

Digital Civics, Fall 2018

Week 10: Collaboration, Transparency and Trust



Prof. Narges Mahyar



Open Government

Transparency, Collaboration, and Participation in Practice

Edited by
Daniel Lathrop
& Laurel R. T. Ruma

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Lathrop, Daniel, and Laurel Ruma. Open government: Collaboration, transparency, and participation in practice. " O'Reilly Media, Inc.", 2010.

Open government, open society

- ▶ Open government should expand its agenda and become a movement to open Society.
- ▶ Transparency must be applied across all of society, not just government.
- ▶ They should build on the lessons of IT-enabled social networks to create responsive, evolving, and vibrant transparency platforms.

Archon Fung and David Weil, “Open Government, Open Society” Chapter 8 of Collaboration, Transparency, and Participation in Practice, 2010. PP: 105-114.

“The magic of open data is that the same openness that enables transparency also enables innovation, as developers build applications that reuse government data in unexpected ways..”

Lathrop, Daniel, and Laurel Ruma. Open government: Collaboration, transparency, and participation in practice, 2010. P.25

Build a simple systems and let it evolve

- ▶ “A complex system that works is invariably found to have evolved from a simple system that worked. The inverse proposition also appears to be true. A complex system designed from scratch never works and cannot be made to work. You have to start over beginning with a working simple system.”

John Gall , Systemantics: How Systems Work and Especially How They Fail, John Gall, Quadrangle, 1977.

Code for America



https://www.ted.com/talks/jennifer_pahlka_coding_a_better_government#t-44305

Open government must appeal & embrace everyone's values

- ▶ The advance of more collaborative, transparent, and participatory government must embrace all of society's values, including privacy.
- ▶ Open government will succeed only if it appeals to the widest possible audience, including skeptics of government, opponents of any given administration, and people who do not trust technology.

Lathrop, Daniel, and Laurel Ruma. Open government: Collaboration, transparency, and participation in practice. " O'Reilly Media, Inc.", 2010.

Open government means combining participation and collaboration with transparency

Beth Noveck | TEDGlobal 2012

Demand a more open-source government

of 2009, at the start of the Obama Administration,



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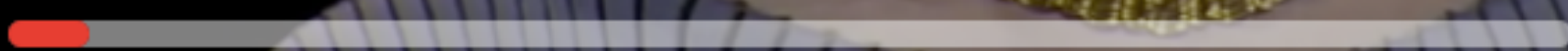
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https://www.ted.com/talks/beth_noveck_demand_a_more_open_source_government/transcript?language=en#t-1002848

“...teaching young people that we live, not in a passive society, a read-only society, but in a writable society, where we have the power to change our communities, to change our institutions.”

Beth Noveck

Visitor on Nov 16th: Amy X. Zheng

- ▶ Amy's talk: CSSI lunch seminar, Nov 16, 12:30-2pm
- ▶ <http://people.csail.mit.edu/axz/>



Check in and upcoming deadlines

- ▶ 3 weeks until project report due (Nov 30)
- ▶ Next week: reflection on feedback