



The National Academies of
SCIENCES • ENGINEERING • MEDICINE
Changing the Culture of Data Management and
Sharing: A Workshop

April 29, 2021 PRESENTED BY: Letisha R. Wyatt, PhD | Assistant Professor, Neurology

Workshop common themes, challenges, and solutions;
ARE WE READY for 2023?

Need to integrate and embed **equity** in all aspects of data management/sharing as a much needed **foundation**

workshop thematic language:

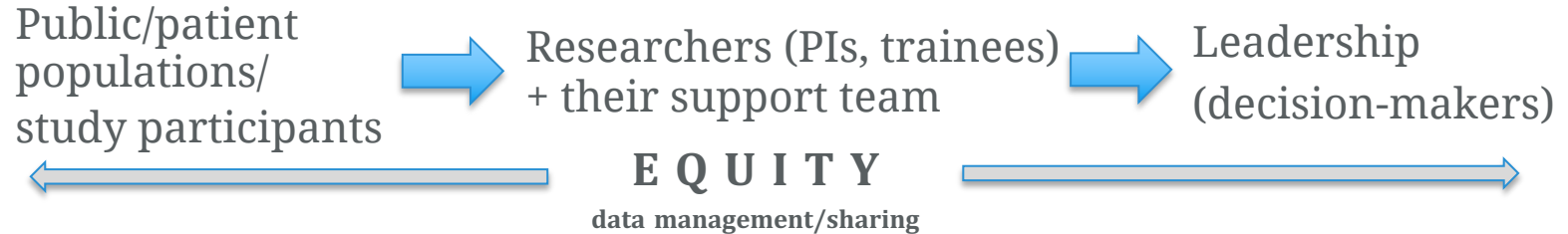
“data is power/asset”

“return on investment”

“citizen scientists/creators/owners/users”

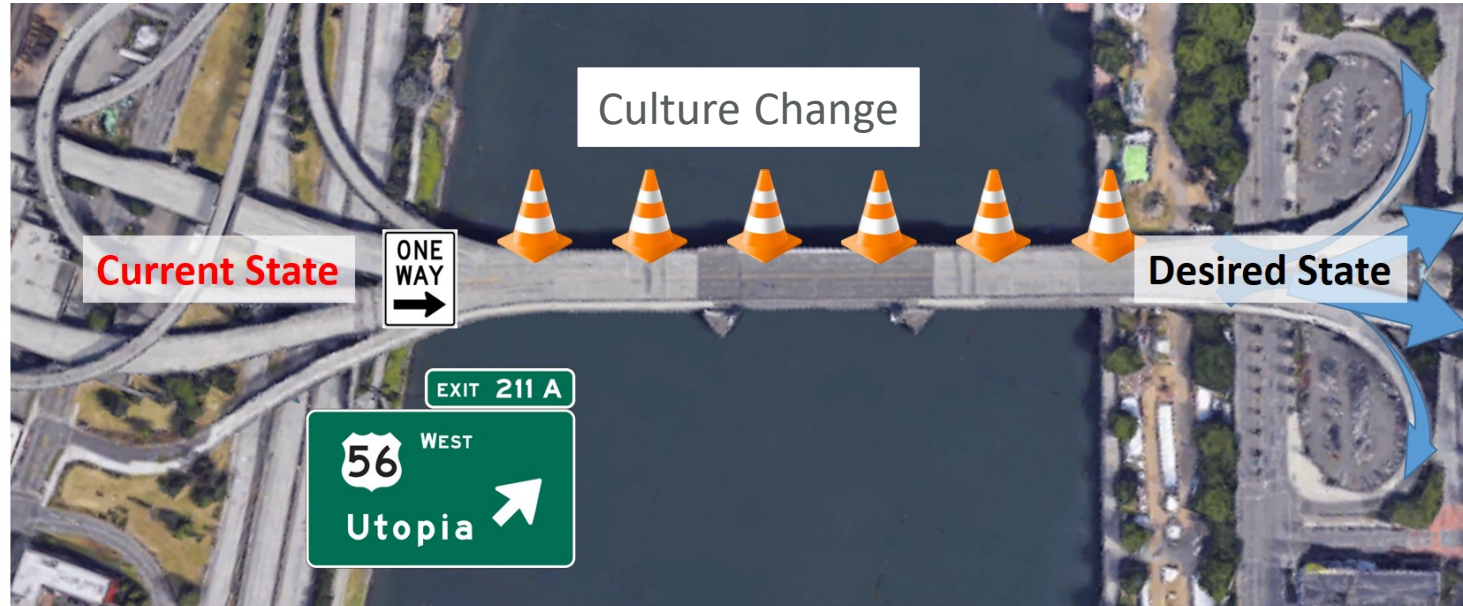
“knowledge”

