

# Teaching Survey and Data Science Outside the Regular Classroom

Frauke Kreuter

University of Maryland, U.of Mannheim

Atlanta 3/26/18

# Project coordinators and funding

Laura & John  
Arnold Foundation

U.S. National  
Science Foundation

SPONSORED BY THE



Federal Ministry  
of Education  
and Research



The project on which this report is based was funded by the Federal Ministry of Education and Research under the number [16OH22064]. Responsibility for the contents of this publication lies with the author.



## AAPOR Report on Big Data

AAPOR Big Data Task Force  
February 12, 2015

Prepared for AAPOR Council by the Task Force, with Task Force members including:

*Lilli Japek, Co-Chair, Statistics Sweden*  
*Franke Kreuter, Co-Chair, JPSM at the U. of Maryland, U. of Mannheim & IAB*  
*Marcus Berg, Stockholm University*  
*Paul Biemer, RTI International*  
*Paul Decker, Mathematica Policy Research*  
*Cliff Lampe, School of Information at the University of Michigan*  
*Julia Lane, American Institutes for Research*  
*Cathy O'Neil, Johnson Research Labs*  
*Abe Usher, HumanGeo Group*

Acknowledgement: We are grateful for comments, feedback and editorial help from Eran Ben-Porath, Jason McMillan, and the AAPOR council members.

The National Academies of  
SCIENCES · ENGINEERING · MEDICINE

CONSENSUS STUDY REPORT

# FEDERAL STATISTICS, MULTIPLE DATA SOURCES, AND PRIVACY PROTECTION

## Next Steps

# THE PROMISE OF EVIDENCE-BASED POLICYMAKING

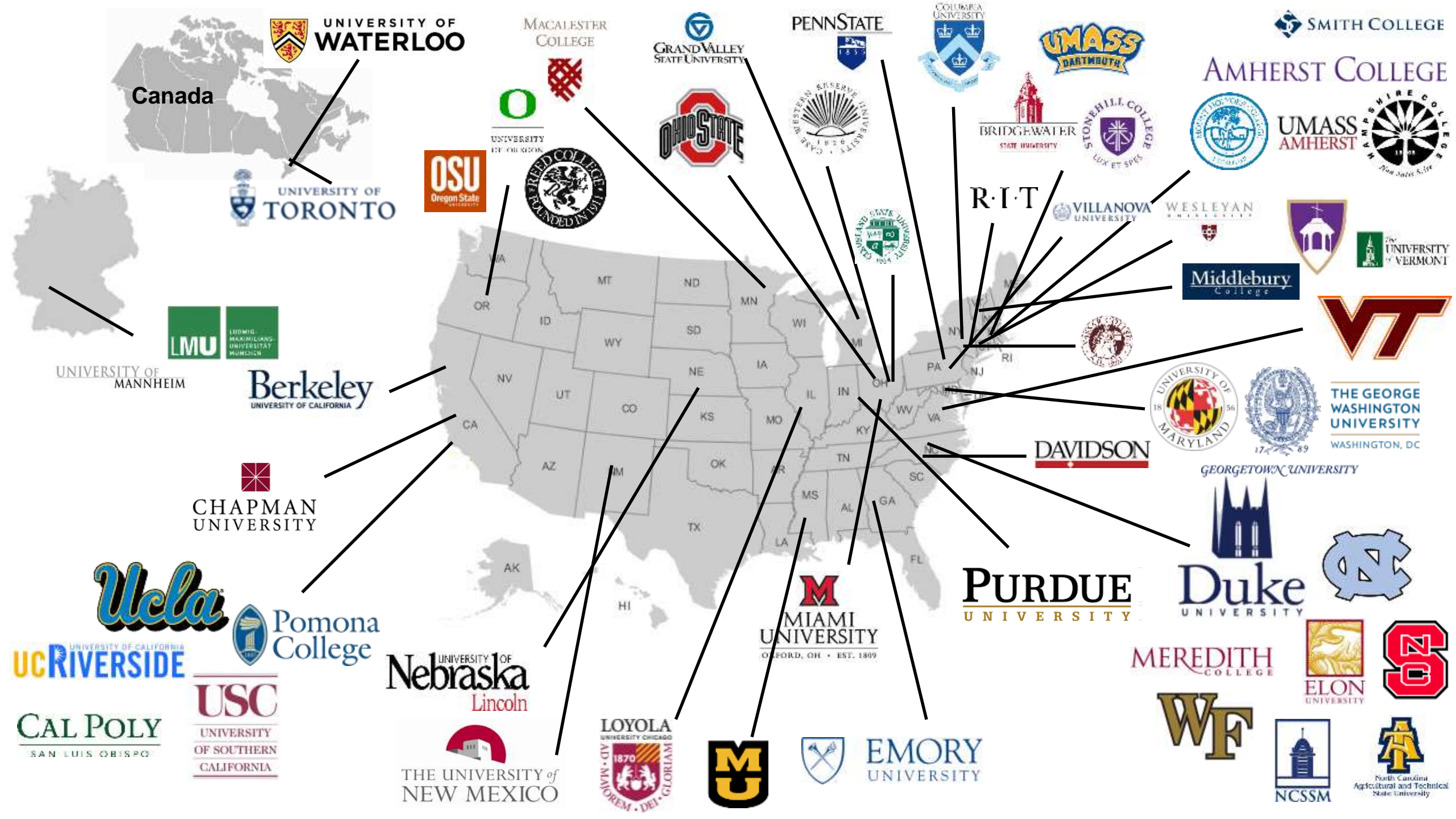
Report of the Commission on Evidence-Based Policymaking



