Scientific Values

04/03/23
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EDI Committee:
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Science Council:
Colin Bischoff *(he/him)* and Joel Meyers *(he/him)*

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Schedule

- Introduction (10 min)
  - Overview of goals and scope
  - Overview of potential values

- Breakout discussions by value (30 min)
  - Discuss value importance
  - Develop common definition

- Report back from breakouts + discussion (20 min)

Values and Vision Statement

- Reflects the core principles and ethics of our collaboration

- What we want to achieve and become in the future

- Can guide collaboration policy and activities

- Motivate and prioritize recommendations and changes to policy
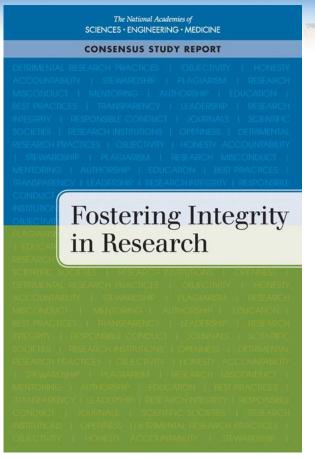
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Scope

- We want our Scientific Values statement to be holistic,

- Science goals and vision are a fundamental part of our collaboration values and vision, Today we want to iterate and gather feedback on these.

- Values are big umbrella ideas that many things fall under

- Values don't have to be things that we feel like we are achieving now→ they can be what we want to achieve

- We want to provide resources and support to uphold these values and have strong accountability

Today's Goals

1. Discuss and prioritize our scientific values

2. Develop shared definitions for our values

The Science Council will take your feedback from today and use it to develop a draft values and visions statement in collaboration with the EDI committee that we will present for feedback at the next collaboration meeting. EDI committee is open to all, and everyone is welcome to join the EDI meetings.

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Example:
The National Academy of Sciences/Engineering/Medicine

For the full report see:
https://nap.nationalacademies.org/catalog/21896/fostering-integrity-in-research

Our Collaboration Values

- The potential values we'll discuss today have been guided by and shaped by our past collaboration discussions, our code of conduct, and discussions with the collaboration leadership

- The list is long, so we want to understand which values are our top ~5 priorities

- These are meant to be a starting point

- If you feel anything is missing at the end of the discussion today, please reach out to the EDI committee → we are always open to suggestions and participation

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Potential Values (listed alphabetically)

- Accountability

- Critical Thinking

- Fairness

- Integrity (also a collaboration value)

- Stewardship

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Potential Values (listed alphabetically)

- **Accountability**

  Collaboration members take responsibility for their work and their personal / professional conduct. This is necessary so that we can rely on each other in a large and distributed project, where no individual person can keep track of everything. When working on individual or group tasks that impact the project, problems and delays are acknowledged so that solutions can be developed.

Potential Values (listed alphabetically)

- **Critical Thinking**

  We address problems by application of scientific methods and test our hypotheses. We will question the assumptions underlying existing ideas to ensure that they are valid. Ideas should not be blindly accepted just because they are put forth by someone in a position of authority, or ignored because they came from a junior member

Potential Values (listed alphabetically)

- **Fairness**

  All collaboration members should have opportunities to take on fulfilling roles within CMB-S4. Difficult responsibilities should be distributed equitably between members. Credit and other rewards should be given to people in recognition for the work that they have done.

Potential Values (listed alphabetically)

- **Integrity**

  We will be honest with each other, which is necessary for effective operation of the collaboration and project. We will be honest with people outside of CMB-S4, because the credibility of individual members reflects on the collaboration as a whole. Our shared goal is to discover scientific truth and this goal is hampered when data is fabricated or inconvenient facts are hidden.

Potential Values (listed alphabetically)

- **Stewardship**

  We will preserve our data and methods beyond the time period where they are immediately necessary. For a decades-long project like CMB-S4, it is necessary to develop archives that function as institutional memory, since some collaboration members will move on or retire while many new ones will join. Stewardship must continue beyond the lifetime of the project, since future scientists might discover new applications for CMB-S4 data and/or methods that have not yet been realized. Effort is required to ensure that records of CMB-S4 are accessible and useful.

Breakout Discussion Guidelines

- Pick which value speaks most to you and join the breakout room
  - If several values are important to you, consider joining a room with fewer people to help balance the room sizes
  - It is okay if some rooms end up empty

- Make sure that you are making room for others to join the conversation
  - Use the raise hand feature
  - Wait until two people have spoken before speaking again (unless asked something directly)

- Listen respectfully, without interrupting

- Listen actively and with an ear to understanding others' views

- Avoid assumptions or generalizations about identities. Do not ask individuals to speak for their (perceived) identity group.

Breakout Discussion Roles

- Facilitator
    - The facilitators are pre-assigned
    - Keep track of time and ensure that the discussion guidelines are followed

- Note-taker
    - Person with a last name closest to "J" (not the facilitator)
    - Take notes on the discussion in the pre-prepared documents (S4 edit permissions)
    - Capture the full definition of their value from the discussion

- Reporter
    - Person with the last name closest to "A" (not the facilitator or note-taker)
    - Will report the definitions and key discussion points back to the main group (~3 min)

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Breakout Discussion Assignment

1. What does your value mean?

    a. We have provided several potential definitions to get your group started.
    b. Develop one combined definition for your value from the parts of the provided definitions that speak to your group and your own definitions. Definitions should include 1) what the value means and 2) behaviors that are consistent with that value.

2. Why is this value important for our collaboration?

3. What will it look like if we get this right?

4. What does accountability look like in this area? What do we need to accomplish in this area?