

Assessing value

- (1) Define what is "success"
- (2) Establish measures of success
- (3) Create systems and supports to measure
- (4) Collect data
- (5) Analyze progress toward success
- (6) Make adjustments, repeat



Attributing Value



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- to exemplify and promote the highest level of scientific integrity, public accountability, and social responsibility in the conduct of science.



- to expand the knowledge base in medical and associated sciences in order to enhance the Nation's economic well-being and ensure a continued high return on the public investment in research; and
- to develop, maintain, and renew scientific human and physical resources that will ensure the Nation's capability to prevent disease;
- to foster fundamental creative discoveries, innovative research strategies, and their applications as a basis for ultimately protecting and improving health;

The goals of the agency are:

NIH's mission is to seek fundamental knowledge about the nature and behavior of living systems and the application of that knowledge to enhance health, lengthen life, and reduce illness and disability.

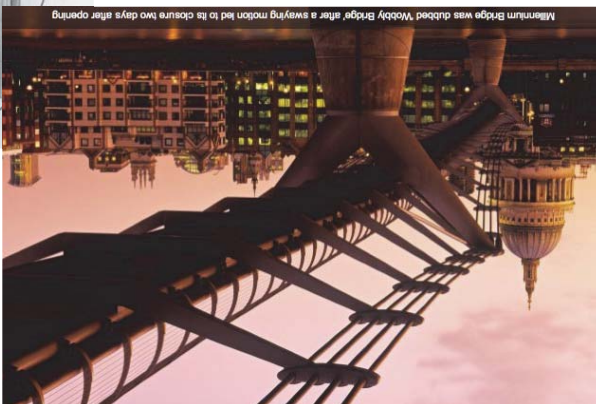
What is Success?



<http://eandt.theiet.org/magazine/2012/03/a-bridge-too-far.cfm>



On 7 November 1940, the Tacoma Narrows Bridge collapsed under the force of wild oscillations caused by 40mph winds



Millennium Bridge was dubbed 'Wobbly Bridge' after a swaying motion led to its closure two days after opening

What is Failure?



What do we measure?

(1) Creative discoveries

(2) Innovative research strategies

(3) Application of discoveries and strategies

(4) Human and physical resources

(5) Knowledge base in medical sciences

(6) Integrity, accountability, and social responsibility

Logic Model

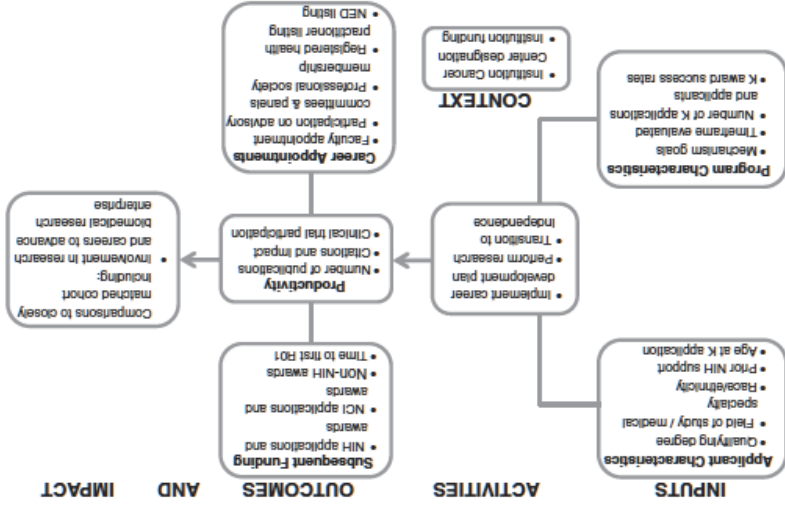


Fig. 1 Logic model of NCI K awards outcome evaluation. The logic model highlights K program inputs, activities, outcomes, and impact, as well as contextual factors. The inputs include the features (demographics) that define applicants to the NCI K program, as well as features of the K mechanisms. Activities include the actions that a funded researcher would take to further their research training and career plans, and context refers to specific features of the past and present environment in which program participants are functioning. Outcomes include measures that might be attributed to participation in the NCI K program and are divided into three broad categories of subsequent funding, productivity, and career appointments. Impact is assessed by comparing outcomes of closely matched cohorts of K awardees and non-awardees and examining proxies of scientific research and engagement.



Outcomes: What discoveries has NIH funded?



NIH Public Access Policy Details

The NIH Public Access Policy implements Division G, Title II, Section 218 of PL 110-161 (Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2008). The law states:

The Director of the National Institutes of Health shall require that all investigators funded by the NIH submit or have submitted for them to the National Library of Medicine's PubMed Central an electronic version of their final, peer-reviewed manuscripts upon acceptance for publication, to be made publicly available no later than 12 months after the official date of publication: Provided, That the NIH shall implement the public access policy in a manner consistent with copyright law.