1<sup>st</sup> Example – ASA DataFest







Canada

UNIVERSITY OF WATERLOO

MACALESTER COLLEGE

PENN STATE

SMITH COLLEGE

AMHERST COLLEGE

UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO

OSU Oregon State University

OHIO STATE

R-I-T

UMASS DARTMOUTH

UMASS AMHERST

LMU LEUDWIG MAXIMILIANS UNIVERSITÄT MÜNCHEN

UNIVERSITY OF MANNHEIM

Berkeley UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA

Middlebury College

CHAPMAN UNIVERSITY

DAVIDSON

PURDUE UNIVERSITY

Duke UNIVERSITY

Ucla

Pomona College

UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA Lincoln

MIAMI UNIVERSITY OXFORD, OH • EST. 1809

MEREDITH COLLEGE

ELON UNIVERSITY

UC RIVERSIDE UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA

USC UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

CAL POLY SAN LUIS OBISPO

THE UNIVERSITY OF NEW MEXICO

LOYOLA UNIVERSITY CHICAGO

MU

EMORY UNIVERSITY

WF

NCSSM

North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University

# ASA DataFest™

- Teams of 3-5 undergraduates
- Friday evening – Sunday afternoon
- One (unknown) data set
- Three winning categories:
  - Best insights
  - Best visualization
  - Best use of outside data
- **Best educational experience ever !**



2<sup>nd</sup> Example – Coleridge Initiative





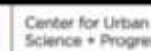
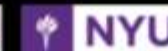
Training

Computing

Connecting

Mailing List

A collaboration  
presented by



# COLERIDGE INITIATIVE

Building the capacity needed to accelerate the effective use of new data.

“Data, data everywhere, we have to stop and think  
*with apologies to the Rime of the Ancient Mariner*”

