# UMETRICS and STAR METRICS -Measuring the EffecTs of Research on Innovation, Competitiveness and Science

Rebecca Rosen
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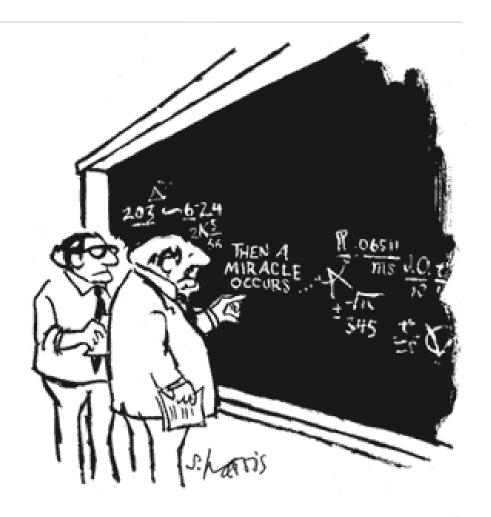
### **Outline**

- Science of science policy approach
- UMETRICS Developing a new platform
- Initial results
- Building the international community

### **Motivation**

#### Competing Priorities in the Federal Budget...





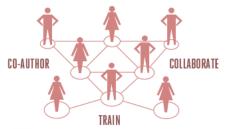
"I THINK YOU SHOULD BE MORE EXPLICIT HERE IN STEP TWO, "

### Science of Science Policy Approach

Building a feasible, low cost and flexible platform to use science to describe science (for policy)

- Conceptual framework: Science is done by scientists (not documents), so focus on scientists & networks of scientists
- Empirical framework: New ways of collecting data - using new cybertools to capture information automatically
- Pragmatic Approach: New ways of presenting information so the public & policymakers can make decisions

# A Conceptual Framework



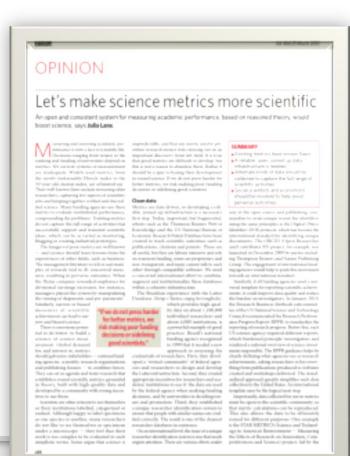




# Getting the right framework matters

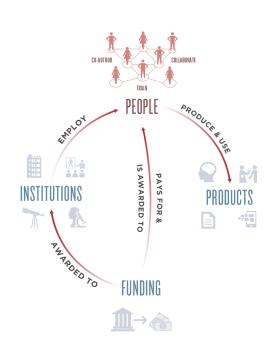
- What you measure is what you get
  - Poor incentives
  - Falsification