Workshop common themes, challenges, and solutions



- **Challenge:** ability for “well-represented” individuals to adopt/apply an equity lens (it is relevant and critical to the scientific enterprise)
- **Challenge:** partnering with P.E.E.R. communities that are patients/study participants (e.g., cultural awareness and sensitivity);
- **Challenge:** resource availability/access (funding disparities exist), who and how we train;
- **Challenge:** representation in leadership/decision-making roles; who’s perspective is missing (e.g., what’s “worthy” of curating/sharing, P&T)?

Workshop common themes, challenges, and solutions



Adapted Image Creator: Erin Watson, OHSU (2019)

- Values and beliefs drive behavior and collective behaviors set the culture; recalibrate "norms"
- We need to establish guardrails and safety precautions (e.g., **policies and standard practices**) while we push forward for culture change.

Workshop common themes, challenges, and solutions

Proposed Considerations/Solutions:

- Outreach, understanding of relevance, and **acceptance (of the problems)** by those that are “well-represented” in the scientific community;
- Proactive and intentional in building authentic partnerships with P.E.E.R. communities. Talk less, **listen** to them, and follow their lead (they are the experts in this context). **Trust is earned** and takes time;
- **Diversifying leadership** and increasing representation in decision-making (redistribution of power and resources);
- Invest time and money in **reforming policies and practices** (operational infrastructure) within labs, departments, grad programs, universities, and the NIH.



Thank You



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What are the needs around training and education for laboratories to successfully implement the new data sharing policy?

Reflect on the current culture of data management and sharing within labs, graduate programs, departments, and universities?



What are the needs around training and education for laboratories to successfully implement the new data sharing policy?

In labs: the Principle Investigator (PI) sets the tone.

- What are the stated expectations and priorities?
- Do they have the expertise and time to effectively manage these mandates?
- Have their needs been identified and resources made available?

What are the needs around training and education for laboratories to successfully implement the new data sharing policy?

In graduate programs: where is the formal coursework?

- We cannot depend on an absorption of best practices from the lab environment;
- Self-guided learning by grad students only gets you so far;
- Courses-for-credit should be a series of relevant, structured, and mentor-training opportunities.



What are the needs around training and education for laboratories to successfully implement the new data sharing policy?

Universities (and their departments): can we encourage faculty - in particular junior faculty - in support of activities related to data management/sharing?

- Provide professional development opportunities which begins to set a standard and expectation at the university level for all researchers;
- Career enhancement opportunities with new funding mechanisms that honor and reward demonstrated excellence in data management/sharing.

In Summary

In summary:

- **Labs:** PIs need to be supported and feel empowered to lead by example in emphasizing the importance of data management/sharing.
 - PIs need to know how to set standards and expectations (and provide oversight) that all lab members work as though eventually someone will use their data;
 - PIs ultimately need resources to allocate to these activities signaling a high interest and priority for data management.
- **Graduate programs:** Formal training of next generation of scientists ensures that data management/sharing best practices may be embedded in lab culture early on and provides incentives as completed credits towards the degree.
- **Universities** (and their departments): need faster uptake on establishing institutional policy.
 - Set standard practices and expectations for data management/sharing so that there's cohesion across the institution;
 - Build opportunities for professional development and a reward system for faculty to implement data management/sharing practices.



Thank You