<http://publicaccess.nih.gov/policy.html>



An industry-wide methodology for connecting scholarly publications to research funders



HOW FUNDREF WORKS

1. FundRef Registry provides a taxonomy of 4000 standardized funder names.
2. Manuscript tracking system vendors incorporate FundRef Registry into the publication submission processes. Publishers ask authors to select correct funders and provide grant numbers upon manuscript submission.
3. Funder information transferred to publisher production systems.
4. Publishers send funder information to CrossRef.
5. Funders and others query CrossRef and receive DOIs and metadata for articles resulting from their funding.
6. Publishers may display FundRef data in CrossMark Record tab.



<http://www.crossref.org/funder/index.html>

Recommend: NIH should participate in FundRef and encourage participation by other funders.

Outcomes: Who did NIH train?

Posted on April 11, 2013 by Sally Rockey

Taking On the Challenge of Better Biomedical

<http://news.nih.gov/all/2013/04/11/taking-on-the-challenge-of-better-biomedical-workforce-data/>

The primary goal of the NIH Advisory Committee to the Director (ACD) biomedical research workforce working group was the creation of pathways through undergraduate, graduate and postdoctoral training that provide excellent preparation for biomedical research careers in a timely fashion, and that ensure future US competitiveness and innovation in biomedical research. In their report, the working group members described how they were "frustrated and sometimes dismayed" by the quality of the data available on the biomedical research workforce, e.g., major gaps in information on the total number of individuals working as postdocs, inadequate information on postdocs who obtained degrees in other countries, and lack of systematic data on graduate students trained in labs supported by NIH research grants.

So to this end, we've been working on a number of plans to try and fill these gaps in biomedical workforce information. Here's a quick overview of the directions we are headed:

- Identification of all NIH-supported students and postdocs
- Automated NSA training tables
- Develop a Fed-wide researcher profile system
- Encourage adoption of unique persistent researcher IDs

Big Hopes, Small Changes for Biomedical

http://sciencescareers.sciencemag.org/career_magazine/previous_issues/articles/2012_12_14/careerh.a1200136

By Michael Price

December 14, 2012

Tilghman, Rocky, and the others in the working group laid out several recommendations aimed at shortening and diversifying doctoral programs and postdoc positions, increasing the proportion of trainees supported by training grants and fellowships instead of research grants, collecting more data on career outcomes, improving postdoc salaries, and promoting the staff scientist career path. After the June meeting, ACD formed an implementation team, headed by Rocky, to decide which recommendations to implement, and how to do it.

Tracking NIH-funded researchers

Encourage adoption of unique persistent researcher IDs: Identifying the output of

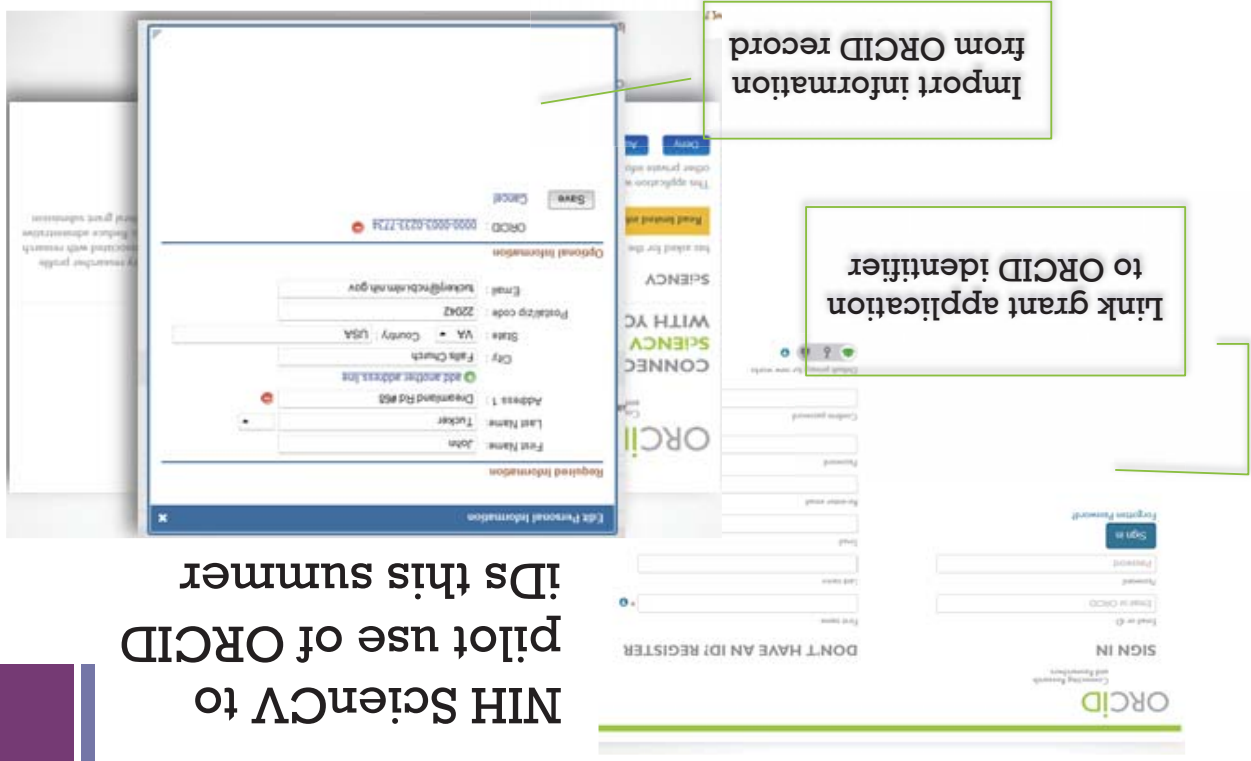
individuals with commonly occurring names is difficult. Reducing name ambiguity within and across data systems is always expensive and time consuming. It appears that an international, non-profit organization called the Open Researcher and Contributor ID (ORCID) is gaining traction. ORCID is a persistent digital identifier that can be associated with author names in publications. The ORCID system also will allow individuals to identify their research output and create a registry of IDs. SciENcv will include a utility that make it easy for users to obtain an ORCID and to link it to their publications and grants. A broadly used researcher ID also will facilitate the identification of scientific output from those who work outside federally funded research programs.

