Request for Information (RFI) on an Implementation Plan for a National Artificial Intelligence Research Resource: Responses

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Responses from Dr. Sean Ekins, CEO, Collaborations Pharmaceuticals, Inc.

question 1

A. yes - set some goals, preferably attainable ones that will matter for the nation and not get undercut every 4 years if the government changes.

B. Yes - I would have thought about this and decided upon it before starting.

C. Yes - you should have done that already - the last thing you need are 20-30 organizations arguing over it.

D. Yes – I would spend the most time and effort on this - This is the reason a national AI resource should exist.

E. Yes - if the data is funded by government, it should be open full stop - there should be no barriers to data, if there are, defund the agency.

F. No - This should absolutely be done independently.

G. No - again this should be assessed by an independent agency.

H. No - if you are going to set something up like this then it is going to need a decades long horizon..This is not something you fund for a few years and then expect to be self funding if this is going to be so critical to the nation's infrastructure. The last thing this needs is private funding or partnerships. The last thing this needs is a Facebook, Google, Microsoft or others involved - This is for the nation and its long term outlook and not for some companies to direct and profit off.

I. No - It has a reason to exist I would not spend effort in justifying existence.

question 2
Question 3
For one make sure that from the outset the people involved with setting it up are actually not all old white men.

Question 4
You do not have to look far, EPA, NIH are great places to start. I am pretty sure that if there is money to be spread around you will get enough academics and companies running to have a seat at the table.

Question 5
None. No partnerships. Create the resources so anyone can access data and hardware. Companies should have no preferred access any more so than any other individual or organization in the country.

Question 6
As soon as you get companies involved it will be seen as tainted and not democratic. If anyone can use and access the facilities it should be a level playing field, Ivy league schools do not get priority over other schools, billion-dollar companies do not get any more priority than a small start-up and the individual citizen has to have as much right to access as anyone from a large organization.