

RACO: Collaborating Across Boundaries: Government Records and Social Media

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Office of Science and Technology Policy
The White House

Thursday, April 30, 2009 Font Size [A-] [A+]

Science ♦ Technology ♦ Innovation

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THE BRIEFING ROOM



SEARCH

Wednesday, January 21st, 2009 at 12:00 am

Transparency and Open Government

MEMORANDUM FOR THE HEADS OF EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENTS AND AGENCIES

SUBJECT: Transparency and Open Government

My Administration is committed to creating an unprecedented level of openness in Government. We will work together to ensure the public trust and establish a system of transparency, public participation, and collaboration. Openness will strengthen our democracy and promote efficiency and effectiveness in Government.

Government should be transparent. Transparency promotes accountability and provides information for citizens about what their Government is doing. Information maintained by the Federal Government is a national asset. My Administration will take appropriate action, consistent with law and policy, to disclose information rapidly in forms that the public can readily find and use. Executive departments and agencies should harness new technologies to put information about their operations and decisions online and readily available to the public. Executive departments and agencies should also solicit public feedback to identify information of greatest use to the public.

LATEST NEWS and UPDATES



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THE AMERICAN PRESIDENTS



VIEW SLIDESHOW

Open Government Principles: Transparency

“ While the Government must be able to prevent the public disclosure of information where such disclosure would compromise the privacy of American citizens, national security, or other legitimate interests, a democratic government accountable to the people must be as transparent as possible and must not withhold information for self-serving reasons or simply to avoid embarrassment.” (Presidential Memorandum on Classified Information and Controlled Unclassified Information, May 27th, 2009)

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Data.gov Catalog

Use the Data.gov catalog below to access U.S. Federal Executive Branch datasets. Click on the name of a dataset to view additional metadata for that dataset. By accessing the data catalog or tools, you agree to the [Data Policy](#). Data.gov offers data in two ways: through the "raw" data catalog and using tools. The "Raw" Data Catalog provides an instant download of machine readable, platform-independent datasets while the Tools Catalog provides hyperlinks to tools that allow you to mine datasets.

Search "raw" data and tools by keywords

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Search "raw" data and tools by single/multiple category

- All Categories
- Births, Deaths, Marriages, and Divorces
- Business Enterprise

Search "raw" data and tools by single/multiple agency

- All Agencies
- Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ)

SEARCH

"RAW" DATA CATALOG

Name (click for metadata and to rate dataset)	Rating	Agency	XML	CSV/TXT	KML/KMZ	ESRI	Maps	Other
<p>1 Global Trade – World Copper Smelters</p> <p>Locations and characteristics of world copper smelters</p>	★★★★☆	USGS	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> KML 58KB	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ESRI 7KB	View Map	
<p>1 National Operational Hydrologic Remote Sensing Center (NOHRSC) Snow Water Equivalents</p> <p>The National Weather Service (NWS) National Operational Hydrologic Remote Sensing Center (NOHRSC) provides comprehensive snow observations, analyses, data sets and map pr...</p>	★★★★☆	NWS	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> KML 8KB	<input type="checkbox"/>	View Map	

data.gov

catalogue of executive branch data sets

Participation

“Our commitment to openness means more than simply informing the American people about how decisions are made. It means recognizing that government does not have all the answers and that public officials need to draw on what citizens know. And, that's why as of today I'm directing members of my Administration to find new ways of tapping the knowledge and experience of ordinary Americans, scientists and civic leaders, scientists and entrepreneurs. Because the way to solve the problems of our time as one nation is by involving the American people in the policies that affect their lives.” (President Obama, January 21, 2009)

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Shanita, Release Manager and Moderator
www.regulations.gov/exchange

Join a Discussion

New Regulations.gov Features

Based on feedback from users like you, we are proposing a new design for Regulations.gov that makes it easier to navigate, search and comment on regulations. Our proposed changes include a new homepage, improved search capability and a new look and feel for the site.

