How Big Data is Driving the Next Wave of E-Government Innovation

Daniel Castro, Director, Center for Data Innovation

Daniel Castro is the director of the Center for Data Innovation. He is also a senior analyst with the Information Technology and Innovation Foundation. His research focuses on information technology policy including data privacy, information security, e-government, electronic voting, and accessibility for people with disabilities. Mr. Castro previously worked as an IT analyst at the Government Accountability Office where he audited IT security and management controls at various government agencies. In 2013, Mr. Castro was named to FedScoop's list of "Top 25 most influential people under 40 in government and tech."

Ariel Gold, Program Manager for Open Data for the World Wide Public Sector, Amazon Web Services

Ariel Gold is the Program Manager for Open Data for the World Wide Public Sector of Amazon Web Services (AWS), and is responsible for the AWS global strategy on open data. Ariel is passionate about making government work better through technology, and working across traditional organizational boundaries to drive big outcomes. Prior to working at AWS, Ariel served as a consultant and strategist with the Touchstone Consulting Group and SRA International, with primary client work in the Office of the U.S. Chief Information Officer. In this capacity, she played a lead role in the development and execution of strategic initiatives including the Digital Government Strategy and Open Data Policy. Other experience includes work with the White House Office of the Chief of Staff and U.S. Department of State, as well as field research and advanced language study in Latin America and the Middle East.

Eric Knutson, Senior Product Marketing Manager, Sitecore

Eric Knutson recently joined the Sitecore Product Marketing team focusing on Email, Analytics, Reporting and Testing products. He has held other product marketing roles at companies including Exact (ERP), Eloqua (Marketing Automation) and EMC (Content Management) where he was responsible for launching new products, competitive analysis and PR/AR. Eric's expertise pertains to how personal data can be better optimized by government institutions to improve the delivery of services and programs, and in turn improving citizen satisfaction. He has an International MBA in Marketing and Spanish from York University (Toronto) and an Honors BA in French Language and Literature (London, ON).

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Dr. Taha Kass-Hout, Chief Health Informatics Officer, FDA

Taha Kass-Hout has over sixteen years of experience in health, public health, and informatics. He has experience providing long and short-term strategic, operational, and tactical planning activities for the public and private sector. He is credited with launching the first Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) program hosted completely in the Internet Cloud, in alignment with the White House Cloud Initiative. Taha holds a Doctor of Medicine degree from the University of Texas Health Sciences Center at Houston, and a Master of Science from the University of Texas, School of Public Health, Department of Biostatistics. In addition, he has had clinical training at Harvard's Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center and the University of Texas Health Sciences Center at Houston.

Peter Schmidt, Executive Director, Oracle

Peter is responsible for application strategy across the health insurance and provider markets. Setting direction for Oracle in health insurance, Peter led the effort to introduce a new claims adjudication system in the United States market. He is recognized as a global leader in the health space and his expertise has been leveraged by the World Healthcare Organization in the efforts to modernize healthcare in Africa and South America. Peter has actively worked on the National Data Transparency Act in the House and Senate and with Presidential Staff. He has an undergraduate degree from the University of South Dakota and his Master of Business Administration degree from Robert Morris University.

Dean R. Silverman, Director of Office of Compliance Analytics, IRS

Mr. Silverman currently is Senior Advisor to the Commissioner at the IRS and lead executive for the Office of Compliance Analytics. He joined the IRS in January 2011 in response to the Commissioner's priority to add data-driven analytic expertise and new thinking to core compliance activities. Since then, he has helped the IRS substantially reduce fraud and improper payments, close the Tax Gap, and build a more data-driven decision-making culture. Prior to the IRS, Dean spent more than 25 years leading a series of strategy consulting firms known for analytic innovation and the development of value-driven corporate and business strategies. Dean has served on numerous Boards of Directors, was a Senior Advisor at Oliver Wyman, as well as an assistant professor at the University of North Carolina, at both the MBA and undergraduate levels. Dean holds a B.A., summa cum laude, from Yale and a J.D. from the Columbia University School of Law.