April 2018 Preview Clips

# KL: Katie Linder

# [intro music]

# Segment 1:

**KL**: Hey there, RIA listeners! I’m hoping you’ll help me out with a small favor. We have an RIA listener survey we’d love for you to fill out to tell us more about you as we celebrate two years of producing the show. Find the link to the survey in the show notes of this preview clips’ episode, and tell us a little bit more about you.

This month, I’m excited to share four more fascinating conversations with you.

On Episode 105, I’m joined by Dr. Kris Shaffer, a data scientist with a background in computational musicology. On this episode, Kris shares about his work in open-source software development. Here’s a short clip:

**KS:** So, open-source software is essentially software where anyone could, if they wanted to—they usually don’t—but they could look at the source code that makes the software run. So, most of us interact with software just by, you know, clicking on the app and it opens, then we use it to do stuff. And underneath that, I think most people understand, is there’s code that tells it what to do and tells it how to interact with us and we interact with it. But most software that people have on their computers will be proprietary software, and so what’s on their computer is not code that was written by the programmers to make it work, but it’s binary codes—zeros and ones—that talk to the operating system, which talks to the hardware, which makes it do what it does. And so most people to actually have access to, say the code behind—and I’m looking at my computer right now—the Slack app at work, or Twitter, or their operating system, whether it’s Mac or Windows. They don’t actually know what’s going on under the hood, and so for most people that’s fine, but for people who want to learn how it works, who want to control their own devices more, who want to learn from it and build on it, we need to be able to see that initial source code so that we can learn from it, tweak it, fix the bugs in it, patch the security holes ourselves and share that with each other.

**KL:** Kris’s episode also includes a bonus clip discussing the relationship between mathematics and music, so make sure to take a listen to that as well.

On Episode 106, I’m joined by Ali Duerfeldt, a marketing manager with Oregon State University Extended Campus and a member of the Marketing and Enrollment Services team. In this episode, Ali discusses some of the key elements to include in a research dissemination plan. Here’s a short clip:

**AD:** I think there is sometimes a misconception about a dissemination plan, or maybe just a different way of looking at it. When I think about the work that I engage with in your unit, and research, um, in general, I really want to start at that broad base. Like, what is the scope of this research? And I want to build from understanding what the research is telling me and telling your target audiences and build from there. So I really try to think of this funnel idea of what is the premise or scope of this study? What are the goals that I have for reaching or disseminating the information? And who are my target audiences? What’s my general strategy to do so? And then, of course, key performance indicators—how are we going to measure that success? And I feel like that’s really the top level. Um, things that you want to have in place before we dive into what I think is more commonly known as the dissemination plan, which would be really the tactics, or getting at your goals, um, and really targeting your audiences.

**KL:** Ali’s episode includes two bonus clips that offer examples of dissemination strategies for two Oregon State Ecampus Research Unit projects – you won’t want to miss those.

On Episode 107, I’m joined by Dr. Jacob Hamblin, Professor of History at Oregon State University. In this episode, Jake discusses his work with the Downwinders Project. Here’s a short clip:

**JB:** The Downwinders case was once, the U.S. Government revealed this information, but there had been these releases of radioactive material into the natural environment, and that there was a pathway of concentration to some of these materials into your body, specifically into, like, the thyroid. Once they released that, they got sued.

**KL:** On Episode 108, join me to celebrate Research in Action’s 2-year anniversary. Tune in to hear some metrics from the show, responses to our listener survey, and what I’ve learned over two years of interviewing dozens of researchers from across disciplines.

On Episode 109 our guest host Dr. Mary Ellen Dello Stritto talks with Patrick Aldrich, a statistician from The Research Institute at Western Oregon University. On this episode, Patrick discusses the differences between parametric and non-parametric statistical tests. Here’s a short clip:

**PA:** And usually, so the majority of tests that most people learn, in like their into stats courses and things like that, are parametric tests. So these are T-tests: you’re ANOVA, you’re regressions, and they’re all based around analyzing the differences between means. And so non-parametric tests, and a lot of the ones, let’s say are the analogs for, say, like a T-test, which is looking at two samples, is instead of looking at the means, is looking at the difference between the medians. And the reason why you look at that is because, again, the median itself is quite robust to any outliers or anything like that. And so, if you have data that’s relatively small sample size and shows skew, these methods are much better at analyzing the differences between the two samples than a parametric test would be.

**KL:** Thanks for checking out this month’s preview clips and for helping us celebrate our 2-year anniversary by filling out our quick listener survey!

I’m Katie Linder – thanks so much for listening.

Show notes with links to resources mentioned in the episode, a full transcript, and an instructor’s guide for incorporating the episode into your courses, can be found at the show’s website at [ecampus.oregonstate.edu/podcast](http://www.ecampus.oregonstate.edu/podcast).

There are several ways to connect with the “Research in Action” podcast. Visit the website to post a comment about a specific episode, suggest a future guest, or ask a question that could be featured in a future episode. Email us at riapodcast@oregonstate.edu. You can also offer feedback about “Research in Action” episodes or share research-related resources by contacting the Research in Action podcast via Twitter @RIA\_podcast. Finally, you can call the “Research in Action” voicemail line at 541-737-1111 to ask a question or leave a comment. If you listen to the podcast via iTunes, please consider leaving us a review.

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