



Designing and Guiding Complex Collaborations:

Linking & Leveraging Expertise

An ORED / SIG Training Series to advance Team
Science

October 2020 | Mississippi State University



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“Team Science” vs. Collaboration



What Team Science isn't:

- A glorified group project
- Simply a collection of individuals with varying expertise or perspectives joining efforts
- Just another "large" project



It **IS** a coordinated effort by a group of stakeholders to achieve a comprehensive examination of a complex problem by leveraging both the individual and combined strengths of their unique, diverse perspectives and expertise.



Defining “Team Science” & Why it Matters



All about semantics:

- Convergent
- Transdisciplinary
- Cross-disciplinary
- Multi-disciplinary
- Integrated
- Collaborative

A "Team Science" project IS collaborative, but a Collaborative project doesn't necessarily employ "Team Science" Strategies



Funding & Team Science/Collaborative Projects

As we explore the "how to" part of identifying, linking, and leveraging assets for collaboration, consider both the benefits and requirements.....

- Outcomes for "greater good" beyond your discipline
- Voices for equity and equality
- Personal and professional growth and enrichment
- Funder mandates or incentives for collaboration is evaluated as part of review criteria
- Collaboration is integrated and demonstrated throughout the proposal and project



Housekeeping

- Session is being recorded
- Slides will be available
- Please remain muted
- Utilize the Chat Box (bottom right)
 - Interact with us
 - Ask questions

QUESTION...



Warm Up



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Warm Up

What are you streaming?

NETFLIX

hulu



Why do we need to collaborate?



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Need for Collaboration IN HIGHER ED

1. Required by funders
2. Trend is moving toward transdisciplinary programming
3. Addressing current challenges requires a networked approach



Need for Collaboration

Must
“think & act”
differently

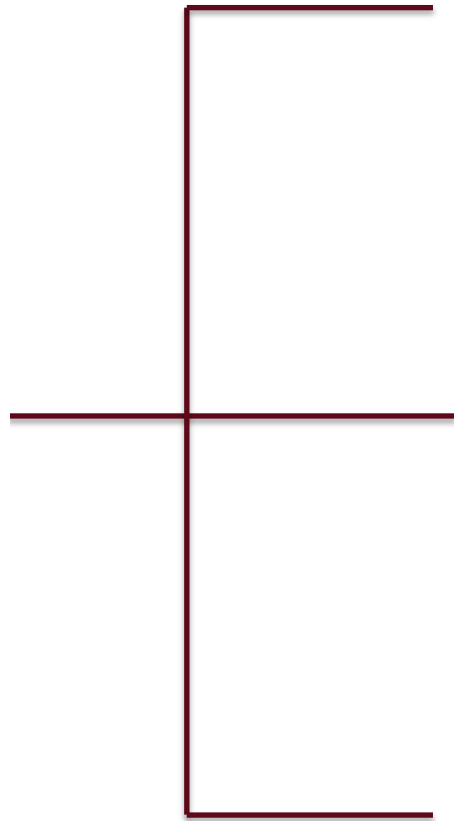


“Ok, we know we need to collaborate, but how do we do it?”



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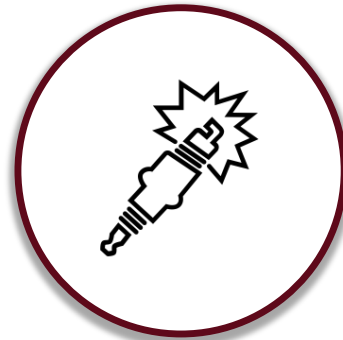
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Break down silos



