Towards a Community of Data Stewards in Germany
- First approach -

Daniela Hausen[1], Jens Dierkes[2], Ute Trautwein-Bruns[3]
[1] Heinrich Heine University Düsseldorf, daniela.hausen@ulb.hhu.de, [2] University of Cologne, jens.dierkes@uni-koeln.de,
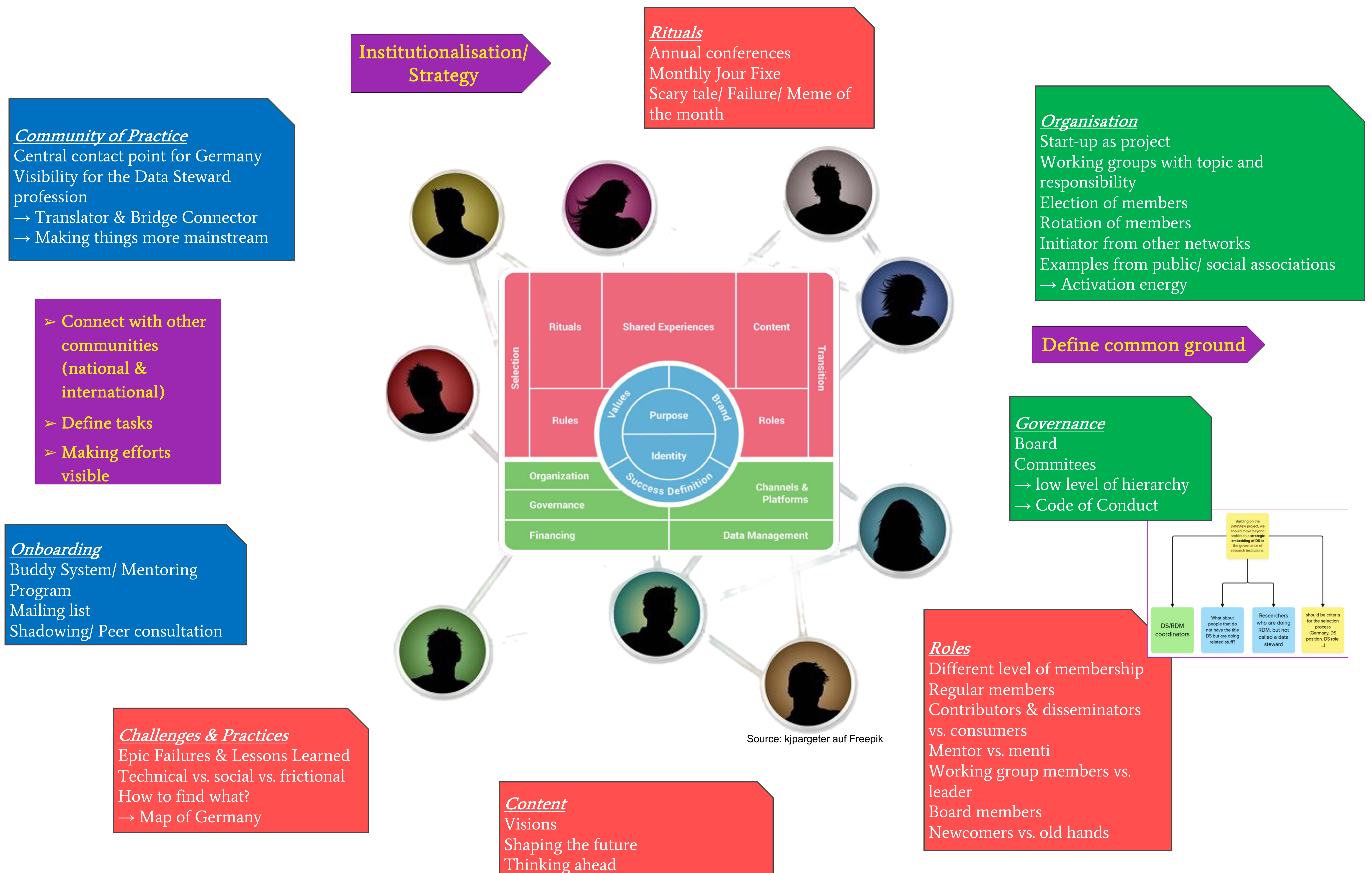[3] RWTH Aachen University, trautwein-bruns@ub.rwth-aachen.de

What is data stewardship?

