

Partnerships for Broader Impacts Design: **What we've learned so far**

NABI 2019



Institute for Learning Innovation





WISCONSIN

Cornell University.







Project Overview

Develop and test a flexible framework that builds durable institutional relationships around shared mission of connecting public audiences with the STEM research happening in their communities.

Experimental development of Broader Impacts Design (BID) teams that function across organizations and draw in other expertise from the community.



Key Activities

Identify common attributes of HEI/ISE partnerships

Develop, test, and disseminate tools and resources

Work iteratively with broader BI community to refine the new framework



Project Goals

- Support durable institutional partnerships
- Support better BI experiences in the community
- Support better BI proposal components submitted to NSF
- Identify ways to aggregate BI activities
- Improve ways to collect and measure collective impact of BI efforts
- Increase PI's and HEI's perceived value of outreach



Tools





Tools

- Mapping/self-inventory
- Menu
- CRM



Reports from the Field

Cornell University and Sciencenter

Ithaca, NY



Reports from the Field

Wisconsin Institutes for Discovery and University of Wisconsin, Madison

Madison, Wisconsin



We were wrong! And that's a good thing.

- 1. It is wrong to expect that Principal Investigators will be compelled to organize their own BI activities around the community engagement priorities of their home organization.
- 2. It is wrong to imagine that individual actors are merely an extension of their organizations.
- 3. It is wrong to think that there is any linear process organizations will go through as they establish or strengthen a partnership.



We want to learn from you

The following are well-recognized challenges around BI support. At your organization, which of these have you addressed? How have you approached the effort?

- Individual PIs don't have the expertise or capacity to develop high-impact broader impacts resources
- Those who are motivated to develop more involved activities are working in isolation; when partnerships or activities arise, they quickly fall away when individuals move on to new roles.
- There is no collective evaluation or awareness of BI across an institution
- PIs often reach out to potential partners very last minute, when it is too late to develop something meaningful
- Partners (often ISEs) don't necessarily have the forethought to have mapped out idea projects, and so they sign on for partnerships that don't actually support their institution's goals or strategy
- Likewise, HEI organizations may have "community engagement" goals, but BI is rarely used as a mechanism for driving towards these goals
- On campuses where BI support does exist, it is often a) again linked to individual graduate students who move on b) linked to a specific department/hard to find c) not obviously supported by institutional leadership or linked to P&T.