Take collective action

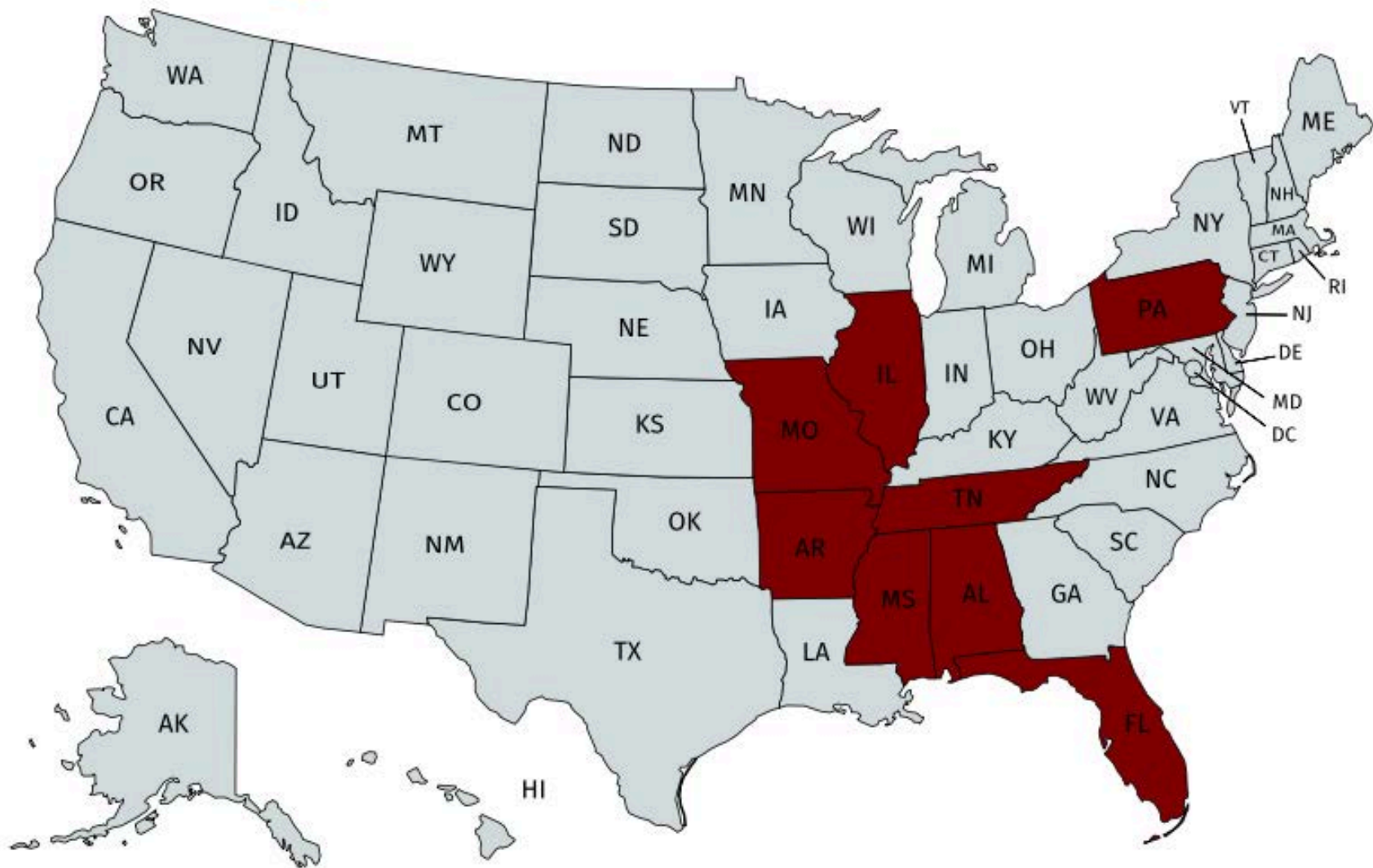


Create a spark



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Strategic Doing™

Strategic Doing is a tool that allows people to form action-oriented collaborations quickly, move them toward measurable outcomes, and make adjustments along the way.

Provides a platform for collaboration





Strategic Doing™

Do More Together.

THE 10 RULES OF STRATEGIC DOING

1. Create and maintain a safe space for deep, focused conversations
2. Frame a conversation around an appreciative question
3. Uncover hidden assets that people are willing to share
4. Link and leverage your assets to create new opportunities
5. Rank all your opportunities to find your "Big Easy"
6. Convert your Big Easy into an outcome with measurable characteristics
7. Define at least one Pathfinder Project with guideposts
8. Draft a short-term action plan with everyone taking a small step
9. Set a 30/30 meeting to review progress
10. Nudge, connect and promote relentlessly to build your new habits of collaboration

Learn more at strategicdoing.net!


DO NOT DISTURB
Strategy Happening

10 Rules (Skills)



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Collaboration Seminar Series

1 Creating a Space for Collaboration



Thursday, September 16 @ 2:00 p.m.

2 Linking & Leveraging Expertise



TODAY

3 Finding a Starting Point



Wednesday, October 21 @ 10:00 a.m.

