

# WITS 2017 Panel Discussion: Government-Academia Collaboration

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## Discussion areas

- Potential Federal and State agencies for collaboration
- Areas of research
- Sample data sources
- Funding agencies
- Research project setup and timelines
- Constraints, nationality status, data access, etc.
- Other

## Why IS researchers and Federal agencies?

- Grand challenges – Need to tackle new and interesting problems
  - Paradigm shift?
- Interdisciplinary research to tackle such grand challenges using Big Data
- What unique or complementary skillsets do we bring?

## Areas of research

- Research in the public benefit
- Developing public policy
- Projects aligned to respective dept providing data
- Win-win project proposals required

## US Census Bureau data

- Individual micro-data
- List of datasets currently available at Census:
  - <https://www2.census.gov/about/linkage/data-file-inventory.pdf>
- Legal authority for data linkage at Census:
  - <https://www.census.gov/about/adrm/linkage/about/authority.html>
- Sample of published and current research using Census data:
  - <https://www.census.gov/ces/publications/annualreport.html>
- Supported by Commission on Evidence-Based Policymaking
  - <https://cep.gov/>

## Census Bureau data access locations

- Federal Statistical Research Data Centers
- <https://www.census.gov/fsrdc>
- Click on “RDC locations”

## Other Potential Sources of Data

- Veterans Affairs (VA)
  - **Million Veteran Program (MVP)**
    - Generic and medical/clinical data from ~400K veterans
- **U.S. Patent Data**
  - Derwent Innovation database
- Current: [Data.gov](https://www.data.gov)
  - Created as part of 2013 Federal Open Data Policy
  - Searchable database with over 200K datasets on a wide range of areas such as: health, manufacturing, finance, energy, and local government
- Looking Ahead: **Open, Permanent, Electronic, and Necessary (OPEN) Government Data Act**
  - Requires all federal agencies to publish the entirety of their information as open data – using standardized, nonproprietary formats...and under open licenses
  - Voted out of Senate on 9/27/2017 as part of National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA)
  - Passed U.S. House of Representatives on November 15

## South Korea Statistics

- <http://ghdx.healthdata.org/organizations/national-bureau-statistics-south-korea>
- <http://ghdx.healthdata.org/organizations/national-statistical-office-south-korea>
- <http://ghdx.healthdata.org/organizations/statistics-korea-south-korea>

## Other US Federal Agencies for collaboration

- Centers for International Business Education & Research (CIBER)
- Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC)
- Office of the Inspector General (OIG)

## Funding opportunities

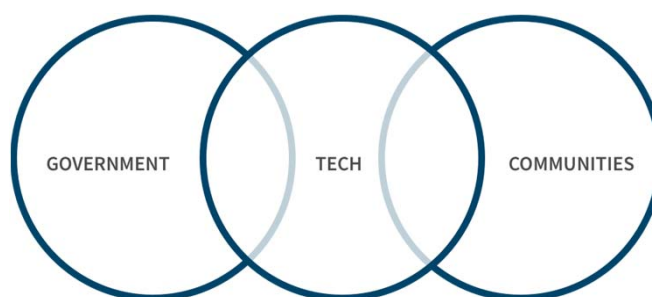
- How to leverage private and government funding and data
- Funding agencies
  - NSF
  - NIH
  - Sloan
  - Kauffmann
  - Others

## Research project setup

- Timelines
- Proposal to federal agency
  - Submit proposal
  - Get approval (3-6 months)
  - Do background checks (1 month)
  - Get access to datasets mentioned in proposal (1-3 months)
- Constraints
  - Data access
  - Researcher background check
- Publication opportunities and process

## Non-research data projects

- US Census Bureau “Opportunity” projects
  - <https://opportunity.census.gov/>
- Look for “Innovation” projects under various agencies



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3 slides from Ritu Agrawal


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## Data We have Used

- Health related
  - AHRQ, CMS, CDC, Local Public Health Departments
- Economic and demographic data
  - Census
- Others
  - BLS, DOD (Defense Health Agency, Air Force Medical Service)
- Open government data sets
  - NY Food inspection
  - California Hospital Quality
- Combining with proprietary data



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## Smith School FSRDC

**CENSUS FSRDC DATA SETS**


- Decennial Census
- American Community Survey (ACS)
- Current Population Survey Supplements
- American Housing Survey
- Survey of Income and Program Participation
- National Crime Victimization Survey
- National Longitudinal Mortality Study
- National Longitudinal Survey (NLS)
- Economic Data
- Establishment Surveys
- Firm Surveys
- Business Register Data
- Transactions Data
- Linked Employer Household Dynamics (LEHD)

**FSRDC DATA SETS FROM HHS**

- National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey (NHANES)
- National Health Interview Survey (NHIS)
- National Health Interview Disability Survey
- National Immunization Survey
- Longitudinal Study on Aging
- National Survey of Family Growth
- National Maternal and Infant Health Survey
- AHRQ Data




Other Restricted Use Data Sets

- **FLORIDA AGENCY FOR HEALTHCARE ADMINISTRATION**  
Hospital Admissions Data
- **DEFENSE HEALTH AGENCY**  
Military Medical Informatics Data




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## Wins and Challenges

- Successful in working extensively with health data/ agencies (some examples)
  - RWJ funded project with local health department
  - Ongoing relationship with HHS/ONC
  - New “Health Insights AI Lab” established in partnership with major health data aggregator
  - Funding from provost for 5 seed grants for AI related work in Finance, Marketing, and Health
- Faculty training and incentives to develop proposals
  - In my SAD Research role I do a lot of heavy lifting
- Framing interesting, novel, and important problems
  - Brainstorming on “big ideas”


 Center for Health Information and Decision Systems  
ROBERT H. SMITH SCHOOL OF BUSINESS

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## Wrap-up: WITS and IS community action items

- Curate WITS workshop presentations under one roof for reference
- Create searchable abstracts to attract researchers other domains
- WITS feeder workshop with Federal agencies
- Promote research that “makes a difference”
  - Orient reviewers and editors for socially important research
- Liaison with INFORMS to promote IS in federal (and state) agencies

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