EXPERT FINDER SYSTEMS
INTERNATIONAL FORUM 2023

Coral Gables Miami, Fl
April 5-6, 2023

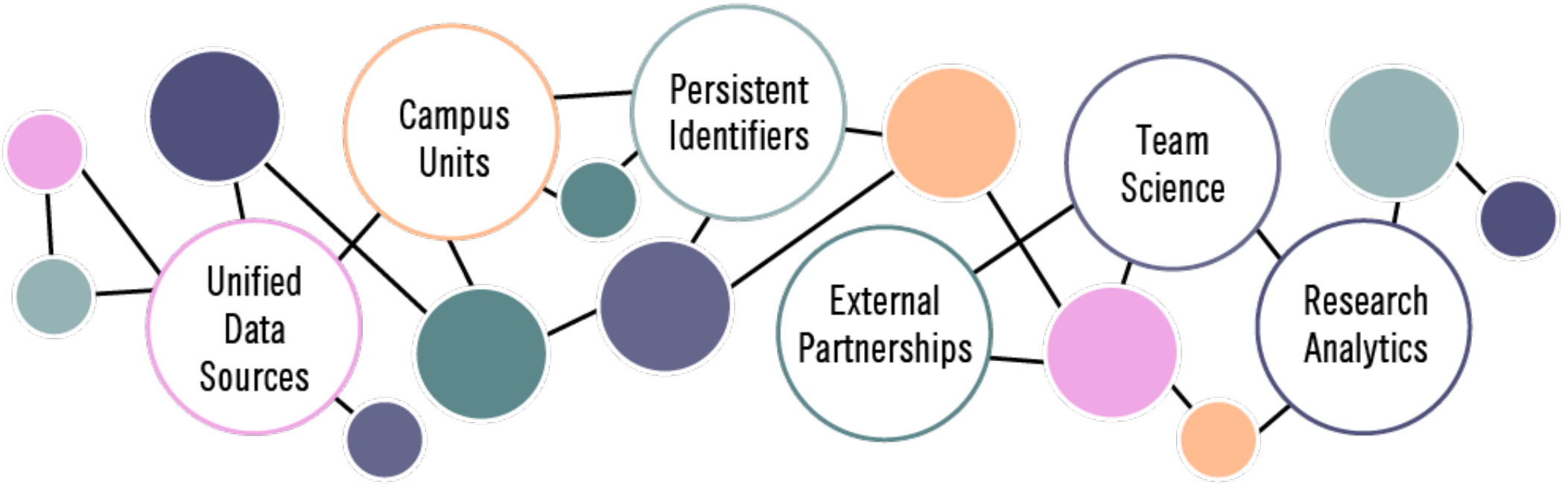
Connecting the Dots through Career Learning, Active Engagement, and Building a Thriving Research Enterprise...

A Journey Anyone Can Take!

Keynote Speaker

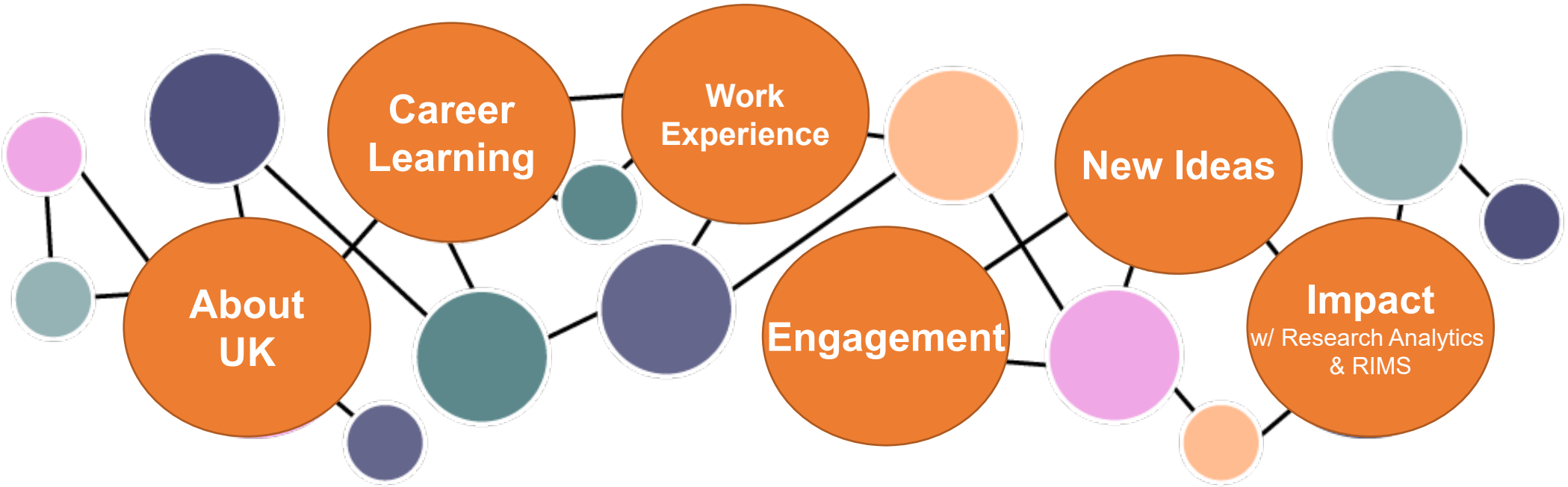
Baron G Wolf, Ph.D.
Assistant Vice President for Research & Chief of Staff
Director of Research Analytics
University of Kentucky