- Effectiveness
  - Research community
- Usefulness
  - Policymakers & Public

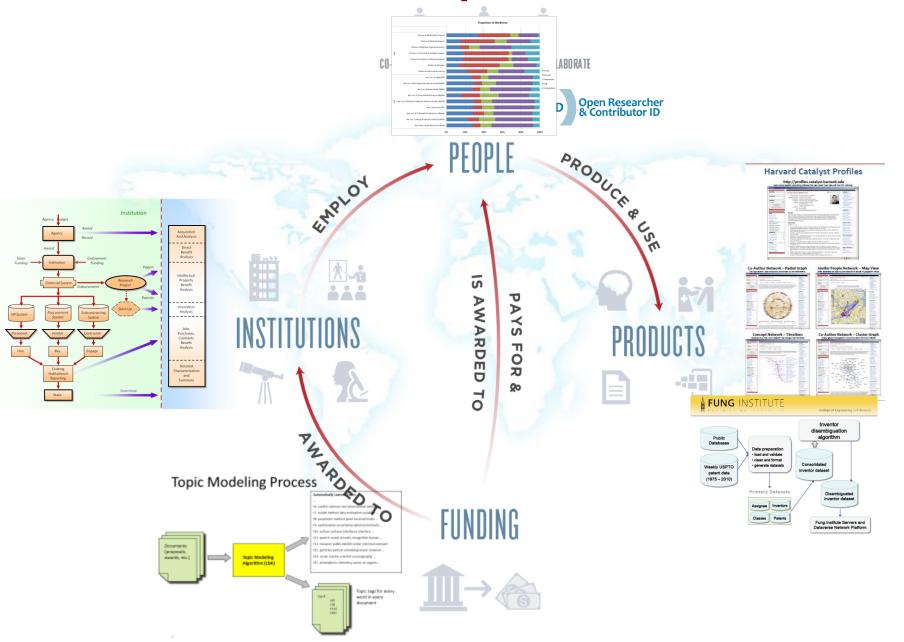


# Asking the right questions

- WHO is doing the research?
- WHAT is the topic of their research?
- HOW are the researchers funded?
- WHERE do they work?
- With WHOM do they work?
- What are their PRODUCTS?



### Tools to Build an Empirical Framework



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# **UMETRICS – A Regional Pilot**



#### UMETRICS

### Universities: Measuring the Impacts of Research on Innovation, Competitiveness, and Science

Universities have a central role in documenting the results of research – from the most fundamental science and humanities to the applied projects of professional schools, research institutes, and affiliated hospitals. The UMETRICS initiative brings Science of Science Policy researchers together with university Vice Presidents for Research from CIC institutions to build a scientific framework that will inform research management, enable evidence-based decision-making, and support credible advocacy.

In addition to generating frontier scientific analyses, the goal of UMETRICS is to present results that are readily accessible to the research policy community. Our projects embed research on how universities can influence the policy debate and advance institutional ability to effectively communicate the results of research to donors, policy makers, and other key

#### UMETRICS RESOURCES

UMETRICS Video (AIR): Long Story Short: Can We Fix the "Hit or Miss" Approach to Investing in Science?

Governments are investing more in science under the notion that it will lead to more economic growth and scientific knowledge, but are often unsure of how best to invest. In this 90-second video interview, Julia Lane, senior managing economist at the American Institutes for Research (AIR), explains why understanding the scientific process is key to investing wisely in science.

#### **CSSIP**

Center for the Science of Science and Innovation Policy

## **Building the UMETRICS platform**

#### Inputs

- 9 CIC University administrative data (HR, Finance)
- Public awards data
- Open data on publications (MS Academic, MEDLINE)
- Patents (USPTO, EPO)
- Altmetrics (PLoS)
- Statistical data

#### Methods

Data structuring
Records linking
Matching routines
Validation methods
Topic modeling
Data visualization

#### Results

- Aggregate and individual federal funding & workforce reports
- Documenting nationwide, short-term economic effects of research investments
- Benchmarking by topics and agency funding
- Identifying and characterizing publications and patents data
- New measures of innovative activity (placement of PhDs and Postdocs)

#### Uses

- Describe and manage science funding portfolio s
- Benchmark research portfolios among participating universities
- Track regional and national effects of research dollars
- Automatically identify researcher patenting activity over time
- Provide data and inspiration for new measures of innovative activity

### **Outline**

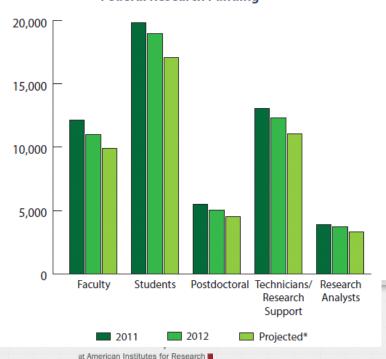
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# Initial Results – Research expenditure reports analyzing UMETRICS data

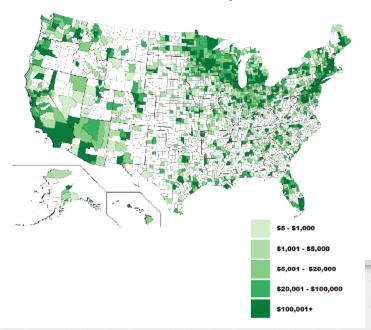
Federal Research Funding: A Detailed Analysis of Expenditures at 8 CIC Universities



