

The Sheridan Libraries

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Sayeed Choudhury
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Josh Greenberg
Alfred P. Sloan Foundation
630 Fifth Avenue, Suite 2550
New York, NY, 10111

Dear Josh,

I am writing this letter to enthusiastically support DuraSpace's proposal to the Sloan Foundation for "DuraCloud Direct-To-Researcher." In my role as Principal Investigator for Data Conservancy, I have observed data practices and examined associated requirements. As much as I imagine data management infrastructure will become well established within institutional and community contexts, it is equally clear to me that individual researchers will continue to handle their own data particularly during the active phase of their research. For this reason, it is especially important to provide usable tools that not only support individual researchers but to do so in a manner that facilitates institutional involvement with eventual handoff or transfer of data. While cloud-based storage and compute services offer great potential, our community needs robust, well-tested, reliable approaches. DuraSpace's proposal represents an exemplary opportunity in this regard.

As you know, DuraSpace is one of the Data Conservancy partner institutions. For this reason, the results of this proposal not only include compelling results in their own right, but also as part of a broader, national-scale initiative within the National Science Foundation's cyberinfrastructure portfolio. Finally, as a member of the DuraSpace Board, I can attest to the unique and invaluable capabilities that DuraSpace brings to this proposal. I hope that you will consider this proposal favorably.

Sincerely,



G. Sayeed Choudhury