Connecting the Dots

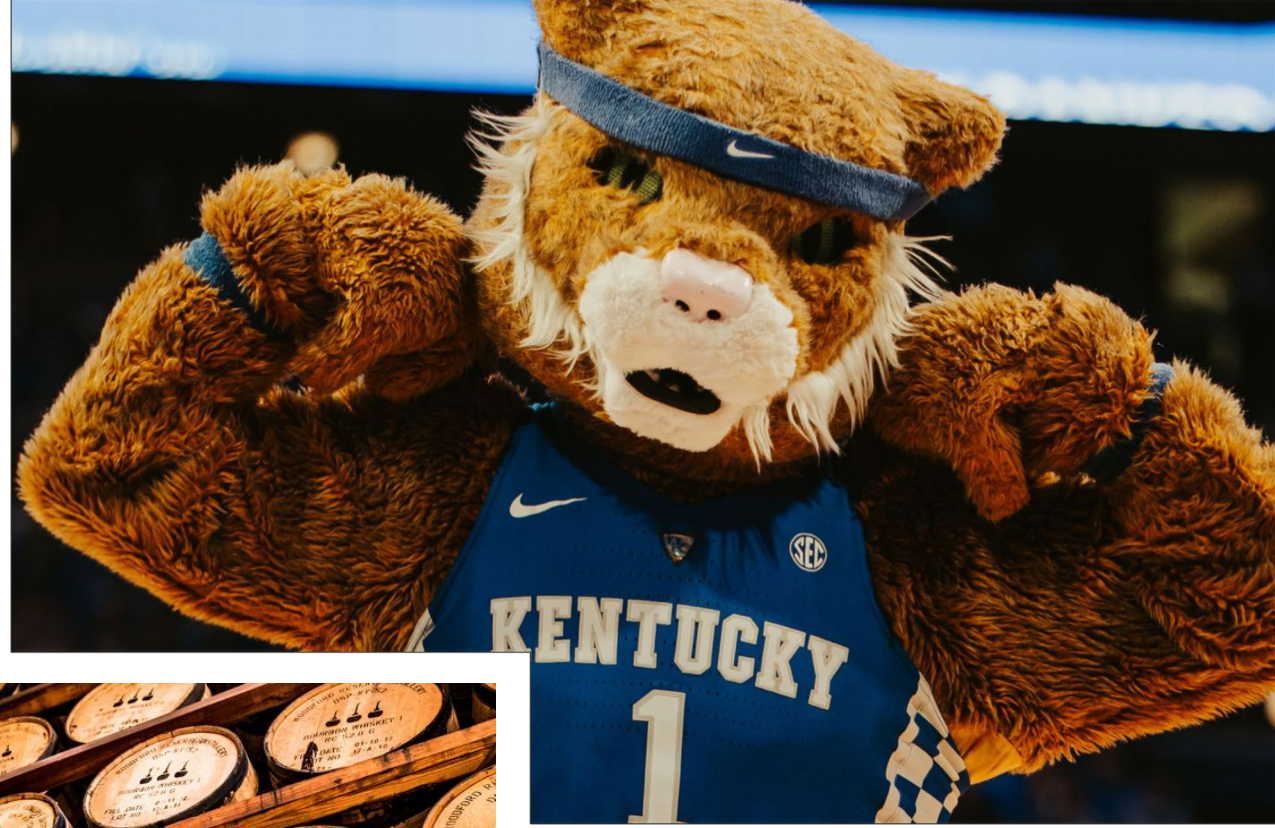


https://expertfindersystems.org/index.cfm

Connecting the Dots



University of Kentucky



JAMES B. BEAM
KY INSTITUTE US

University of Kentucky (UK)