## UPCOMING TRAINING PROGRAMS

**Spring 2018**  
Kansas City, MO

Application Closed

**Summer 2018**

Apply by May 11, 2018

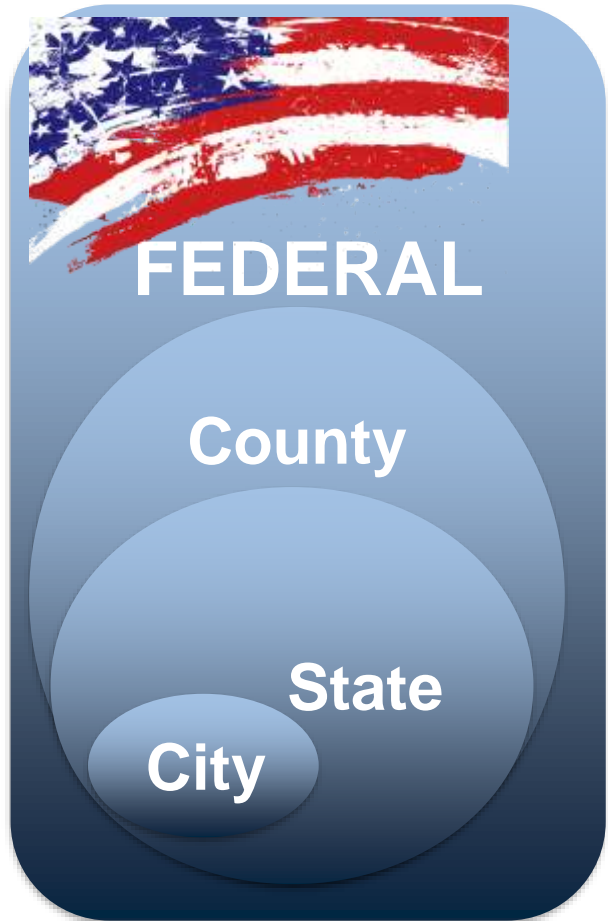


Program directors Rayid Ghani, Frauke Kreuter, and Julia Lane are also co-editors of “Big Data and Social Science: A Practical Guide to Methods and Tools.”, the text book for the class.

# Approach: hands-on with real microdata



# The first classes brought together ~40 agencies from city, state, county and federal agencies



# Modules

Data Output/Access

Data Analysis

Data Curation/Storage

Data Generating Process

Research Question

Learn how to communicate results, distribute and store your data; Ethics

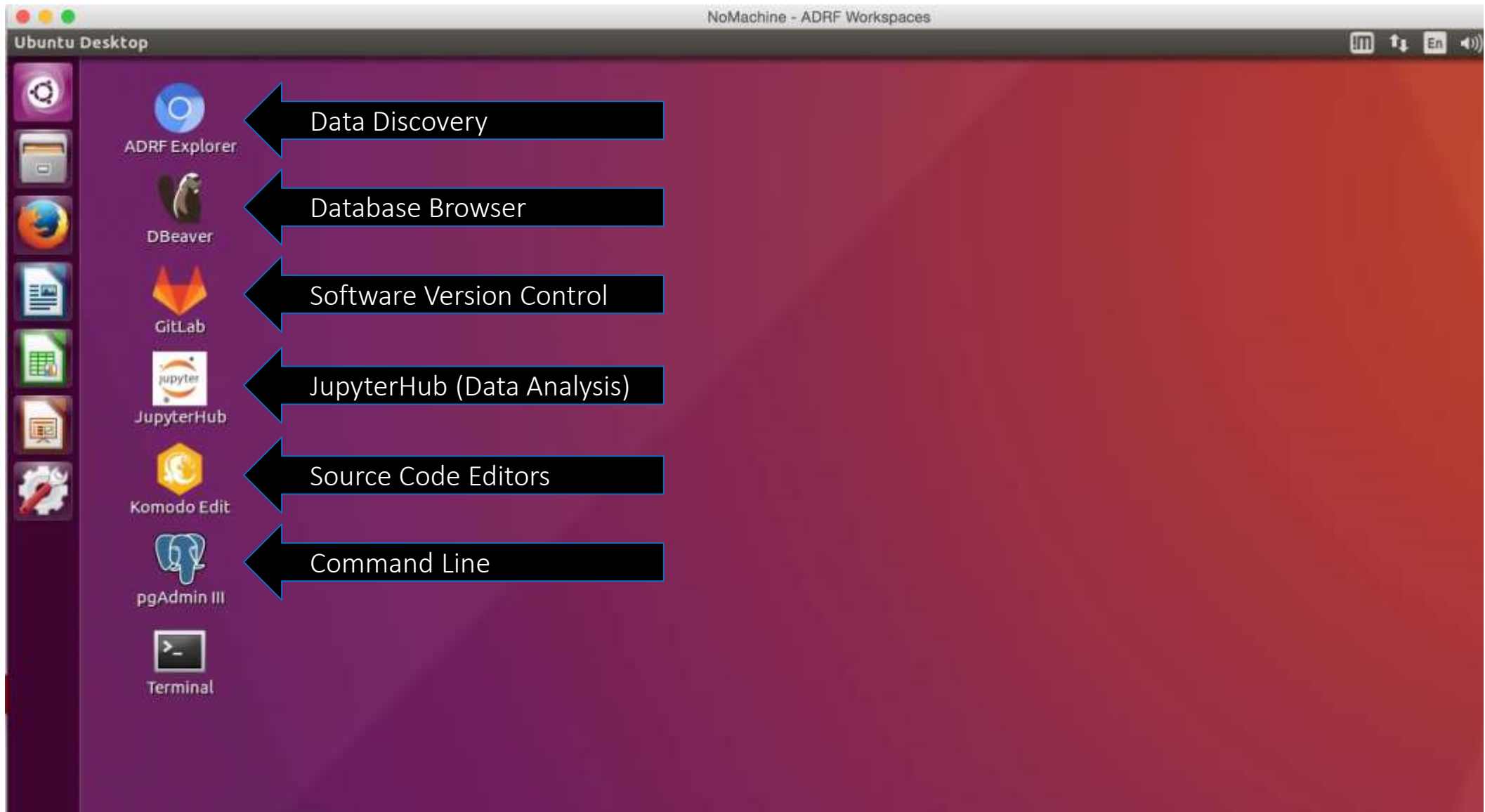
Apply machine learning, text and network analysis