<http://news.nih.gov/all/2013/04/11/taking-on-the-challenge-of-better-biomedical-workforce-data/>

After Rocky's presentation, Tilghman remarked that although she was pleased that ACD seriously considered her reports' recommendations, she "can't help but go back to [her] cynicism" about some of the language used in the implementation plans—specifically, the occurrence of words like "encourage" and "recommend." For example, she pointed to the implementation team's plan to encourage institutions to track and report the career outcomes for their students and postdocs. "This is a recommendation that's been made by every single committee, and always using the word 'encourage,'" she said. "It has been made for about 20 years and we know what the consequences of that [are]. ... Unless you have a stick, this won't happen."

Encourage? Require?

NIH SciencV to pilot use of ORCID IDs this summer



Recommend: Implement ORCID



Connecting Research and Researchers

ORCID provides a free registry of unique and persistent researcher identifiers. ORCID serves as a switchboard to link researcher identifiers, affiliations, and research works.

- (1) Require use of ORCID IDs during the application process, link this to post-award outcomes reporting
- (2) Require use of ORCID IDs for all persons supported on a grant
- (3) Implement a workflow to post awarded grant information to a grantee's ORCID record
- (4) Implement a workflow to allow researchers to search and link ORCID IDs to NIH grants in RePorter, and
- (5) Link and store ORCID IDs in IMPAC II PI profile records.
- (6) Encourage use of ORCID IDs by the USPTO and CT.org

Linking the who to the what:

Attributing Value

Science, 2011 Aug 19;33(6045):1015-9. doi: 10.1126/science.1196783.

Race, ethnicity, and NIH research awards.

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Abstract

We investigated the association between a U.S. National Institutes of Health (NIH) R01 applicant's self-identified race or ethnicity and the probability of receiving an award by using data from the NIH IMPAC II grant database, the Thomson Reuters Web of Science, and other sources. Although proposals with strong priority scores were equally likely to be funded regardless of race, we find that Asians are 4 percentage points and black or African-American applicants are 13 percentage points less likely to receive NIH investigator-initiated research funding compared with whites. After controlling for the applicant's educational background, country of origin, training, previous research awards, publication record, and employer characteristics, we find that black applicants remain 10 percentage points less likely than whites to be awarded NIH research funding. Our results suggest some leverage points for policy intervention.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE TO THE DIRECTOR

Advisory Committee to the Director
 Working Group on Diversity in the Biomedical Research Workforce

Working Group Reports

- Diversity in the Biomedical Research Workforce Working Group Report (PDF - 3.46MB)
- Executive Summary of the Working Group on Diversity in the Biomedical Research Workforce (PDF - 136kB)

Charter
 Members
 Meetings
 Working Group Activities
 Contact the ACD

NIH's Plan for Action:

- Evaluate current training programs
- Phase out unsuccessful programs, expand successful ones
- Increase number of early career reviewers, including those from underrepresented populations
- Examine grant review process for bias and develop interventions
- Improve support for grant applicants
- Gather expert advice on additional action steps

Summary

- Enhance existing datasets to support their use in evaluation (e.g., ensure that name and evidence information is collected in a fielded manner and exposed through public APIs)
- Work with other agencies to enhance existing datasets
- Map out program goals and clearly articulate measures
- Collect data (qual and quant) and test measures
- Use data to adjust programs