January 2018 Preview Clips

# KL: Katie Linder

# [intro music]

# Segment 1:

**KL**: Happy New Year, RIA listeners! To kick of the New Year, we have five more excellent episodes to share with you.

On episode 92, I’m joined by Dr. Stephanie Evergreen, an internationally recognized expert on data visualization. In this episode, Stephanie shares some common problems on data visualization, as well as solutions. Here’s a short clip:

**SE:** So I think the mistake that I see people do is thinking that because data visualization is a sexy thing these days and because it can tell you a lot, people think it needs to be expensive, and it doesn’t. It can easily be done with free tools or things you already own, like Excel, which is what I tend to push. But there are so many platforms out there today that will just fold right into your website, and you can make the kinds of data visualizations you need to make the right kinds of actions and decisions, especially if you know your point.

**KL:** On episode 93, I offer a solo episode on setting research goals for the New Year. In this episode I offer some tips for making sure your goals are reasonable, and some strategies for staying accountable to your goals all year long. Here’s a short clip from the episode:

**KL:**  There are lots of different ways to categorize our research goals and to help us think about them within larger frameworks. So one model for this is a pipeline model. You might think about, what kind of research do you want to design this year? What are your goals around maybe new projects that you want to get started with that you want to launch? What amount or what kind of data do you plan to collect this year? So that would be the second part of your pipeline – data collection. What kind of data or what amount of data do you need to analyze this year? And if you don’t have a clear pipeline in front of you some of these might be difficult to answer, if you don’t know like six months from now what kind of project you’re going to have in front of you. So you can think just about the immediate future, and just kind of update this as you go through the year. As part of that pipeline you might also want to think about what kinds of outcomes would be created from your data, and then also where and what you want to disseminate.

On episode 94, I’m joined by Dr. Joli Jensen, the Hazel Rodgers professor of media studies and founder and director of the faculty writing program at the University of Tulsa, and the author of *Write No Matter What; Advice for Academics*. In this episode, Joli discusses some strategies for overcoming writer’s block. Here’s a short clip.

**JJ:** Writers come to me feeling like they are they are the only people in the world who are having these problems. So part of the most important message I can offer is that writing is always challenging to even the most prolific writers. The difference is that we’ve learned techniques to deal with the challenges that we have. And so there’s no reason to keep this all secrete, but faculty just feel like somehow they must not have the right stuff if they’re stalled, or resistant, or frustrated, or getting rejections from journals and the whole thing feels very – so the biggest need is to feel that you are not alone, there are strategies and techniques.

**KL:** Joli’s episode also has a bonus clip where she discusses her most recent interest in public scholarship. You won’t want to miss it.

On episode 95, I’m joined by Dr. Rob Branch, Professor and the Department Head in the Department of Career and Information Studies at the University of Georgia. In this episode, Rob shares about his research on diagraming complex relationships. Here’s a short clip;

**RB:** I look at existing diagrams, but I imagine just their shapes. Even in terms of visual literacy, there are different – the shapes have different meaning. Ovals mean complete hole, uh round, uh. Ovals tend to mean ‘holistic’. Whereas boxes or rectangles, literally with those 90 degree angles, mean fixed, unyielded. So if you imagine creating diagrams, using certain types of elements, when you put those elements together, they will actually convey a different type of meaning or at least be interpreted by such by whoever perceives that diagram.

**KL:** Rob’s episode also has a bonus clip where he defines the role of an instructional designer, so make sure to listen to that as well.

# On episode 96, I’m joined by Dr. Rebecca Pope-Ruark, Associate Professor of English at Elon University, and author of *Agile Faculty: Practical Strategies for Managing Research, Service, and Teaching*. In this episode, Rebecca shares how the agile methodology can be applied to the work of faculty. Here’s a short clip.

**RPR:** It’s a lightweight kind of strategy that you can apply on your own, or with a collaborative group. It just depends on how you really want to use it. And what I like about it is that you don’t have to use the whole system, right? You don’t have to follow the scrum guide from software to the letter to get benefits from it. It’s just another way – and one of the things I do really like about it is it changes our language a little bit in how we think about projects. So it’s not kind of that checklist mentality, and checklist have their place. That’s not – those are great. But it helps us kind of see the projects and our work at multiple levels. Here’s the really big picture - here’s the chunks. But here’s the really actionable stuff that I can do to actually meet those chunks, and complete those chunks, which will ultimately help me complete the larger tear of the project.

**KL:** Rebecca’s episode also has a bonus clip, where she talks about incorporating components of the agile methodology into her courses. So make sure to listen to that as well.

I hope you’ve enjoyed listening to some of our clips from upcoming episodes of Research in Action. 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).

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