Open African Data approach to improving data quality](#). A Development Policy Research Unit Policy Brief commissioned for the World Bank's [Network for Jobs and Development](#) (NJD) Project.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

1. Woolfrey, L. 2008. [DataFirst and data curation](#). Presentation at the *First African Digital Curation Conference*, Pretoria, South Africa 12-13 Feb.
2. Woolfrey, L. 2008. The DataFirst Data Archive in South Africa. Presentation at the *34th IASSIST Conference: Technology of Data: Collection, Communication, Access and Preservation*, Stanford University, Palo Alto, California, 27-30 May 2008.
3. Woolfrey, L. 2009. [African microdata access survey: an investigation into current data sharing policies and practices at African National Statistics Offices](#). Presentation at the *57th Session of the International Statistical Institute: Statistics: our Past, Present and Future*, Durban, South Africa, 16-22 August.
4. Woolfrey, L. 2009. Data archiving in Africa: The preservation and sharing of survey microdata to support African research and governance. Presentation at the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa, African Centre for Statistics and *United Nations Statistics Division and African Development Bank Regional Workshop on Data Management*, 26 – 28 October 2009, Kampala, Uganda.
5. Woolfrey, L. 2009. The policy as a basis for customer service. Presentation at the Accelerated Data Program (ADP) supported *Zambia National Microdata Dissemination Policy Workshop*, 13-14 April 2010, at the Protea Hotel, Lusaka, Zambia.
6. Woolfrey, L. 2010. Access to government microdata in Africa. Presentation at the *Third Workshop on Data Access*, 26-27 May 2010, held at the Michigan Union, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Michigan, USA.
7. Woolfrey, L. [Survey on access to African government microdata for social science research](#). Presentation at the *2010 IASSIST Conference: Social Data and Social Networking: Connecting Social Science Communities across the Globe*, Cornell University, Ithaca, NY, June 1-4, 2010
8. Woolfrey, L. Skills development to assist data usage for policymaking in Africa. Paper presented at the IFLA World Library and Information Congress held in Gothenburg, 10-15 August 2010
9. Woolfrey, L. and Iturralde, Diego. [Applications to support the curation of African government microdata for research purposes](#). Presented at a Statistics South Africa/OECD/World Bank Seminar on *Innovative Approaches to turn Statistics into Knowledge*, Cape Town International Convention Centre, 8-10 December 2010.
10. Woolfrey, L. DataFirst: Effective data management in Africa. Poster presentation at the *4th African Digital Scholarship and Curation Conference: Innovation and Collaboration in the Digital Research and Learning Environments*, CSIR International Convention Centre, Pretoria, South Africa, 17 - 19 May 2011.

11. Woolfrey, L and Carter, J. Data services to students to support youth statistical literacy: Evidence from the UK and South Africa. Presentation at the *2011 E-Learning Africa Conference: Spotlight on Youth, Skills and Employability*, Mlimani City Conference Centre, Dar es Salaam, Tanzania, 25-27 May 2011.
12. Woolfrey, L. Current microdata management practices at DataFirst. Presentation to a United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA) *Expert Group Meeting on the Preparation of a Handbook on Data Management Platforms*, United Nations Conference Centre, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, 3-5 August 2011.
13. Woolfrey, L. Innovations for the curation and sharing of African social science data. Presentation at the *1st ICSU World Data System Conference: Global Data for Global Science*, Kyoto University, Kyoto, Japan, 3-6 September 2011.
14. Woolfrey, L. Establishing a data curation community of practice. Workshop on data curation at the *14th International Symposium on Electronic Theses and Dissertations* 13-17 September 2011, Cape Town, South Africa
15. Woolfrey, L. Extending the evidence for African policymaking: promoting data access in African Countries. Presentation at the *4th International Workshop on Data Access (WDA)*, 26 March 2012, Luxembourg.
16. Woolfrey, L. Principles for improved NSS data flows. Presentation at an *Expert Group Meeting on a Framework for Data Flows in National Statistical Systems in Africa*, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, 26-28 June 2012.
17. Woolfrey, L. [South African labour market microdata scoping study](#). *HSRC Seminar Series* presentation, Human Sciences Research Council Video Conference Room, 29 May 2013
18. Woolfrey, L. Data curation best practice. Presentation at a NeDiCC workshop for research data management rookies, *5th African Conference for Digital Scholarship and Curation*, University of KwaZulu Natal, 28 June 2013
19. Woolfrey, L. Data services for users of Statistics South Africa's data. Presentation at Statistics South Africa's *1st Isibalo Symposium*, University of Stellenbosch, Stellenbosch 15-17 July, 2013.
20. Woolfrey, L. [Research Access to African government data: Assessing the Impact of Open Source Tools](#), presentation at the *eResearch Africa Conference*, Southern Sun Newlands, Cape Town, 8 October 2013.
21. Woolfrey, L. [A South African humanities and social science data service](#). Presentation to the *ICSU World Data System Members' Forum*, 2 November 2014; Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi, India.
22. Woolfrey, L. DataFirst: A Data Seal of Approval case study. Presentation at the *41st IASSIST Conference: Bridging the Data Divide: Data in the International Context*, Minneapolis, MN, 2-5 June 2015.
23. Woolfrey, L. Building data capacity in African countries. Presentation at the *41st IASSIST Conference: Bridging the Data Divide: Data in the International Context*, Minneapolis, MN, 2-5 June 2015.

24. Woolfrey, L. [The rescue of “at risk” data on forced resettlement in South Africa](#). Presentation at an *RDA/CODATA Workshop on the Rescue of Data at Risk*, 8-9 September 2016, National Center for Atmospheric Research, Boulder, Colorado, USA
25. Woolfrey, L. [Collecting tobacco data from across Africa](#): The challenges of data aggregation and sharing. Presentation at *SciDataCon 2016*, 11-13 September 2016, the Sheraton Denver Downtown Hotel, Denver, Colorado, USA.
26. Woolfrey, L. Open Scholarly Data Infrastructure. Presentation in a session on [Open Scientific Infrastructure: in Search of a Development Model](#), at the *GAI DAR Forum: Russia and the World: Setting Priorities*. Russian Presidential Academy of National Economy and Public Administration(RANEPA), Moscow, Russian Federation, 12-14 January 2017.
27. Woolfrey, L. Standards and best practice for curating and sharing research data. Presentation at the [United Nations World Data Forum](#), Cape Town International Convention Centre, Cape Town, 15-18 January 2017.
28. Woolfrey, L. [Data Management Principles and Trusted Data Repositories](#). Presentation at a CODATA-ASSAF Workshop on Open Data for Sustainable Development Goals in Developing Countries, Hotel Carlton, Antananarivo, Madagascar, 5 - 6 September 2017.