#### Number of Individuals Employed by Federal Research Funding



#### **National Distribution of Expenditures**



### **UMETRICS – Initial Results**

#### POLICYFORUM

RESEARCH FUNDING

#### Science Funding and Short-Term **Economic Activity**

Bruce A. Weinberg, 133 Jason Owen-Smith, "Rebecc a E Rosen," Lou Schwarz," Barbara McFadden Allen, "Roy E. Weiss, "Julia Lane\*\*\*.\*\*

There is considerable interest among policy-makers in documenting shortterm effects of science funding. A multiyearscientific journey that leads to longterm fruits of research, such as a moon landing, is more tangible if there is visible nearerterm activity, such as the presence of astronauts. Yet systematic data on such activities have not heretofore existed. The only source of information for describing the production of most science is surveys that have been called "a rough estimate, frequently based on unexamined assumptions that originated yeas earlier" (1).

But although science is complicated, it is not magic. It is productive work. Scientific endeavors employ people. They use capital inputs. Related economic activity occurs immediately. Data characterizing these activities can be directly captured through the financial and payroll records of research organizations and have been used in other arenas. such as labor policy. Our data provide the first detailed information about initial inputs to the from all sources in 2012; 56% of that came publicly funded scientific enterprise and lay the foundation to trace subsequent results (2).

These new data were initially generated NSF Division in response to the mandate put in place by the 2009 American Recovery and Reinvest ment Act, also known as the stimulus package, which require dthat recipients of stimulus funds document the resulting jobs created and retained. In response, almost 100 U.S. universities and five federal agencies, with the support of the Federal Demonstration Part- NIH Imithuts nership, established the STAR METRICS data program. The goal of the program was to document not just short-term, but also longerterm, results of scientific activity and to use

Chio State University, Columbus, CH 43210, USA, Pint 8tule for the Study of Labor (IZA), S3113 Boon, Germany. "National Bureau of Economic Research, Cambridge, IRA 02138, USA. "University of Mitchigan, Ann Arbor, MI 48109, USA. 'American Institutes for Research, Washington, DC 20007, USA. 'Rector 21, Arlangton, VA 22201, USA. Committee on Institutional Cooperation, Champaign, I 61820, USA. (University of Chicago, Chicago, IL 6063) USA "Observables des Sciences et des Techniques, 75015 Paris, France. "Burreu d'Economie Théorique et Appliquée (BETA) University of Strasbourg CNRS, 6700 Strasbourg, Fonce. "University of Melbourne, Victoria 2010, Australia

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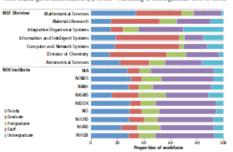
automated approaches to do so (2). The first tranche of rich data are drawn directly from university personnel and financial administrative records that track actual expenditures of all active federal projects. These data provide project-level information about the occupations of the part-time and full-time workforce paid on each funded grant and about the purchases made from vendors who supply scientific researchers. Neither of these types of information have reliably been available before (3, 4).

an analysis of 2012 expenditure data from nine Committee on Institutional Cooperation (CIC) universities participating in the emerging UMETRICS initiative-Michigan, Wisconsin. Minnesota (Twin Cities), Ohio State, Northwestern, Purdue, Michigan State, Chicago, and Indiana [see supplementary material (SM) for full details ondata and analyses l. These universities received about \$7 billion in research and development (R&D) funding from federal government sources (5). In the

Expenditures from grant funds support many different types of workers and vendors across

CIC receive 8 to 10% of all federal research dollars. The majority of these institutions are large, Midwestern public universities. Hence, they are not representative of all recipients of federal funds. However, it is unlikely that the type of science that is conducted with those funds is markedly different from that conducted at many other major research universities, and they provide a window into a large portion of federal research activity in the era of tightening federal budgets. Moreover, the The results reported in this paper represent 2012 data we analyzed reflect expenditures from federal funds obligated over multiple prior years. These data thus offer a different. and possibly smoother, picture than is apparent in the often volatile amual federal-funding cycle.

