

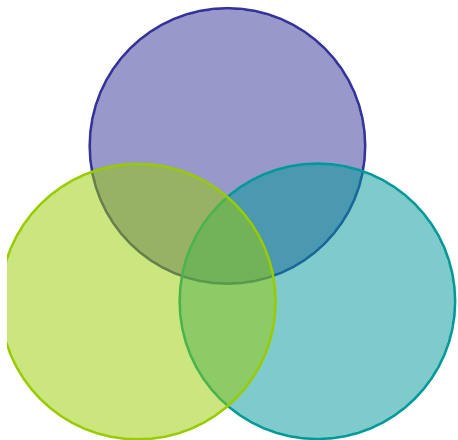
Working with scientists: some ideas

Carlos Casasús

AMPATH Workshop: Fostering Collaborations
and Next Generation Infrastructure

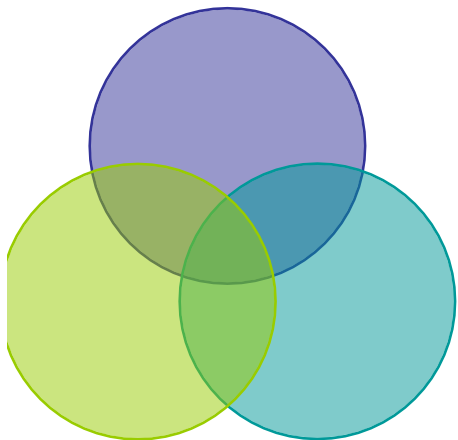
Miami

January 31, 2003



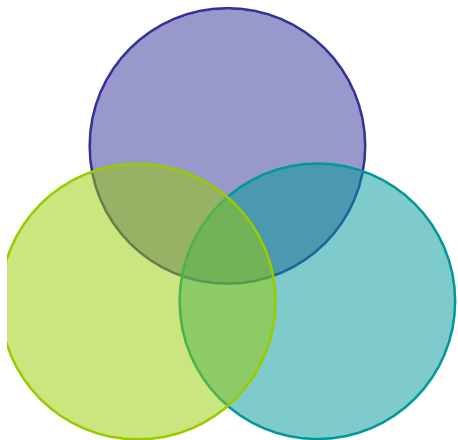
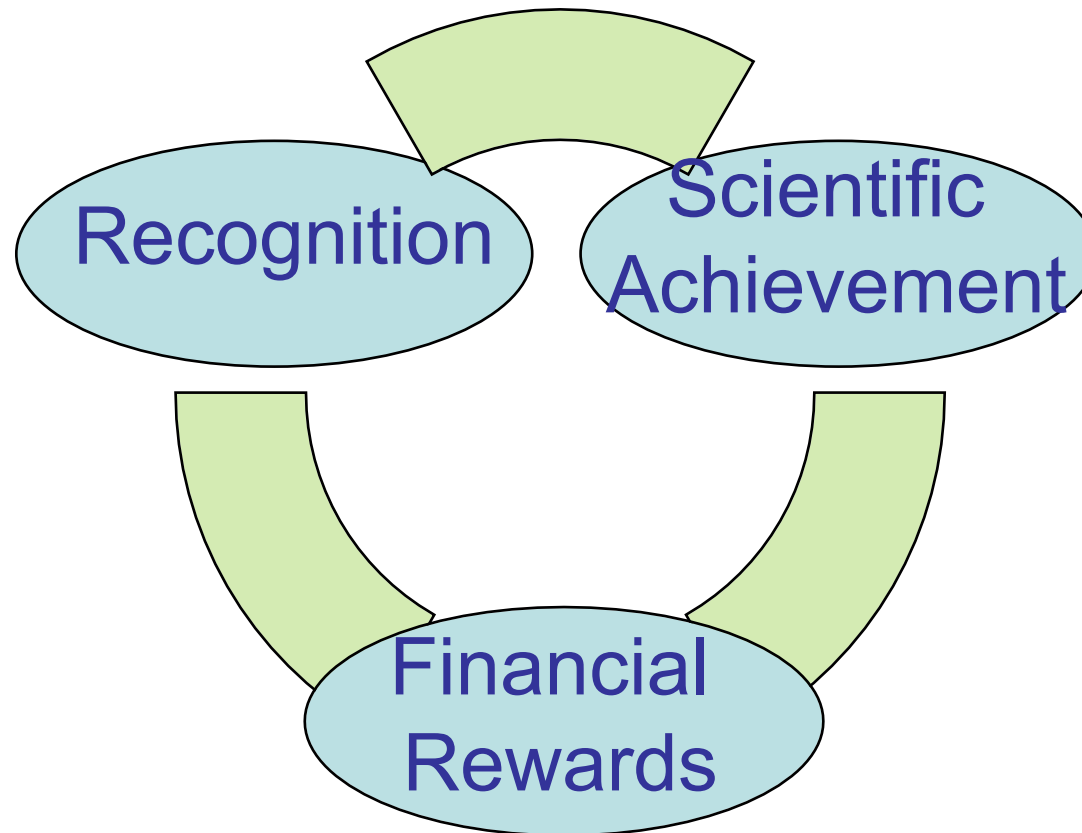
3 ideas

