

## **The National Big Data R&D Initiative**

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Aiming to make the most of the fast-growing volume of digital data, in March 2012, the Obama Administration announced the “Big Data Research and Development Initiative.” By improving our ability to extract knowledge and insights from large and complex collections of digital data, the initiative promises to help solve some the Nation’s most pressing challenges. At the launch of the initiative, the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy (OSTP) and research funding agencies across the federal government (including the National Science Foundation, National Institutes of Health, Department of Energy, and many others) announced over \$200M in new funding opportunities for Big Data R&D.

Beginning in the second year of the National Big Data Initiative, the Administration encouraged multiple stakeholders including federal agencies, private industry, academia, state and local government, non-profits, and foundations, to develop and participate in Big Data innovation projects across the country. On November 12, 2013, dozens of public and private organizations met at a White House-sponsored “Data to Knowledge to Action” event to announce an inspiring array of Big Data related collaborations-- answering President Obama’s call for partnerships that can enhance national priorities, including economic growth and job creation, education and health, energy and sustainability, public safety and national security, and global development. In this talk, I will discuss some of the projects launched at the Data2Action their recent outcomes and achievements, focusing on interdisciplinary collaborations that focus on serving public and social good. I will also discuss new and continuing Big Data programs being planned by NSF and other agencies in support of Big Data in national priority areas in the next phase of the Initiative.