Total views: 1,038 ★★★★★

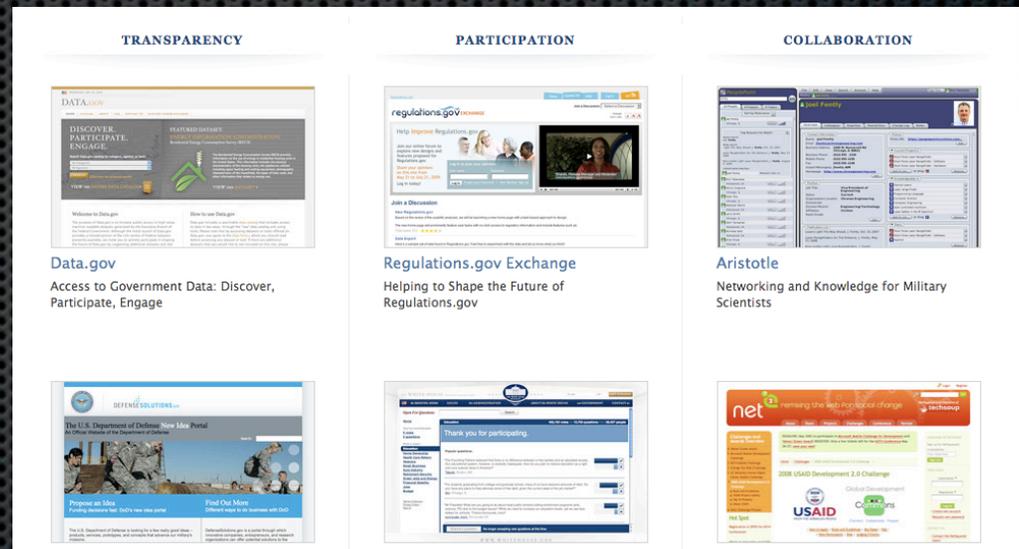
Regulations.gov Exchange

Collaboration

“I ran for President because I believe that we cannot solve the challenges of our time unless we solve them together.” (National Archives, May 21st, 2009)

Innovations Gallery

- Demonstrating Open Government in practice
- Showcasing innovators across the government
- Championing change in government
- Enabling platforms for innovation



Generating Innovations: Idea Factory

TSA engages 50,000 employees

The screenshot shows the TSA Idea Factory website interface. At the top, there's a navigation bar with 'Build New Idea Here' and buttons for 'Ideas', 'Recent Activity', 'My Profile', 'Join Discussion', and 'My Groups'. Below this is a sidebar with 'News & Announcements' and 'Search & Filter' options. The main content area features a post titled 'Respectful Divesting Bins' by 'andrew.r.mcquiston' on 4/29/2007. The post text describes an idea for a metal mesh bin at checkpoints to improve X-ray screening. At the bottom of the post, it shows '84 People Rated This Idea', a '4.2 Average Rating', and '52 Comments'.

Description

Benefits

- # employees are engaged and have higher morale because they have a voice and a meaningful way to suggest ideas and provide feedback.
- # Senior Leadership and TSA Program Managers get meaningful input

Case Study

- Employees post ideas, and rate and comment on those that interest them. They participate in two-way communication with agency leadership, TSA program offices, and each other.

Implementation

- 40 innovative ideas implemented in two years

Obtaining Scientific Expertise: Peer-to-Patent Open Peer Review

Self-Selection for Manageable User Input

PEER-TO-PATENT: EXTENDING INSTITUTIONAL EXPERTISE THROUGH STRUCTURED, GROUP-BASED PARTICIPATION – NOW IN USE USPTO, JPO, UKIPO

HERE IS HOW PEER TO PATENT WORKS:

1. Review and discuss patent applications
2. Research and find prior art
3. Upload prior art relevant to claims
4. Annotate and evaluate all submitted prior art
5. "Top ten" prior art references forwarded to USPTO

Description

Benefits

- Decreases search costs
- 89% of examiners found the public materials useful
- 92% would welcome examining another application with public participation
- 73% want implemented as regular office practice.

Case Study

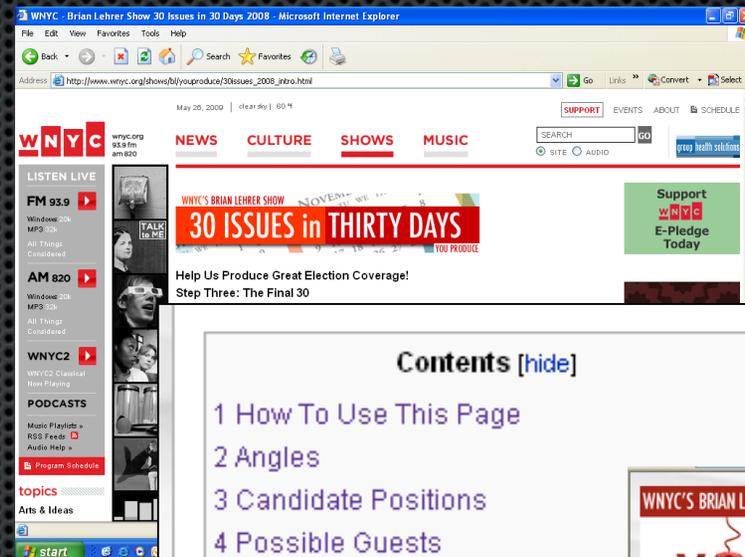
- Agency, university, industry collaborative pilot
- Connects volunteer scientists and technologists to Patent Office to aid with examination

