

Mary Zborowski

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CODATA involvement

- 2012 – Present: Ordinary Member, CODATA Executive Committee
- 2004 – Present: Executive Secretary, Canadian National Committee for CODATA
- 2011 – Present: Member of Editorial Board, *Data Science Journal*
- 2005: Chair, CODATA Ad hoc committee to review CODATA's website

Mary Zborowski has served on CODATA's Executive Committee as Ordinary Member since 2012 (CODATA GA, Taipei) but her involvement in CODATA began in 1998 as an Observer to the Canadian National Committee for CODATA (CNC/CODATA). In 2001 she took on the role of Deputy Executive Secretary for the committee, assuming the full role as Executive Secretary in 2004. Under her expert management, the CNC has thrived and attracted new key participants from Canada's most significant granting agencies, collaborative working groups and data-related associations, and large scientific research projects such as NEPTUNE Canada and International Polar Year – which projects involve widespread collaboration and result in large data collections.

Mary also served as original Executive Secretary to the Canadian Research Data Strategy Working Group, a multi-disciplinary group of universities, institutes, libraries, granting agencies, and individual researchers with a shared recognition of the pressing need to deal with Canadian data management issues. This working group's most recent success was the Canadian Research Data Summit, which was held in 2011 and attracted over 150 leading players and decision-makers from CNC/CODATA and other government, private sector, academia and non-governmental organizations.

Mary's personal enthusiasm and commitment have combined with her organizational abilities to effectively promote many of CNC/CODATA's initiatives, such as the Sangster Award for young scientists, communicated among all graduate universities in Canada and in similar networks, and awarded biennially in coordination with CODATA's International Conference. She is editor of the bilingual serial, *Report on Data Activities in Canada*, which is presented to CODATA at its General Assemblies as evidence of Canada's contribution shared priorities, and on the Editorial Board of CODATA's serial, *Data Science Journal*. She has been a regular contributor to CODATA's Newsletters, and contributes equally regularly to her own organization, the National Research Council of Canada (NRC) and to its networks, on CODATA's and CNC/CODATA's accomplishments. Her annual reports to her sponsor organization (NRC) have resulted in continued prominence among sponsored CNCs, thereby ensuring ongoing support of the Canadian National Committee as well as its involvement with CODATA International.

Mary Zborowski has been a technical advisor to CODATA on web and publishing matters since 1998 and it is through her personal and active involvement by which CODATA's web site was redesigned and supported with minimal cost to CODATA.

Career summary

From 2008 to 2015, Mary Zborowski has been a Planning and Management Officer in the Strategic and Operational Planning Branch of the National Research Council of Canada. In this role, she develops corporate performance management frameworks and liaises through various reporting tools to Canada's Treasury Board Secretariat, through which all Canadian government bodies are accountable to Canadians. While her principle clients were the senior executive of the National Research Council (NRC), the functions performed by this group enabled the scientific and technological research strategies of NRC as it refocused to more effectively support the Canadian economy.

NRC is the Canadian body supporting Canadian National Committees for CODATA and several other ICSU bodies.

As a physicist and librarian, and over a career spanning 32 years, she has held various positions in NRC's Canada Institute for Scientific and Technical Information (CISTI, now known as Knowledge Management) working in catalogue/database development, web application development, project management, business systems analysis, and usability analysis of web sites and applications. KM is the NRC sponsor of CNC/CODATA and itself has newly-identified responsibilities in the area of knowledge management at NRC, in which scientific research data management plays a key role.

Education

1979 – Master of Physics (University of Windsor, Windsor, Ontario, Canada)

1980 – Master of Library Science (University of Western Ontario, London, Ontario, Canada)

Publications

- Editor, CNC/CODATA's biennial Report on Data Activities in Canada
- Data management activities of Canada's National Science Library – 2010 Update and Prospective. Data Science Journal (9) 2011, p. 100-106
- CISTI's activities in support of scientific data management in Canada 2008-2010. Data Science Journal (8) 2009.
- Competitive intelligence gathering in the life sciences: Databases. With Robert Reichert et al. Canadian Biotechnology: Directory Industry & Suppliers Guide, 1999, p. 62-64.

Career, Roles, Responsibilities

2008 – 2015:

Planning and Management Officer, NRC Strategic & Operational Planning Branch

- Preparation of organization's mandated reports to Canada's Parliament
- Development of corporate key performance indicators, including systems to allow real-time reporting, report development, and scheduled performance reports
- Member, NRC's Information Management working group;
- Member, Canadian Working Group: Related Science Activities – which domain includes vast data stores such as environmental, statistical, and research data

2005 – 2008:

Head, Usability and Quality, NRC Canada Institute for Scientific and Technical Information.

- Development of a Usability group for design of user-friendly interfaces to library applications and increased attention to Accessibility for web interfaces
- IT Project management and Business systems analyst
- Certified ITIL Foundations and Software Engineering Process

1991 – 1992:

Head, Intellectual Property Library, Canada Consumer and Corporate Affairs

- Management of library services for Patent examiners and trademark/copyright investigators

1980 – 2005:

Various positions, NRC Canada Institute for Scientific and Technical Information

- Development of library catalogues, databases, and interfaces based on client needs
- Branch library management (Chemistry; Renewable energy)
- Library reference services to Canada's team of astronauts and space station personnel
- Web development, project management, trainer