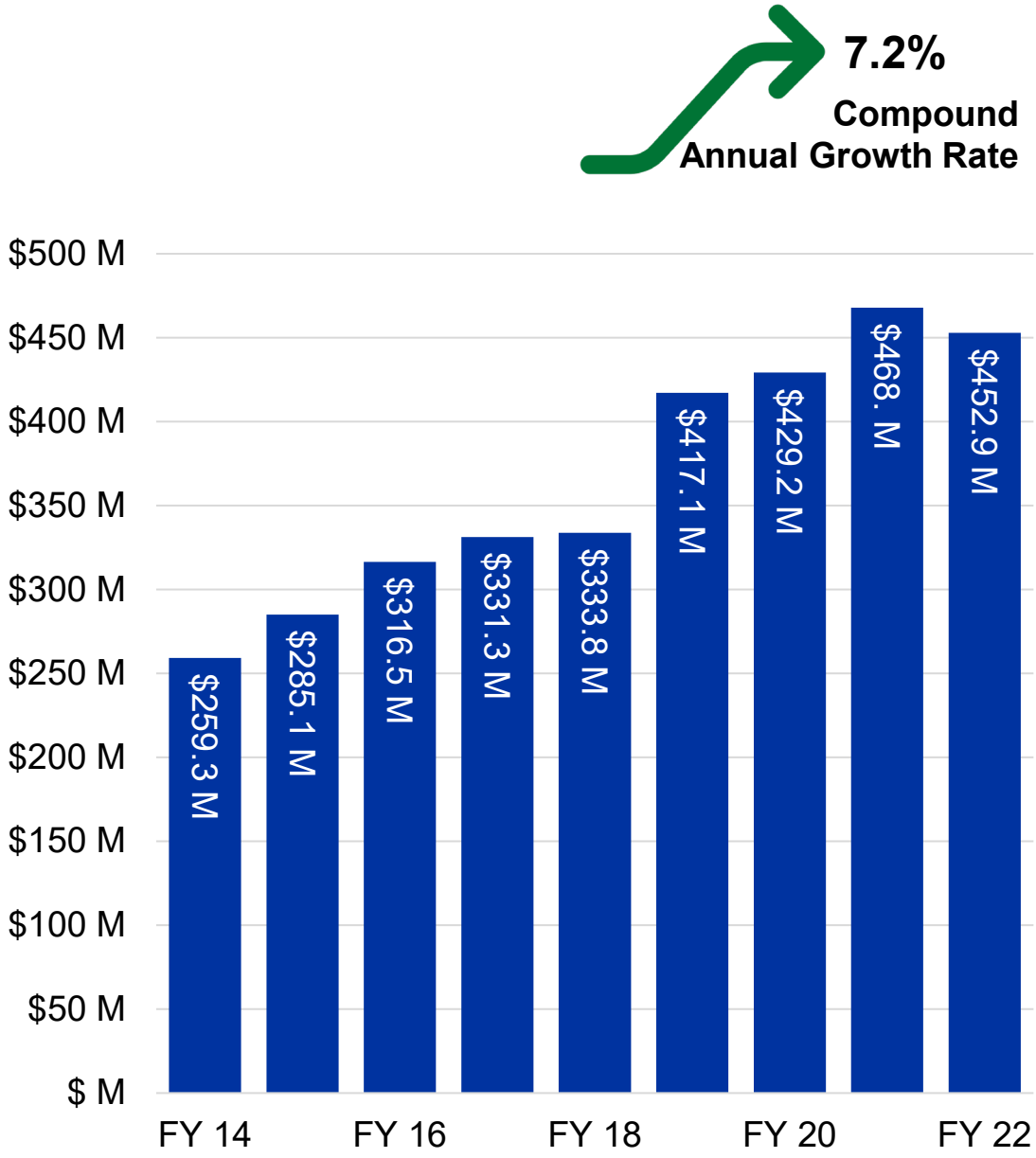
- Public, Land Grant Research Intensive (R1) Institution
- More than 32,000 students
- 17 Colleges on a single campus!

