DataStaR is intended to facilitate collaboration among researchers, as well as the documentation and transmission of research data sets from a variety of disciplines to domain-specific repositories and/or institutional repositories. The data staging model leverages the ability of a researcher’s local institution to provide accessible support and services related to research data, early in the research process, and by promoting the deposition of data in domain-specific repositories, makes data available to the larger research community.

**DataStaR is a platform:**
- In development
- DataStaR is an online repository where researchers can share data with selected colleagues.
- DataStaR is a database of information about participating researchers and research groups.
- DataStaR allows users to create metadata in a variety of formats, reusing information from the researcher database and from their own metadata records.

**DataStaR is a set of services:**
- DataStaR staff can help researchers select a repository with which to publish their data, determine the data and metadata requirements for repositories, and help researchers meet those requirements.

A semantic web approach to managing metadata:
- extend *vitro*, a Java web application that provides a customizable front end for searching and browsing a semantic graph of data, along with an interface for editing ontologies and instances (http://vitro.mannlib.cornell.edu/)
- “lift” existing metadata schemas into OWL ontologies
- treat metadata as a collection of discrete statements
- store and harness information about users and research groups for metadata
- and for public display
- reuse and recombine statements to create new metadata without repetitive entry of information

**Participants and repository themes**
- Dietrich, Caruso, Kathy Chiang, Jon Carson-Rikert, Dianne Dietrich, Brian Lowe, Janet McCue
- Collaborator: Ann Green, Digital Life Cycle Research and Consulting
- Contact - Gail Steinhart: GSS1@cornell.edu
- Project website: http://datastar.mannlib.cornell.edu/

**Architecture:** Fedora for repository storage; DataStar/vitro for metadata

**Participating research groups:**
- Cayuga Lake Watershed Network
- Cornell Biological Field Station
- Cornell Plantations Natural Areas
- Cornell Language Acquisition Laboratory
- Upper Susquehanna Agricultural Ecology Program

**Preliminary target repositories and metadata standards:**
- eCommons@Cornell (DSpace/Dublin Core)
- Cornell University Geospatial Information Repository (FGDC Content Standard for Digital Geospatial Metadata)
- Knowledge Network for Biocomplexity (Ecological Metadata Language)