Implementation

- Conduct public review of NIH-funded patentable inventions using structured, web-based system
- Group-based participation decreases workload

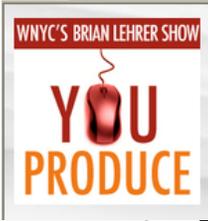
Open Government Platform

- Law and policy
- Process
- Technology



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TRANSPARENCY • PARTICIPATION • COLLABORATION

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Transparency and Open Government

Vivek Kundra, our Chief Information Officer, and Beth Noveck, Deputy Chief Technology Officer for Open Government, explain the Open Government Initiative

On January 21, 2009, his first full day in office, the President issued a [Memorandum on Transparency and Open Government](#) and called for recommendations for making the Federal government more transparent, participatory, and collaborative.

As Valerie Jarrett, Senior Advisor to the President says in the video below, we are proud "to announce an important next step in this historic call to action – one that will help us achieve a new foundation for our government – a foundation built on the values of transparency, accountability and responsibility."



GET INVOLVED

Participate in this 3-phase process, which will inform the crafting of recommendations on open government.

PHASE ONE: BRAINSTORM

Share your ideas recommendations on how to make government more open. Vote on proposed ideas or add your own.

PARTICIPATE

PHASE TWO: DISCUSS

Open Government Initiative

www.whitehouse.gov/open

Open Government Policymaking

- Brainstorming
- Discussion
- Drafting

On January 21, 2009, his first full day in office, the President issued a Memorandum on Transparency and Open Government and called for recommendations for making the Federal government more transparent, participatory, and collaborative.

As Valerie Jarrett, Senior Advisor to the President says in the video below, we are proud "to announce an important next step in this historic call to action – one that will help us achieve a new foundation for our government – a foundation built on the values of transparency, accountability and responsibility."



The Administration is committed to developing those recommendations in an open fashion. Consistent with the President's mandate, we want to be fully transparent in our work, participatory in soliciting your ideas and expertise, and collaborative in how we experiment together to use new tools and techniques for

PHASE ONE: BRAINSTORM

Share your ideas recommendations on how to make government more open. Vote on proposed ideas or add your own.

PARTICIPATE

PHASE TWO: DISCUSS

Dig deeper on the ideas and challenges identified during the Brainstorm phase.

BEGINS JUNE 3rd

PHASE THREE: DRAFT

Collaborate on crafting constructive proposals to address challenges from the Discussion phase.

BEGINS JUNE 15th

new idea +

Categories

All (685)

1. Transparency

- › Making Data More Accessible (67)
- › Making Government Operations More Open (114)
- › Records Management (36)

2. Participation

- › New Strategic Techniques (
- › New Tools and Technologies
- › Federal Advisory Committees (
- › Rulemaking (

3. Collaboration

- › Between Federal Agencies (12
- › Between Federal, State, and Local Governments
- › Public-Private Partnerships

Structured
Brainstorming

Some questions to consider in formulating ideas include:

- › How might the operations of government be made more transparent and accountable?
- › How might federal advisory committees, rulemaking or electronic rulemaking be better used to drive greater expertise into decisionmaking?
- › What alternative models exist to improve the quality of decisionmaking and increase opportunities for citizen participation?
- › What strategies might be employed to adopt greater use of Web 2.0 in agencies?
- › What policy impediments to innovation in government currently exist?
- › What is the best way to change the culture of government to embrace collaboration?
- › What changes in training or hiring of personnel would enhance innovation?
- › What performance measures are necessary to determine the effectiveness of open government policies?

Records Management

👍 Looks Promising!

16

👎 I'm Not So Sure...

Use the Federal Record Act (and the Budget Process) to Implement Effective Record Retention Policies

National Security Archive 1 day ago

To ensure meaningful advances in information disclosure under the new directive, the Obama administration must address the ongoing problem of electronic recordkeeping. Across the federal government, agencies do not have adequate systems to store and retrieve electronic records,

👍 Looks Promising!

34

👎 I'm Not So Sure...

Use existing library networks to implement increased transparency and promotion of greater use of information

Comments (0) | Records Management

21stCenturyR

Agencies' implementation should include : Depository Libraries across the country are positioned to help libraries for assist the public with services and re Federal agencies knowledgeable expanded use of federal government achieve those goals.