4 Taking Collective Action



Thursday, November 12 @ 2:00 p.m.



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Session 2:

How do we
Link & leverage
expertise?



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Session 2: Link & Leverage Expertise

- 1. Uncover Hidden Assets**
- 2. Link and Leverage Assets**



1. Uncover Hidden Assets



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Uncover Hidden Assets

What is an asset?



Uncover Hidden Assets

Resources, knowledge, skills, abilities, etc.

Tangible

- Buildings
- Money
- Equipment
- Resources
- Meeting space

Intangible

- Knowledge
- Skills
- Abilities
- Relationships
- Networks
- Programs



Uncover Hidden Assets

What ingredients
to do we have in
the pantry?



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Uncover Hidden Assets

- **We only work with the resources that are within our control.**
- **Not a “Wish List”**
- **Must be actionable!**



Uncover Hidden Assets

Research Response Strategies



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Uncover Hidden Assets

Reactive

What assets/expertise do we have to respond to a specific call?

Research Call >> Assemble Assets



Uncover Hidden Assets

Reactive

What assets/expertise do we have to respond to a specific call?

Research Call >> Assemble Assets

Proactive

What issues can we tackle with our current assets/expertise?

Assemble Assets >> Identify Potential Research



Uncover Hidden Assets

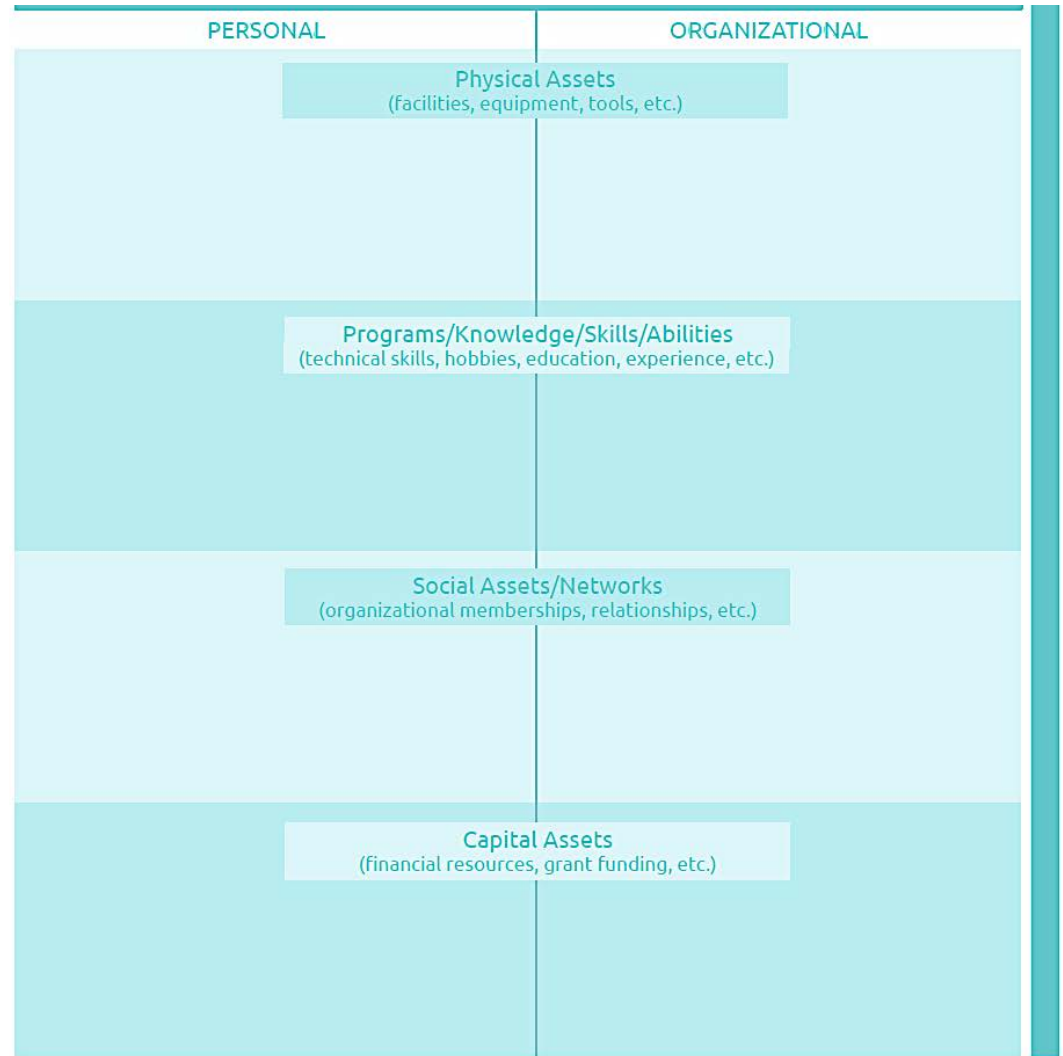
Be Intentional

What assets/resources are you willing to share in order to move this effort forward?