Data stewardship encompasses the idea of providing long-term and sustainable care for research data (*DataStew*)

What are data stewards?

Data stewards are professionals with job roles focused on undertaking specific research data management (RDM) tasks and operating within specific institutional settings (*DataStew*)
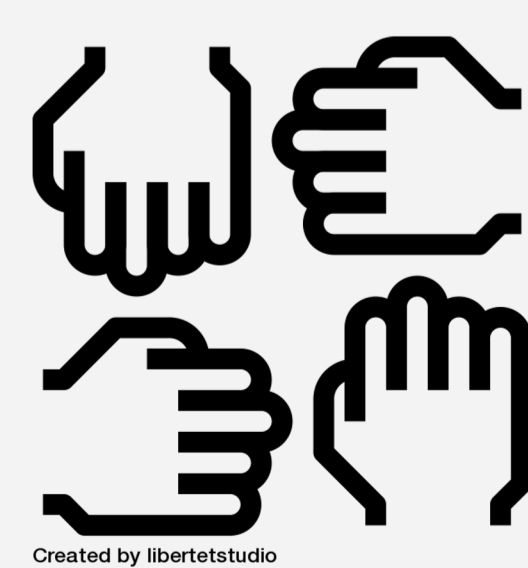
Community Canvas for a Data Steward Community

Institutionalisation/ Strategy

Rituals
Annual conferences
Monthly Jour Fixe
Scary tale/ Failure/ Meme of the month

Community of Practice
Central contact point for Germany
Visibility for the Data Steward profession
→ Translator & Bridge Connector
→ Making things more mainstream

Organisation
Start-up as project
Working groups with topic and responsibility
Election of members
Rotation of members
Initiator from other networks
Examples from public/ social associations
→ Activation energy

➤ Connect with other communities (national & international)
➤ Define tasks
➤ Making efforts visible

Define common ground

Governance
Board
Commitees
→ low level of hierarchy
→ Code of Conduct

Onboarding
Buddy System/ Mentoring Program
Mailing list
Shadowing/ Peer consultation

Roles
Different level of membership
Regular members
Contributors & disseminators vs. consumers
Mentor vs. menti
Working group members vs. leader
Board members
Newcomers vs. old hands

Challenges & Practices
Epic Failures & Lessons Learned
Technical vs. social vs. frictional
How to find what?
→ Map of Germany

Content
Visions
Shaping the future
Thinking ahead

Source: kjpargeter auf Freepik

Minimum requirements for a community of data stewards

Organisation and governance	Structure and rituals
Community manager	Outputs
Networking	Central contact point for Germany
Roles definition	Visibility for the Data Steward profession
Intrinsic motivation	Communication

Data Stewards Germany is live!

Recently formed working groups
1. Vision & strategy
2. Challenges & practices
3. Yellow pages & communication channels

Created by libertestudio from Noun Project

Mailing list
datastewardsgermany@listserv.dfn.de
more than 100 members

• https://community-canvas.org/
• Seidlmayer, E., Hoffmann, F., Dierkes, J., Lindstädt, B., Depping, R., Förstner, U. 'Forschung unterstützen – Empfehlungen für Data Stewardship an akademischen Forschungsinstitutionen'. Application/pdf. Köln: ZB MED Informationszentrum Lebenswissenschaften, Universität zu Köln, 2023. https://doi.org/10.4126/FRL01-006441139

RWTH AACHEN UNIVERSITY
UNIVERSITY OF COLOGNE
RDM Competence Centre
Heinrich Heine University Düsseldorf