Learn how to curate, manage and link complex data

Understand how to collect data, and how data are generated through administrative and processes.

Learn how to formulate the research goal, and which data are best suited to achieve this goal

# Collaborative and Secure Environment





# What our participants say about the program

*"Love the Jupyter notebooks!! ... I love how the code snippets and explanations are set up in the Jupyter notebooks. The format of going through it individually and discussing questions/challenges in your group, with the experts available when needed, worked really well for my learning style."*

*I could see our agency benefiting potentially from something like this in that, as the system builds out and collects additional resources/datasets that impact criminal justice system practices, this may be an option for a place for us to look for the results of studies using evidence based practices.*



Danielle Fulmer  
Director of Business  
Analytics



Katy Fitzgerald  
Management Analyst



3<sup>rd</sup> Example –  
International Program  
in Survey and Data Science



# INTERNATIONAL PROGRAM IN SURVEY AND DATA SCIENCE

offered through the University of Mannheim and the Joint Program in Survey Methodology (Universities of Maryland and Michigan, Westat)

[BE PART OF IT](#)



We are pleased to announce the launch of the International Program in Survey and Data Science (IPSDS). Fundamental changes in the nature of data, their availability, the way in which they are collected, integrated, and disseminated are a big challenge for all those working with designed data from surveys as well as organic data. IPSDS was developed in response to the increasing demand from researchers and practitioners for the appropriate methods and right tools to face these changes. We offer a multidisciplinary curriculum, world-class faculty, and a web-based learning environment that allows you to take courses from anywhere in the world.

# Problem we tried to solve – In brief

- Allow for multidisciplinary curriculum
- Modularized – adapt to prior skills and work needs
- Relevant methods and tools
- Mix of faculty from academia and industry

Key elements:

