

Government 2.0, Anil Dash, Expert Labs

Dash: not a scientist, dashes.com (10 years), career advocating for blogs, started out when there was 100 blogs and thought he was too late, we feel like everything has already been covered and there's nothing to contribute, government is the same way.

Things changed 01/20/2009 when whitehouse set up a blog. So what's next? Government is the most interesting startup of 2009.

Expert Labs: to help policy makers crowdsource their questions to the public at large, got money from MacArthur foundation, but needed legitimacy (AAAS), intersection of science government and tech,

Terminology: Policy Innovation Network (PIN), Incubator for Technology/Think Tank, different ideas of these things in different cultures, translating between communities,

Peer Review: blogs/social media innately provides peer review, internet/web was designed to publish and share research

Newspapers: if they had defined their goal as enabling an informed public, and focused on that online, they might be doing better today.

Open Research: need to define the goal, need to translate for policy makers, scientists cannot be myopic and communicate only with each other

Organizations: Sunlight foundation, data.gov, PLoS, National Lab Day (Educate to Innovate) – best science experiments get to come to a science fair on the grounds of the White House.

Government organizations are going to be required to publish open access.

OSTP.gov: asked for comments, really didn't get any, was this because they were asking for soundbite responses? (They weren't, I posted lengthy responses) (Slashdot wouldn't carry the story)

Increasing Science Power: Improving Science Policy

Indifferent to Science/AntiScience agenda has all the money.

How do we turn resource constraint into an opportunity? Silicon Valley startups succeed because they have no money, thus they innovate more strongly.

Experts are out there, but they don't have the time and resources to take part. Soliciting help.

<http://expertlabs.org>

How do you test an expert? A: We don't know, we don't determine credentials, it's the old Wikipedia debate. Collapsing letter-writing campaigns into a single view.

Policy Makers Ask Questions That Have Answers: They just don't know how to phrase the questions.

WhiteHouse offering gold stars for answering questions is a great incentive, even to tenure professors.

Why not limit expert labs to a credential? A: Some questions are not about science. Obligation as civic society to hear all voices. Aiming to build large diverse community of people, as messy as that is.

PLoS: impact factor(?)

OSTP are web savvy, but not all experts are.

New York City: people were helping out 14 months ago, but nobody's helping today, they just want their stuff.

Copy and Paste Widget: Open Access SomethingorOther?

Can't be afraid of shameless self-promotion.