

Suggested Projects: Presidential Innovation Fellows
23 - A National Library for the Environment and Energy Research

The National Library of Medicine (led by a genius, Donald Lindberg) has been one of our most inspired investments for both basic research and (via MedlinePlus/PubMed) combining what we know and providing it, online and without charge, to health practitioners, to every interested company and researcher in the private sector, and citizens online. [PubMed searches are now probably running at 80+million/month.] I suggest that an Innovation Fellows team act as a catalyst to extend the model to a National Library for Energy Research and the Environment.

Part of the design challenge will be to scope-out the structure of advisory committees that will be needed. (Lindberg always has been brilliant about getting good advisers).

The PubMed systems comprehensively indexes every relevant scientific publication - and, to the degree possible, provides free, full-text access online. We should try to organize a similar system for high-priority areas like Renewable Energy Research so private sector researchers have full (and, often, free) relevant access to all of the world's scientific journals indexed in Science Citation Index and Science Citation Index Expanded.

[I am not sure of the current NLM/PubMed goal, but I believe that it is to have all government-funded research available in full-text format, online, regardless of where it was published - about 1,000 journals are doing this; and to have all other print articles available online without charge within a year.]

There is a National Committee for Science and the Environment that, I believe, has done preliminary thinking along these lines.

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