Our initial analysis of all expenditures supported by federal funding to these nine CIC institutions-monies from some 30 agencies-shows that the production of science is complex but eminently traceable. We document reliance on a wide variety of inputs including a heterogeneous mix of skills



Differences in workforce composition in projects funded by NSF divisions and NIH institutes. NIA, National Institute on Aging: NINDS, National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroky; NIMH, National Institute of Mental Health; NIDDK, National Institute of Diabetes and Dig estive and Kidney Diseases; NICHD, Eurice Kannedy Shriver National Institute of Child Health and Human Development: NAID. Nationallins Stute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases: NHLBI, National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute, (See SM.)

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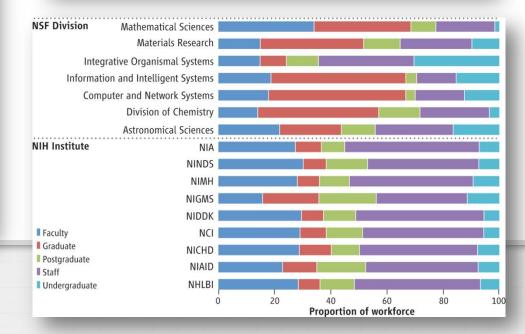
at American Institutes for Research

#### First Milestone Is Claimed on Long Road to Tracking Science's Economic Value - Research - The Chronicle of Hi THE CHRONICLE OF HIGHER EDUCATION Research April 3, 2014 First Milestone Is Claimed on Long Road to Tracking Science's Economic Value By Paul Basken

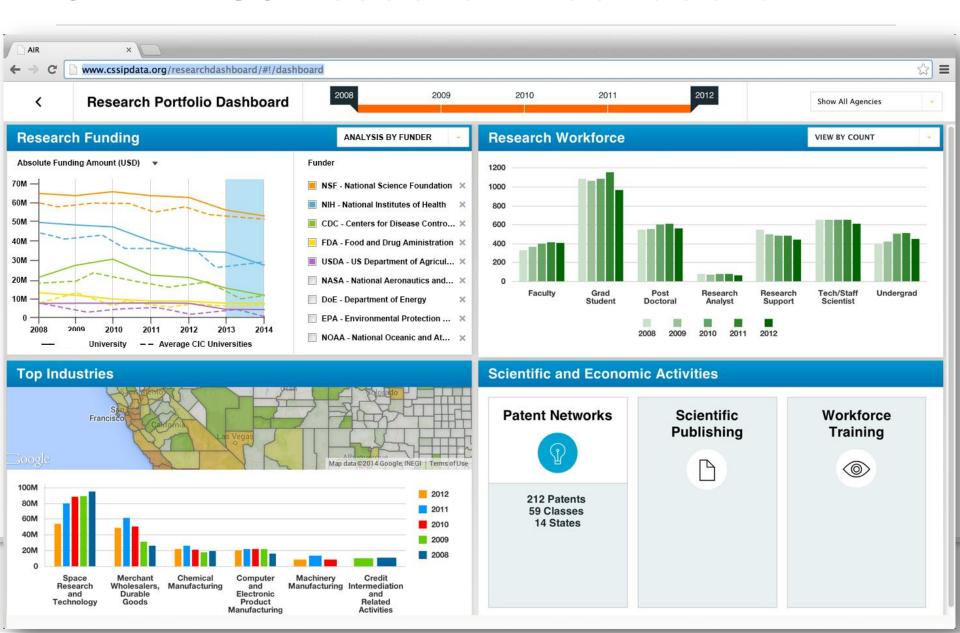
Just last week, at a budget hearing on Capitol Hill, a member of Congress cited a well-traveled number: \$2.21.