Uncover Hidden Assets

- Individually write your assets



Uncover Hidden Assets

- Sticky notes
- Flip charts
- Dry erase board
- Digital list



Uncover Hidden Assets

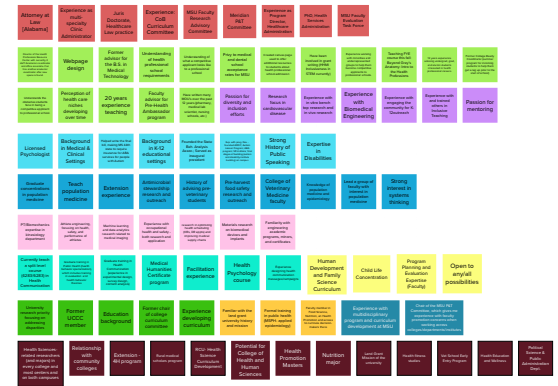


Online white board tool
Mural.co

Physical: facilities, equipment, tools, etc.



Programs, Knowledge, Skills, & Abilities: college programs, technical skills, education, experience, etc.



Social/ Networks: organizational memberships, relationships, etc.



Capital: financial resources, grant funding, etc.



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Uncover Hidden Assets



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- Existing assets on campus
- Potential research opportunities



Uncover Hidden Assets

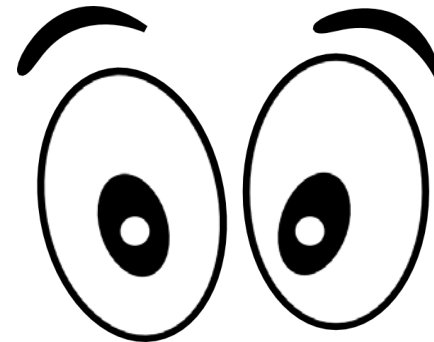
From a "proposal preparation" perspective...

Types of Assets

- Physical (labs, sites, classrooms, space, etc.)
- Clinical/tech/equip. (specialty-specific)
- Services (capacity, experience)
- Infrastructure (support structures)
- Human (expertise, skills, resource, stakeholder representation)

Who to ask/where to look...

- Departments/Colleges
- Centers/Institutes
- Library
- Service Units for full campus (ORED and sub-units)



2. Link & Leverage Assets



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Uncovering assets...



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Linking and leveraging assets leads to innovation



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Story:

The Aviator



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Pablo Figueroa makes the famous Caesar salad at Caesar's Restaurante Bar in Tijuana, Mexico, by mixing the dressing ingredients then gently rolling in the romaine lettuce leaves. (Eduardo Contreras / The San Diego Union-Tribune)



RECOMBINANT INNOVATION



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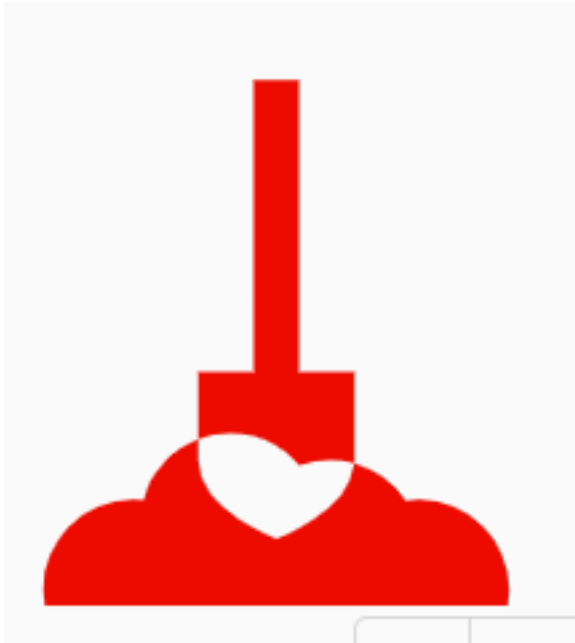
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Vertical Thinking



Dig the hole deeper

Horizontal Thinking



Dig the hole
somewhere else

VS



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UNCOVER NEW SOLUTIONS



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Linking and leveraging assets is a skill





Start with a small set of assets



Can they be combined?

