

Dr. Robert Hanisch Bio

Dr. Robert Hanisch directed the NIST Office of Data and Informatics from 2014 until his retirement in April 2025. The ODI led the development of improved data management facilities and supported the open data and open science initiatives of the OSTP / NSTC Subcommittee on Open Science. He also led the team that produced the Research Data Framework, a five-year effort culminating in February 2024 with the release of V2.0. Prior to coming to NIST, as a senior scientist at the Space Telescope Science Institute, he was the executive director of the Virtual Astronomical Observatory, a project co-funded by the National Science Foundation and NASA. Hanisch has been a proponent of open science and open data throughout his career. He earned his PhD in astronomy from the University of Maryland, College Park, in 1981.

