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Navigating the Data Labyrinth: Empowering Libraries through Digital Literacy and Research Data Management

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The digital age has ushered in a labyrinth of data, where navigating and making meaningful insights can be as challenging as it is critical. This presentation seeks to address this challenge head-on by focusing on the enhancement of digital literacy in the context of research data management (RDM), within the framework of library services.

This presentation will offer a strategic roadmap for libraries to evolve from traditional gatekeepers of knowledge to dynamic enablers of data proficiency. Practical methodologies for integrating digital literacy into RDM services will be shared, ensuring that libraries remain at the forefront of the information age. By fostering an environment of open access and user-centric data education, communities can be equipped with the necessary skills to not only access but also critically analyse and ethically use data.

Insights will be shared on the University of Pretoria's Digital Transformation journey and its process in evaluating and enhancing digital literacy skills. Anticipating the future, the talk will also explore innovative ways to engage with and support the diverse needs of our patrons, making libraries the cornerstone of a data empowered society. Join in envisioning a world where every individual has the literacy to not just consume data but to harness it, transforming libraries into catalysts for knowledge and growth in the digital era.

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