The University *for* Kentucky

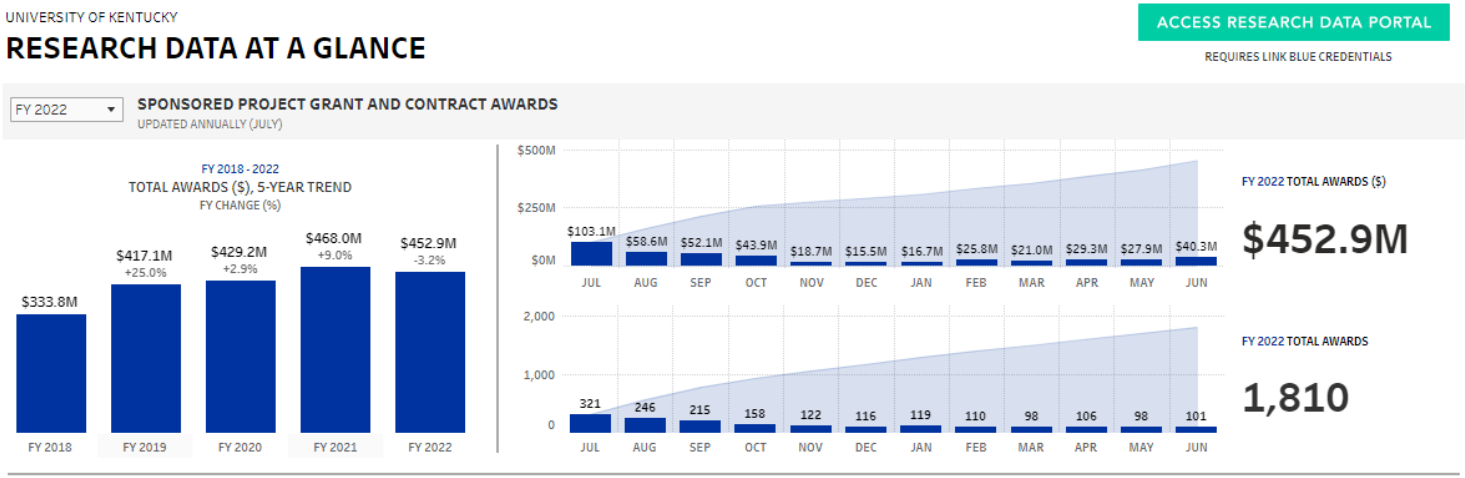
Healthy Kentucky Research Building
https://www.research.uky.edu/healthy-kentucky-research-building

Research at UK

- National Cancer Institute-funded Cancer Center
- National Institute on Aging-funded Alzheimer's Disease Research Center
- NIH Clinical & Translational Science Award
- NIH HEALing Communities Study - $87 M in Substance Use Disorder research
- Arts, Humanities & Social Behavioral Research