That flower said Day Dose Dal auro of Connecticut the tox

Washington



### **UMETRICS Research Dashboard**



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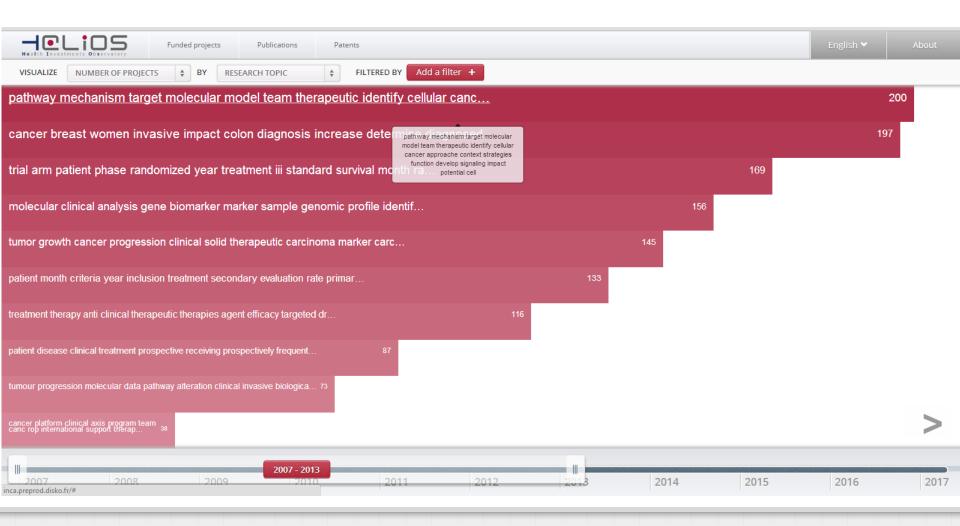
## International Approach

- Build internal expertise
  - Big data tools & methods
  - Cut down on expensive, 'one-off' studies
- Work with multiple stakeholders
  - Researchers, universities, Ministry
  - Inform data visualizations
- An empirical platform for policy analyses
  - Focus on infrastructure, not software
  - Extensible, scalable, open

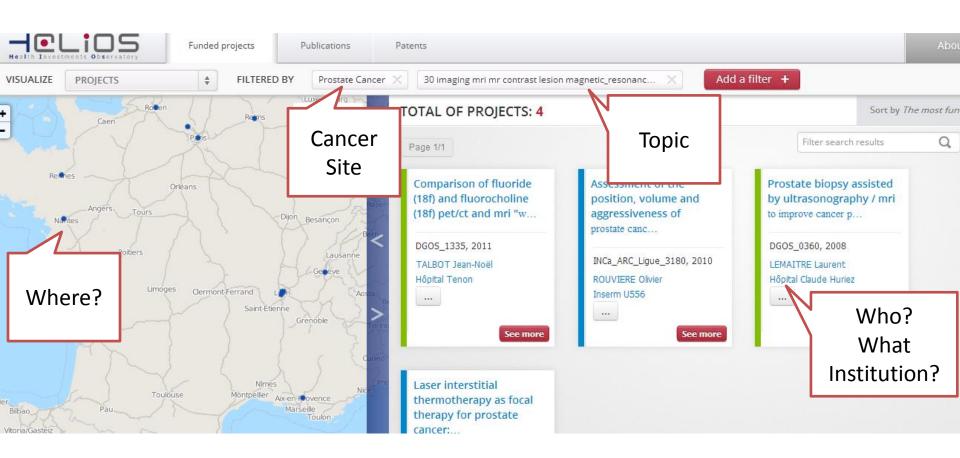
### International efforts

- Spain SOLES
- France HELIOS
- Australia ASTRA
- Norway NORDSJTERNEN
- Strasbourg