👍 Looks Promising!

6

👎 I'm Not So Sure...

Convene technology companies

OpenTheGovernment.org 1 day ago

CIO/CTO panel should convene a meeting of technology companies in order to prompt the market to develop a common, interoperable functionality for governmentwide use and versions that fit agency needs. To assure the technology companies that agencies will buy the system, there should be a date-certain mandate for agencies to have electronic record keeping systems in place, and penalties for agencies that fail to meet the deadline.

Comments (0) | Records Management

Looks Promising!

6

I'm Not So Sure...

Ban or open the no-fly list and surveillance list

gnu 4 days ago

DHS claims that hundreds of thousands of people are too dangerous to allow on airplanes, but too innocent to arrest. There should be NO people who fall into that category! Yet this abomination has persisted for most of a decade, largely because of its secrecy.

There is a second, more secret list, which are people who TSA lets airlines board as passengers, but the airlines must secretly report to the government every time they appear in an airport.

Open up the no-fly list. This remnant of McCarthyism should either be public, and should be challengeable in public by the individuals listed, under the Privacy Act -- or should be eliminated.

Eliminate the surveillance list. The government has no business spying on the travel habits of hundreds of thousands of Americans -- without warrants!

There should be no place in a transparent America for a secret "enemies list" of people who by some secret process have been banned from exercising basic civil rights like moving from one place to another in the country. Or who are considered suspicious merely because they are moving from place to place.

Comments (3) | [Records Management, dhs tsa no-fly surveillance](#)

Looks Promising!

22

I'm Not So Sure...

Require agencies to document key activities

lewisplan 4 days ago

Increasingly, government officials evade accountability by refusing to document their activities in written form, whether through memos, emails, fax logs, or whatever. Supervisors even forbid subordinates from sending them written materials. There should be a government-wide standard instructing agencies on what to document and preserve for the National Archives. There also should be a government-wide minimum time for preserving documents, whether in paper or electronic format.

Comments (0) | [Records](#)

[Management, records, documentation, preservation, creation, standard](#)

Looks Promising!

35

I'm Not So Sure...

"Declassify" Cheney's documents

lbaskett 5 days ago

As Vice President, Dick Cheney exchanged memoranda that he had stamped "treat as classified." The Vice President does not have the power to establish his own classification system, so no matter what the stamp says, these documents are NOT classified.

We request that Obama order the appropriate agency to weed out any justifiably classifiable information (sources and methods only) and publish ALL of the rest of Cheney's memoranda online.

Comments (1) | [Records Management, vice president, dick cheney, classification](#)

Looks Promising!

21

I'm Not So Sure...

Transform Federal Depository Libraries into regional data centers

solorzanomilton 5 days ago

If we're aiming for full transparency there's going to be a lot of data. And accompanying will be high-demand for book/document scanning, content management (tagging/annotation, normalizing data), and an overall scope that includes federal agencies scattered across the country. To help build a quick infrastructure to handle this work why not modernize the existing Federal Depository Library Program?

Establishing depository libraries as the local service center of government accessibility will require infrastructure investment (to update, make efficient library buildings) and technology resources (specialty scanning/printing machines, broadband lines, computers, etc). But if all 1,250 are turned into local reference points for government data, a few servers and data storage sites will reasonably accommodate a computing cloud architecture.

Decentralizing data collection and storage throughout the United States will allow for quicker, less burdensome, and hopefully more thorough content generation. At the very least, local librarians will have a sharper eye for local resources than a DC-based office. Also, duplicating online storage will hopefully prevent the sort of catastrophic data losses seen when a well-intentioned federal agency simply runs out of storage or accidentally deletes critical documents.

Open Government and Records Management

- Cloud Computing
- Search technologies and Unstructured information management
- Visualization
- Data Standards
- Incentives



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 2000 euros ▯ Haferman carpet ▯ actinium 227
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 356 ml ▯ 5th largest country ▯ synonyms of say
 12-7 ▯ weather NYC ▯ beta distribution ▯ [more »](#)

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- ▯ enter any date (e.g. a birth date)
june 23, 1988
- ▯ enter any town (e.g. a home town)
new york
- ▯ enter any two stocks
IBM Apple
- ▯ enter any calculation
\$250 + 15%
- ▯ enter any math formula
 $x^2 \sin(x)$

