

Recommendations



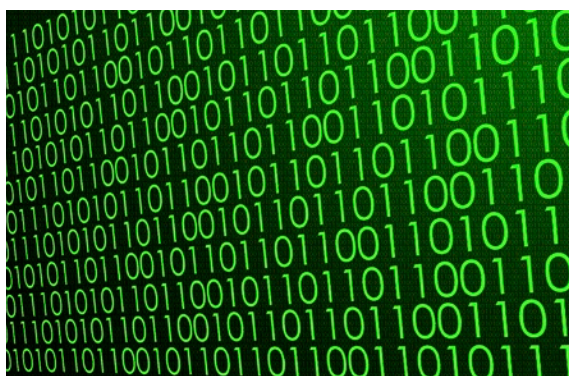
✓ *Open Access to Literature from Funded Research*

By "open access" to this literature, we mean that it should be on the internet in digital form, with permission granted in advance to users to "read, download, copy, distribute, print, search, or link to the full texts of articles, crawl them for indexing, pass them as data to software, or use them for any other lawful purpose, without financial, legal, or technical barriers other than those inseparable from gaining access to the internet itself."



✓ *Access to Research Tools from Funded Research*

By "access" to research tools, we mean that the materials necessary to replicate funded research - cell lines, model animals, DNA tools, reagents, and more, should be described in digital formats, made available under standard terms of use or contracts, with infrastructure or resources to fulfill requests to qualified scientists, and with full credit provided to the scientist who created the tools.



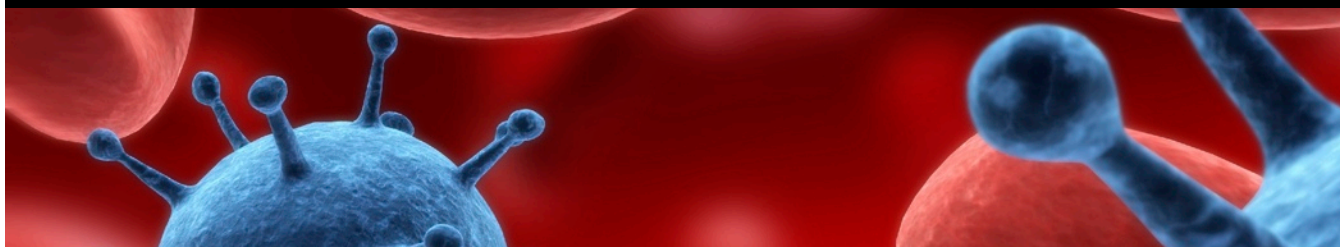
✓ *Data from Funded Research in the Public Domain*

Research data, data sets, databases, and protocols should be in the public domain. This status ensures the ability to freely distribute, copy, re-format, and integrate data from research into new research, ensuring that as new technologies are developed that researchers can apply those technologies without legal barriers. Scientific traditions of citation, attribution, and acknowledgment should be cultivated in norms.



✓ *Invest in Open Cyberinfrastructure*

Data without structure and annotation is a lost opportunity. Research data should flow into an open, public, and extensible infrastructure that supports its recombination and reconfiguration into computer models, its searchability by search engines, and its use by both scientists and the tax-paying public. This infrastructure should be treated as an essential public good.



Making the Web Work For Science

Science Commons has three interlocking initiatives designed to accelerate the research cycle — the continuous production and reuse of knowledge that is at the heart of the scientific method. Together, they form the building blocks of a new collaborative infrastructure to make scientific discovery easier by design.

Making scientific research “re-useful” — We help people and organizations open and mark their research and data sets for reuse.

Enabling “one-click” access to research materials — We help streamline the materials-transfer process so researchers can easily replicate, verify and extend research.

Integrating fragmented information sources — We help researchers find, analyze and use data from disparate sources by marking and integrating the information with a common, computer-readable language.

About Us

Science Commons is overseen by members of the Creative Commons board, including MIT computer science professor Hal Abelson; intellectual property experts James Boyle, Michael Carroll and Lawrence Lessig; and lawyer and documentary filmmaker Eric Saltzman.

Bioinformatics entrepreneur and metadata expert John Wilbanks directs the Science Commons project as Vice President of Science at Creative Commons.

We are guided in our work by a remarkable Scientific Advisory Board, including 2002 Nobel Laureate Sir John Sulston; the late Joshua Lederberg (1958 Nobel Laureate); renowned genomics and bioinformatics scientist Michael Eisen; prominent economist Paul David; and the distinguished patent law and biotech scholar, Arti Rai.

Science Commons is housed at and receives generous support from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, where we share space, staff and inspiration with the Computer Science and Artificial Intelligence Laboratory.



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