- Scientist also respond to incentives
- Scientific discovery is increasingly dependent on cross fertilization of disciplines
- Physical networks ease the workings of human networks



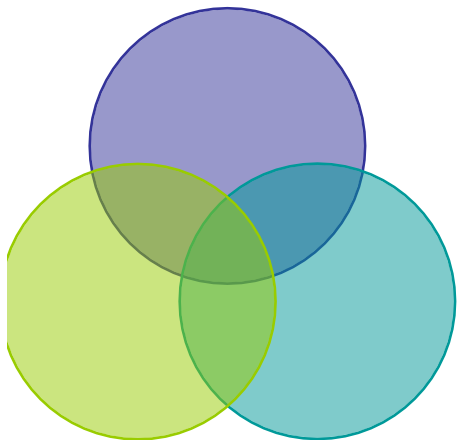
Scientist respond to incentives...

- Complex profile of needs...



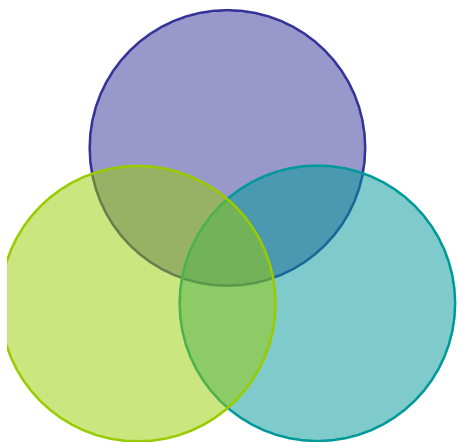
What gets measured gets done...

- If you want to influence scientific development it is important to define desired outcomes and to measure them
- Dispense the incentives in response to the achievement of desired outcomes



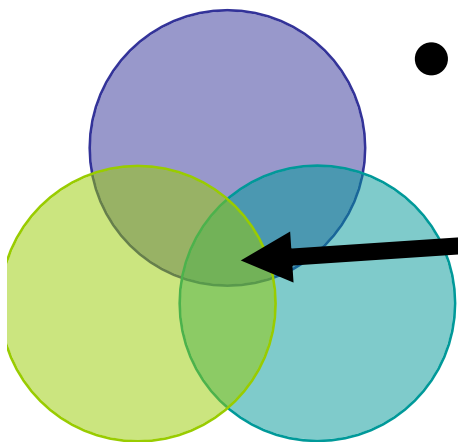
Some aspects of the US scientific system...

- NSF competitive calls for proposals (financial awards follow clear scientific objectives)
- Scientists can obtain financial rewards from the markets (industry- academic partnerships, venture capital)
- Tenure systems in academia (recognition and financial security follow the achievement of specific career mileposts)



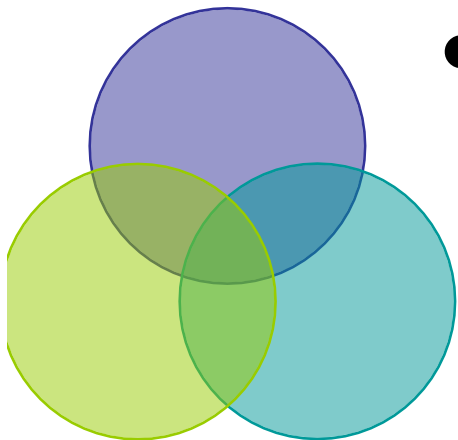
Scientific discovery is increasingly dependent on cross fertilization of disciplines