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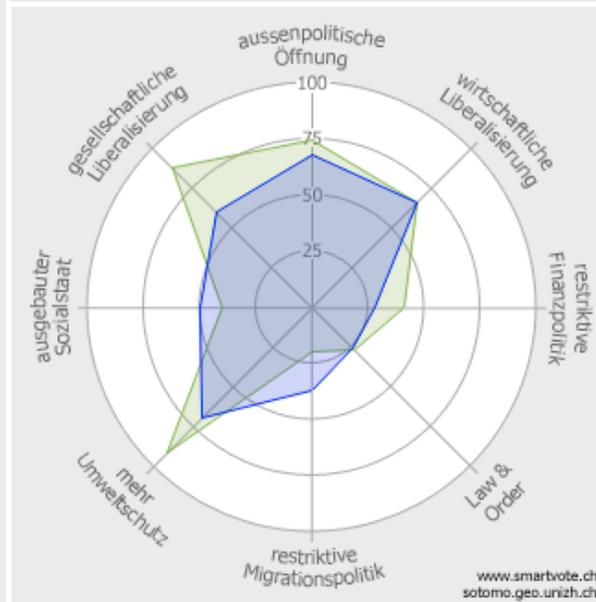
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LAYOUT: SQUARIFIED STANDARD

Analyse

smartspider smartvote Profil

Jacqueline Gasser-Beck



Kandidatur 14
Listenplatz 1 4
Jahrgang 1971
Heutiger Beruf Executive Director Master
Legal Studies; Universtät
St.Gallen

Lesehilfe
Der smartspider stellt das politische Profil anhand der smartvote-Daten dar. Er zeigt die Einstellungen in 8 Themenbereichen. Ein Wert von 100 bedeutet eine starke Zustimmung zum formulierten Ziel, 0 bedeutet keine Zustimmung. Details zur Berechnung finden sich unter www.smartvote.ch.

 Sie
 Die Kandidatin

PeoplePoint

fently

10 People | 4 Projects | 9 Topics

Sort by Relevance

Joel Fently
Chicago, IL

Top Reasons for Match

Name match:
Joel **Fently**

Body match:
Light The Way Ahead, J. **Fently**, Oct. 15, 2007

Laser Rangefinders Go The Distance, J. **Fently**, May 27, 2008

Non-visible Light Laser Rangefinders, J. **Fently**, August 8, 2008

Linked name matches:
Joel Fently Multiple links to

- Rick Takahawa Hollywood, CA
- Henry Cosgrove Chicago, IL
- Peter Shu Chicago, IL
- Rebekah Martin Hollywood, CA
- Larry Smith Chicago, IL
- Zahid Tanzarian Hollywood, CA
- Nicholas Gefz Hollywood, CA
- Brian Snow Chicago, IL

File Edit View Search Account Help Sign Out Rick Takahawa

History Joel Fently

Joel Fently

Overview Colleagues Expertise Shared Docs Change Log Notes

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Instant Messaging **jfently AIM**

Homepage <http://www.chronsengineering.com>

Position

Job Title **Vice President of Engineering**

Status **Current**

Organization/Location **Chronos Engineering**

Directorate

Division/Branch **Engineering/Technology**

Affiliation **Civilian**

Rank/Grade

Publication List

Lasers Light The Way Ahead, J. Fently, Oct. 15, 2007

Laser Rangefinders Go The Distance, J. Fently, May 27, 2008

Non-visible Light Laser Rangefinders, J. Fently

Picture

Photo URL <https://peoplepointsystems.com>

Current Projects

- Short Pulse Laser Rangefinder
- Short Pulse Laser Rangefinder - Software
- Short Pulse Laser Rangefinder - Hardware

Knowledgeable In

- Optical Lasers
- Laser range-finder
- Programming Language
- Computer Science
- Computer Engineering
- laser controlled munitions
- Laser Safety in the IR Spectrum

Owns

- Short Pulse Laser Rangefinder
- Short Pulse Laser Rangefinder - Software
- Spanish

Our Goal:

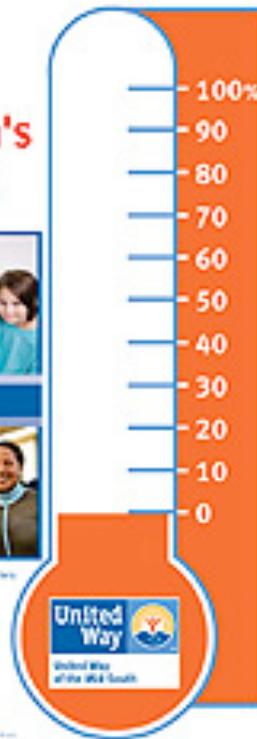
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