What would it look like if?



Suspend evaluative instincts



Repeat with a new set of assets





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Link & Leverage Assets

- Flour
- Butter
- Milk



Place your answer(s) in the **Chat box**



Link & Leverage Assets

- Flour
- Butter
- Milk

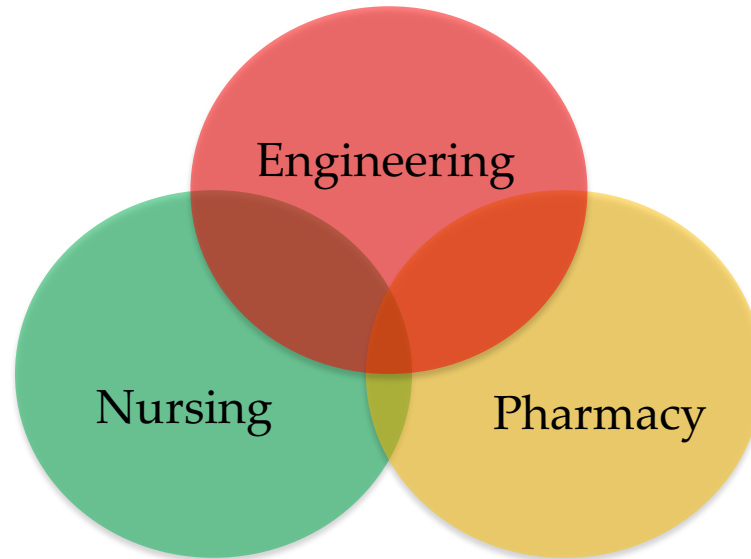


- Biscuits
- Cakes
- Cookies
- Brownies
- Pancakes
- Pizza dough



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FOR HEALTHCARE ENGINEERING



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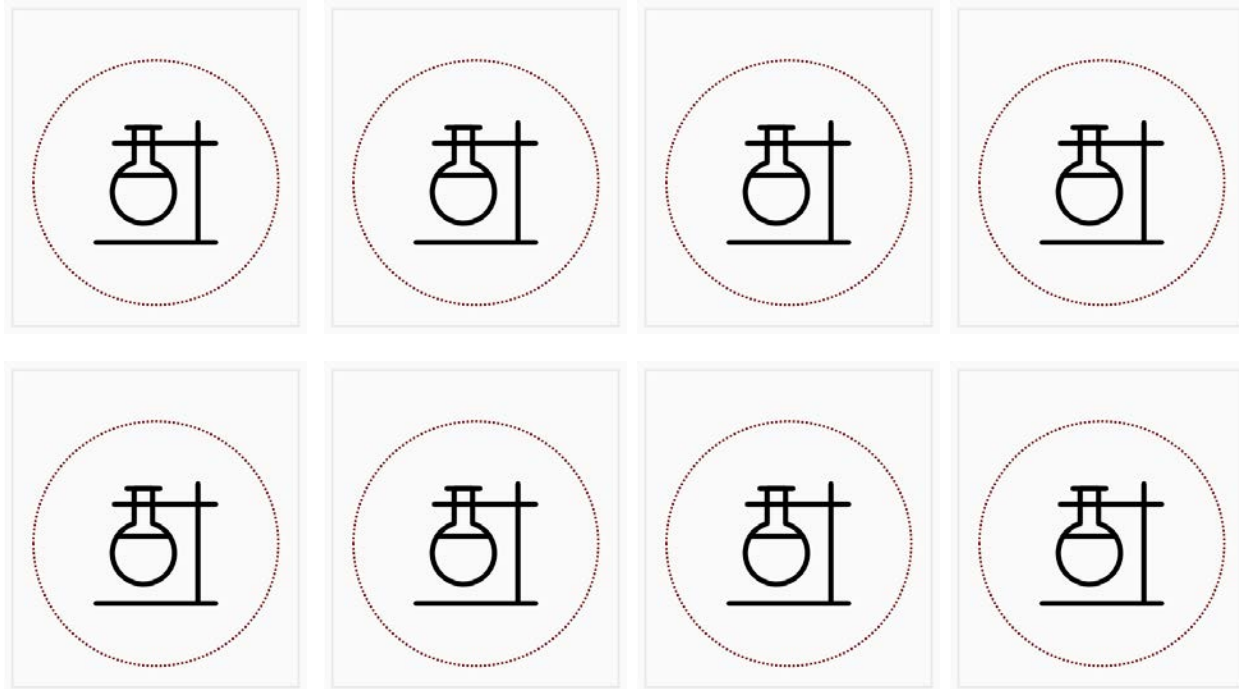
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FORUM



