Brief Bio and (PR)$^2$: Problems & Pitches – Rants & Raves by Kevin Boyack

Self Introduction

Brief Biography
Kevin W. Boyack has been with SciTech Strategies (www.mapofscience.com) since 2007, and assumed the responsibilities of President in 2010. Previously, he spent 17 years at Sandia National Laboratories where he worked in various areas including combustion (experimental and modeling), transport processes, socio-economic war gaming, and science mapping. Since joining SciTech, his work has centered on developing a more accurate and predictive global model of science while conducting large scale comparisons of competitive approaches. He has published over 25 articles on topics within science visualization, model validation and metrics.

Publications

Current Projects
- Measuring research leadership (countries and institutions)
- Identifying emergent opportunities in science
General Questions

1) What is (are) your main interest(s) in attending the workshop?
To brainstorm what type of standards are even possible in terms of science metrics, classification and mapping. If we find possibilities, then decide what is needed, and then discuss if it is worth promoting such a set of standards.

2) Please list standards that are missing in your work.
All of the following are assumed, but there are no uniform standards. Different people use different assumed standards.
- acceptability of various data sources
- completeness of various data sources
- level of completeness needed for metrics, analysis, mapping, etc.
- acceptability of protocols and workflows
- value and use of various metrics
- accuracy, validity … of everything we use and do
- etc.

3) Please list standards that are most useful in your work.

4) What would you like to learn / achieve at the workshop?
I’m skeptical that we can make significant progress on anything related to standards in this area. Part of the reason for this is that each company and research team creates a set of de facto standards, and then promotes them through products and publications. These differing de facto standards are part of what sets each group apart, part of what creates their markets for products and/or research findings. Standards tend to mitigate market differentiation. Thus, most standards (that are actually used) are pre-competitive in nature. It will be interesting to see if we can find a balance between the notions of ‘pre-competitive’ and ‘differentiating’ at this meeting.