Engaging Critical Stakeholders

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MCBK Annual Meeting

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My Perspective (and Biases)

• Academic health sciences librarian for ~ 35 years; since ’07 as Director and/or Assoc. Dean
• Scholarship in “spanning boundaries” between library and informatics work
• Career forged in activism:
  • originally around HIV/AIDS, then
  • equitable access to information, then
  • **social justice**
More Biases...

- "Mobilizing" part of MCBK is why I am here
- Committed to engaging a broad spectrum of stakeholders
- Happy to "disrupt" to insure equity
- CBK = force for good; can also be used unintentionally/intentionally to perpetuate discrimination (see work of S Noble, USC Annenberg School, et al)
Who Are “Critical” Stakeholders?

- Patient advocacy groups:
  - Don’t underestimate!
- Policy makers:
  - “Algorithmic Accountability Act” US House legislation (4/19)
- Social media thought leaders
- Journalists
- Open Access advocates, society and commercial publishers
- Libraries (not just academic health sciences)
  - Ex. All of Us and public libraries
Skeleton woman, Bisbee, AZ
Sustainability and Inclusion Work Group

- Emphasis on mobilizing our message, through strategic communications
- Finding balance between leading, educating, engaging inclusively
- Inclusive community committed to equity, with rich/deep social network, and messages rooted in values for critical communities = enhanced chances of our success
Dia de los Muertos mural, Why, AZ
Some Notions to Consider

- Who is and isn’t in the room?
- Who’s background, experience, perspective is being centered?
- Who’s experiences are NOT?
- Get in the habit of asking, “Is there a diversity component to this?” and,
- “Is there a social component to this, now or down the road? What does this work mean for the ultimate consumer?”
Dia de los Muertos mural, Why, AZ