- It is about human networks
- It is about the cross fertilization of human networks
 - Multiple disciplines
 - Multiple regions
 - Multiple organizations
- It is about human NAP 's



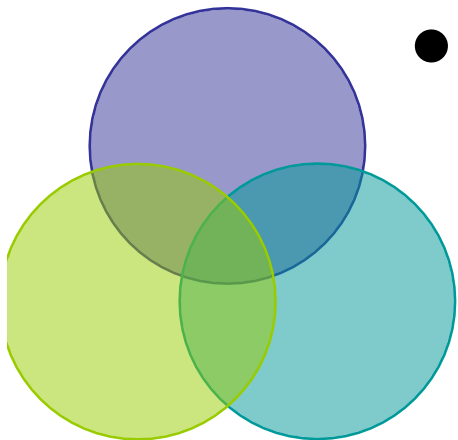
The human nap...

- Participates in many human networks
 - Can speak the language of each network
 - Is respected and known in each network
- Connects human networks
- Works without formal power (usually can not dispense formal incentives)



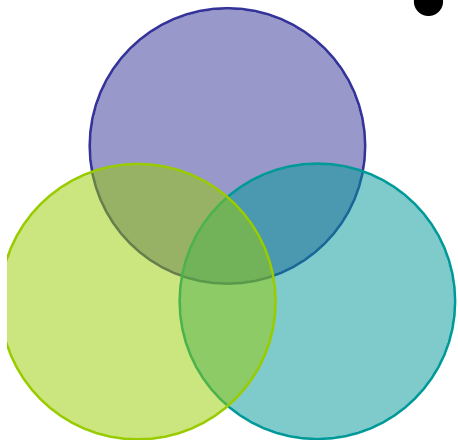
Human naps

- Born
 - Social
 - Curious and informed
 - Multiple backgrounds
 - Predictable
 - Trusted
- or made?



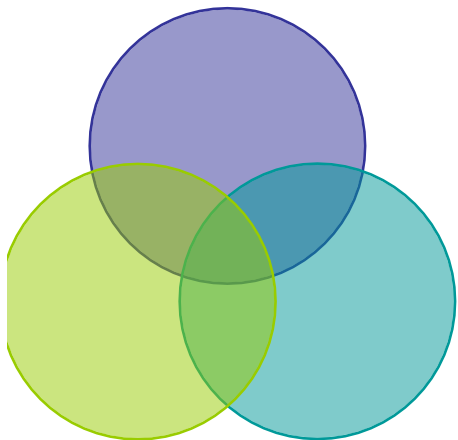
Fostering human naps...

- Recruiting
- Imparting networking skills (the rolodex, the mailing list)
- Measuring and rewarding human naps
- Networking events (as diverse as possible)
- Networking projects (Ampath, Clara, El niño)



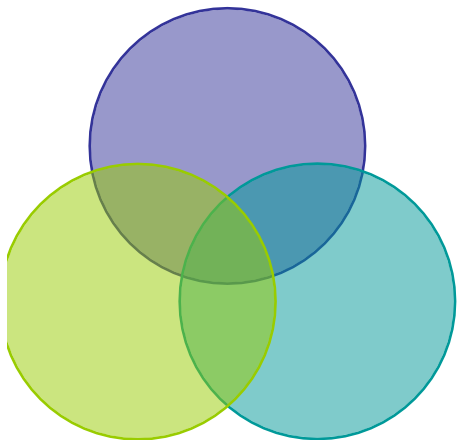
Human networks are created and operate at human speeds

- Take time to be created
- Can not be reconfigured at will
- Can not “designate” human Nap's at will



Physical networks ease the workings of human networks

- Physical networks without human networks don't work
- Efficient physical networks follow human networks, but
- Global and diverse human networks can not be sustained without physical networks



Six degrees of separation...

- This can happen because some people can bridge human networks

