Mon 11/7/2011 1:56 PM

Comment on OSTP changes: public access to research data from federally funded research

I have the following comments regarding public access to research data from federally funded research:
 - Such data is important competitive intellectual capital of the US and its tax-payers and should be available for peer review, re-purposing, and re-use
 - Not all data is curate-able, re-usable and re-purposable; agencies should customize requirements based on the type of research proposed. This could be in the form of:
    -- A digital record in an Institutional Repository about the project, the data collected, the basic methodology, BUT not the actual data, rather a pointer to the PI for more information
    -- A curated, representative sample of the data, especially if the data is collected for a specific research purpose from constantly streaming sensor data (e.g. the Huble Telescope)
    -- Fully curated data sets for medium to small sized research projects.
 - There should be criteria for whether data from a project is required to be deposited in a national subject depository (e.g. genomic data) or in a local (e.g. university) data repository.
 - Standardized tool sets for collecting and preserving data and scientific workflows should be encouraged (guided?) by the specific agencies, such as the DataOne network for environmental data at the University of New Mexico.
Thank you,
Johann van Reenen
Professor and Associate Vice President, Research Initiatives
Office of the Vice President for Research
1 University of New Mexico
327 Scholes Hall, MSC 05 3480
Albuquerque, NM   87131