

R AT RUTGERS

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New Jersey R Meeting

HOW DID I GET INTO THIS?

- My original background is in Economics and Librarianship
- Academic Librarians typically have specialized expertise in disciplines
- Librarian at Rutgers since 1999, working with economic and business data all along
- In 2008, moved from Business and Economics to become *Data and Economics Librarian*
- Started to think about learning R as a versatile tool that integrates well with everything

- Evolving out of a special workshop first presented in 2010, now a regular series every semester
- 3 part introduction (Stats, Graphics, Data Manipulation), plus special topics (Time Series and hopefully more)
- Materials posted on my [Data guides](#)

WORKSHOP PARTICIPANTS

- Workshops attract participants from a range of departments (e.g. Biology, Environmental Sciences, Psychology, Economics, Agriculture, Sociology). Mix of grad students plus some faculty.
- Some are looking to escape being tied to a particular package with limits
- Some want to add additional functionality to their existing routines
- Some are just curious to know what R is about and whether or not it can work for them
- Awareness of R has increased dramatically since 2009

- Getting comfortable with R led to the next step, entry into Rutgers Statistics program
- Statistics uses R and SAS nearly exclusively. Most courses allow student to choose which package to use.
- Data Mining leans more to R, Biostatistics to SAS.
- Specific R skills often not explicitly taught, especially formal programming practices. Code and examples are shared that meet specific course needs.

OTHER WORK AND IDEAS FOR OUTREACH

- I also work with faculty at Rutgers on the RResearch initiative to archive data in the Libraries' electronic repository. This data is made available through the [RResearch Data Portal](#).
- Interested in exploring connections between local R users/businesses and what is going on at Rutgers
- Your thoughts?