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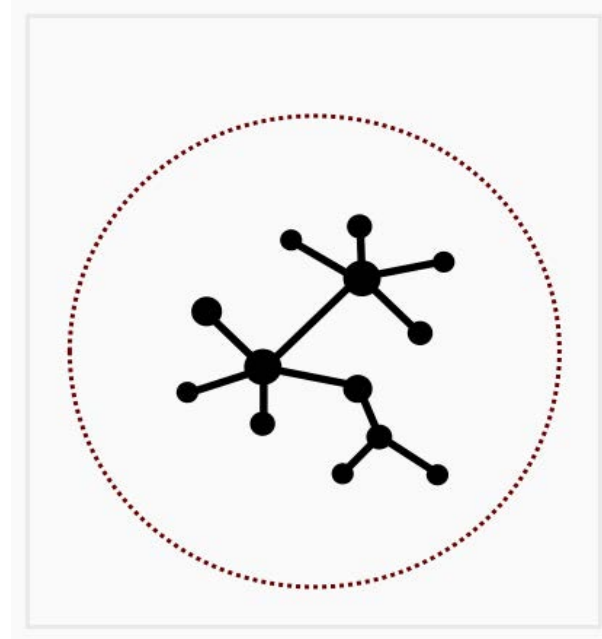
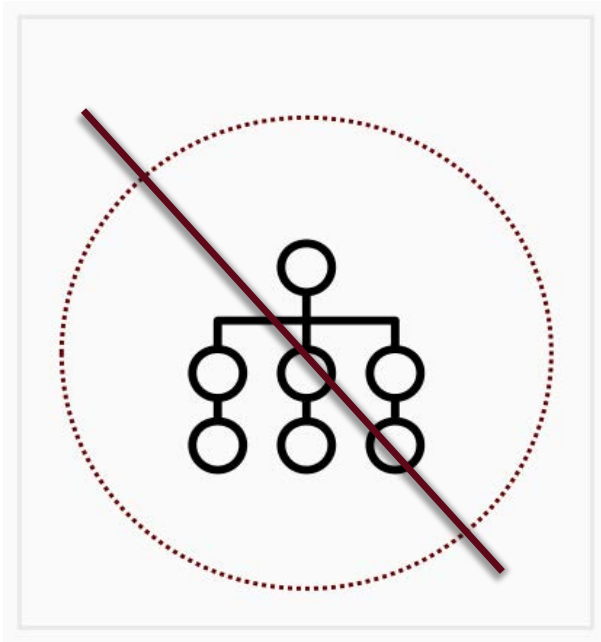
Complex challenges require
experimenting is many different options



Combing our assets in different ways allows us
to build our list of options



Solutions to complex challenges
will **NOT** be developed in silos



They will be designed in collaborative networks that
begin by linking and leveraging their assets



SAVE THE DATE!

Wednesday, October 21 @ 10:00 a.m.



Finding a Starting Point

Thursday, November 12 @ 2:00 p.m.



Taking Collective Action



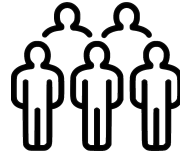
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How can we help you?



Break down walls



Take collective action



Create a spark

-
- **Help you do it!**
 - Facilitation, workshops, etc.
 - **Help you learn more about it!**
 - Strategic Doing training & certification



Demonstrating the Collaboration to Funders

Funders expect evidence of
successful collaboration

- Partnership agreements
- MOU/MOAs
- Management Plans
- Organizational Charts/Roles & Responsibilities
- Budget allocation

Funders expect evidence of
committed resources

- Letters of support and commitment
- Cost sharing/ matching
- Personnel qualifications





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