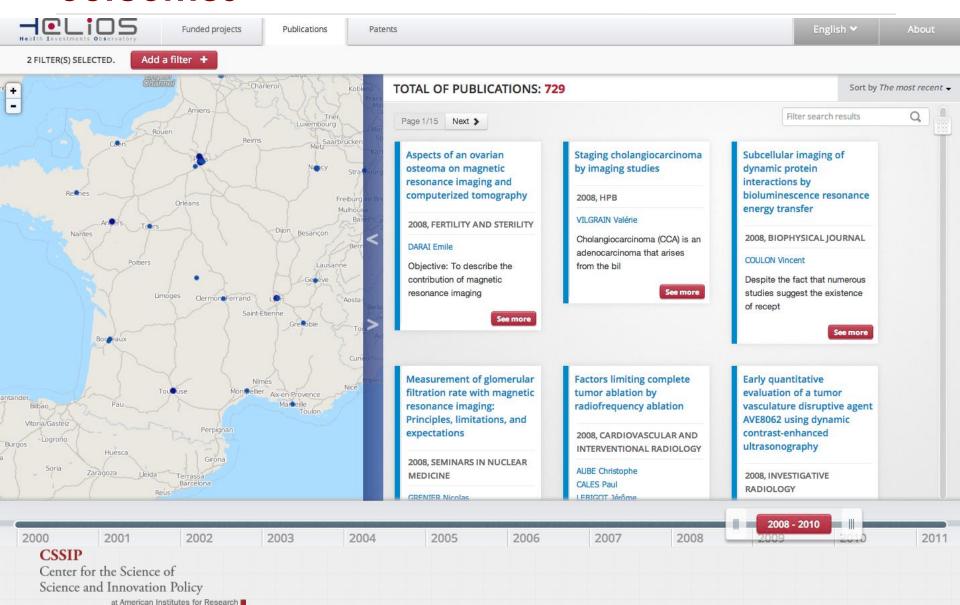
# Describe a scientific portfolio



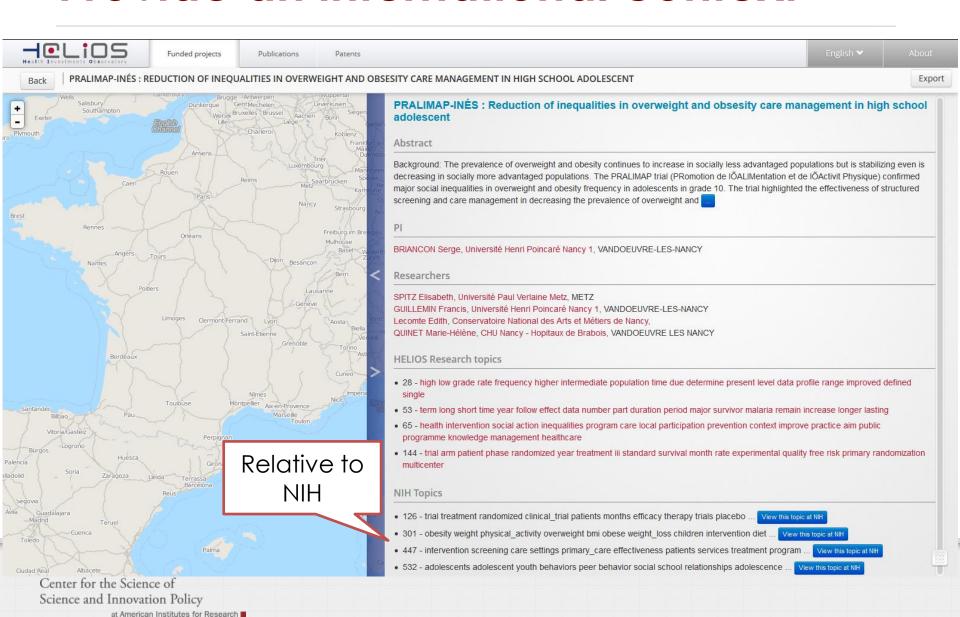
# **Enrich existing taxonomies**



# Identify relationships between investments & outcomes



### Provide an international context



## Next steps

### Expand UMETRICS

- More universities
- More data on activities, accomplishments and outcomes; partnership with statistical agencies
- Connect data with frontier researchers (e.g. Ann Arbor workshop http://cssip.org/login/june-workshop-annarbor)
- Institutionalize
  - Collaborate with international efforts

# Thank you!

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