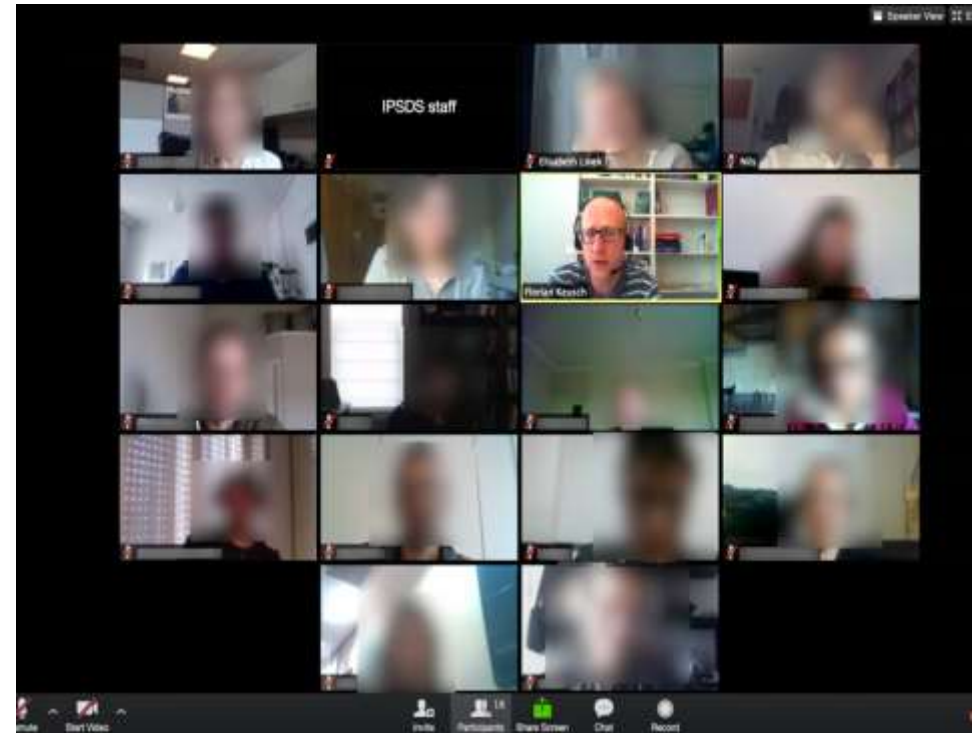
- Flexible web-based learning environment
- Live (video) interaction with faculty and students
- Face-to-face networking meetings



# Mix of asynchronous and synchronous formats



- Pre-recorded lectures (small video units)
- (Bi)weekly assignments
- Discussion forums



- Small virtual classrooms
- Weekly 50-minute discussions with instructor
- Obligatory component



# Data Output/Access

min.  
3 credits/  
6 ECTS

Ethics  
1 credit/2 ECTS

Data  
Confidentiality and  
Statistical  
Disclosure Control  
2 credits/4 ECTS

Visualization  
2 credits/4 ECTS

# Data Analysis

min.  
6 credits/  
12 ECTS

GLM  
3 credits/6 ECTS

Analysis of  
Complex Data  
3 credits/6 ECTS

Propensity  
Score/Statistical  
Matching  
3 credits/6 ECTS

Machine Learning  
I-III  
1 credit/2 ECTS  
each

Text Analysis  
1 credit/2 ECTS

# Data Curation/Storage

min.  
3 credits/  
6 ECTS

Database  
Management  
3 credits/6 ECTS

Data Munging I-III  
1 credit/2 ECTS  
each

# Data Generating Process

min.  
4 credits/  
8 ECTS

Data Collection  
3 credits/6 ECTS

Record Linkage  
1 credit/2 ECTS

Practical Tools for  
Sampling and  
Weighting  
3 credits/6 ECTS

Applied Sampling  
3 credits/6 ECTS

Experimental  
Design  
3 credits/6 ECTS

# Research Question

min.  
3 credits/  
6 ECTS

Fundamentals of  
Survey and Data  
Science  
3 credits/6 ECTS



# Lessons Learned

- Learning with application at hand is key
- Teams can quickly overcome shortcomings
- Modular approach much appreciated by working professionals
- Privacy and confidentiality very important
- Hardest to learn and hardest to teach:  
[Asking the right question!](#)

<https://ww2.amstat.org/education/datafest/>

<http://coleridgeinitiative.org>

<http://survey-data-science.net/>

[fkreuter@umd.edu](mailto:fkreuter@umd.edu)

Contact me if you want to host locally or become a partner