Research Analytics



SCHOLARS@UK

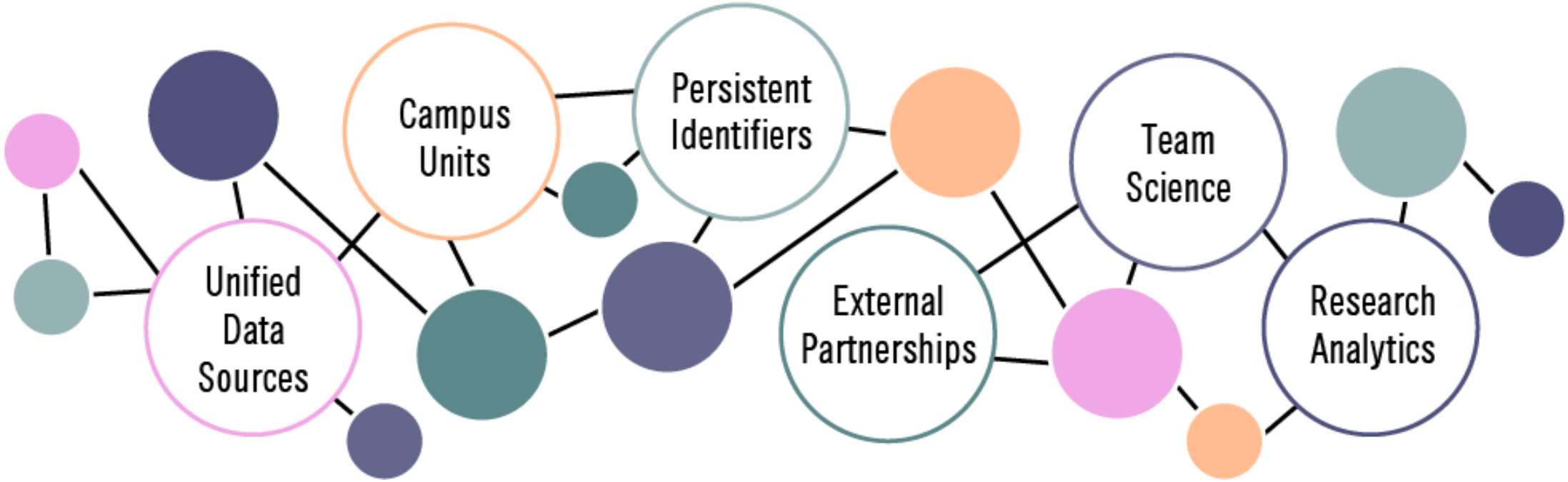
Powered by Pure from Elsevier

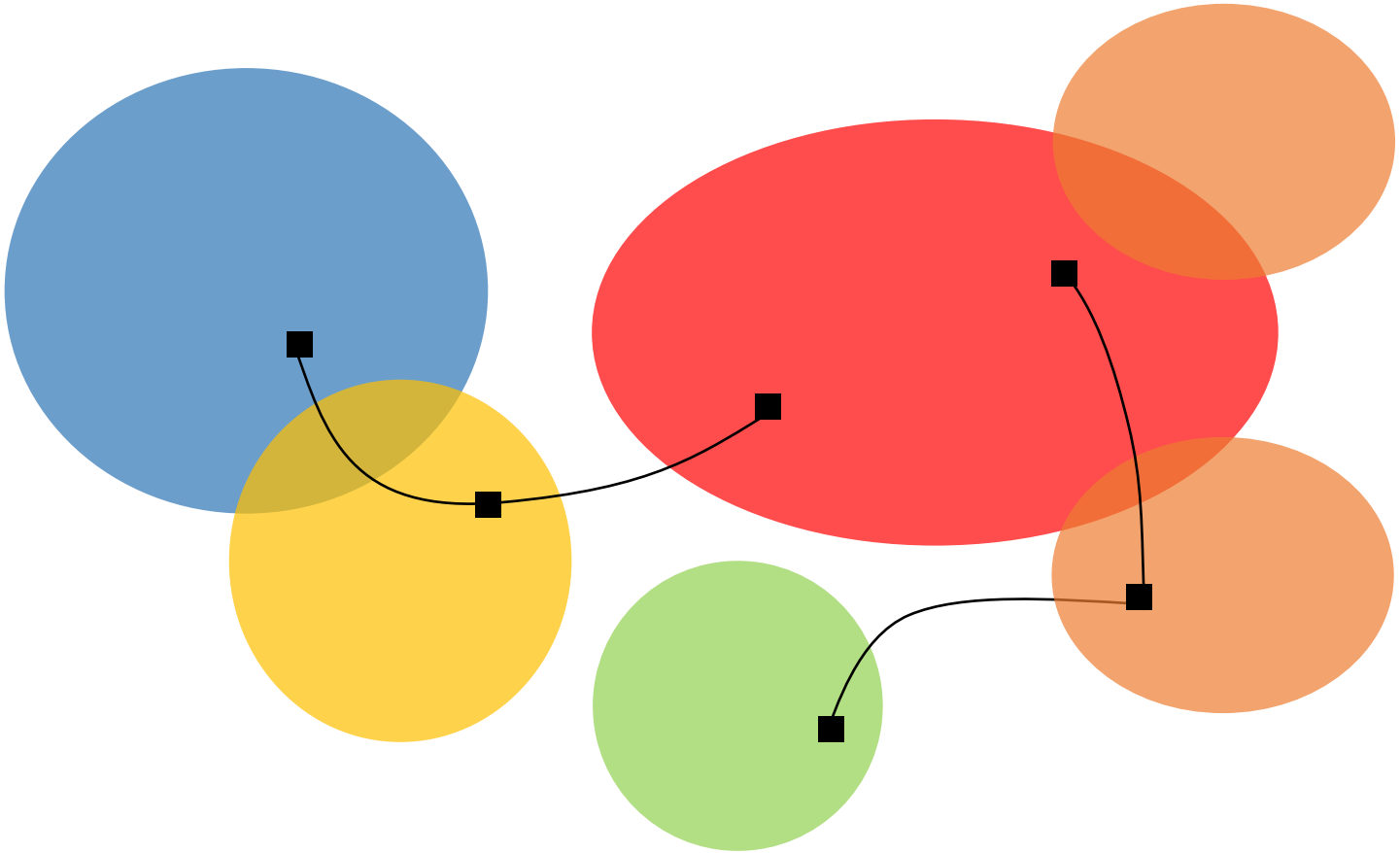
- Office of the Vice President for Research
- Four FTE:
  - Director
  - Decision Support Analyst (2)
  - Strategic Initiatives Project Manager
- Research Information Services
- Partnerships across campus data-stakeholders

ACADEMIC ANALYTICS

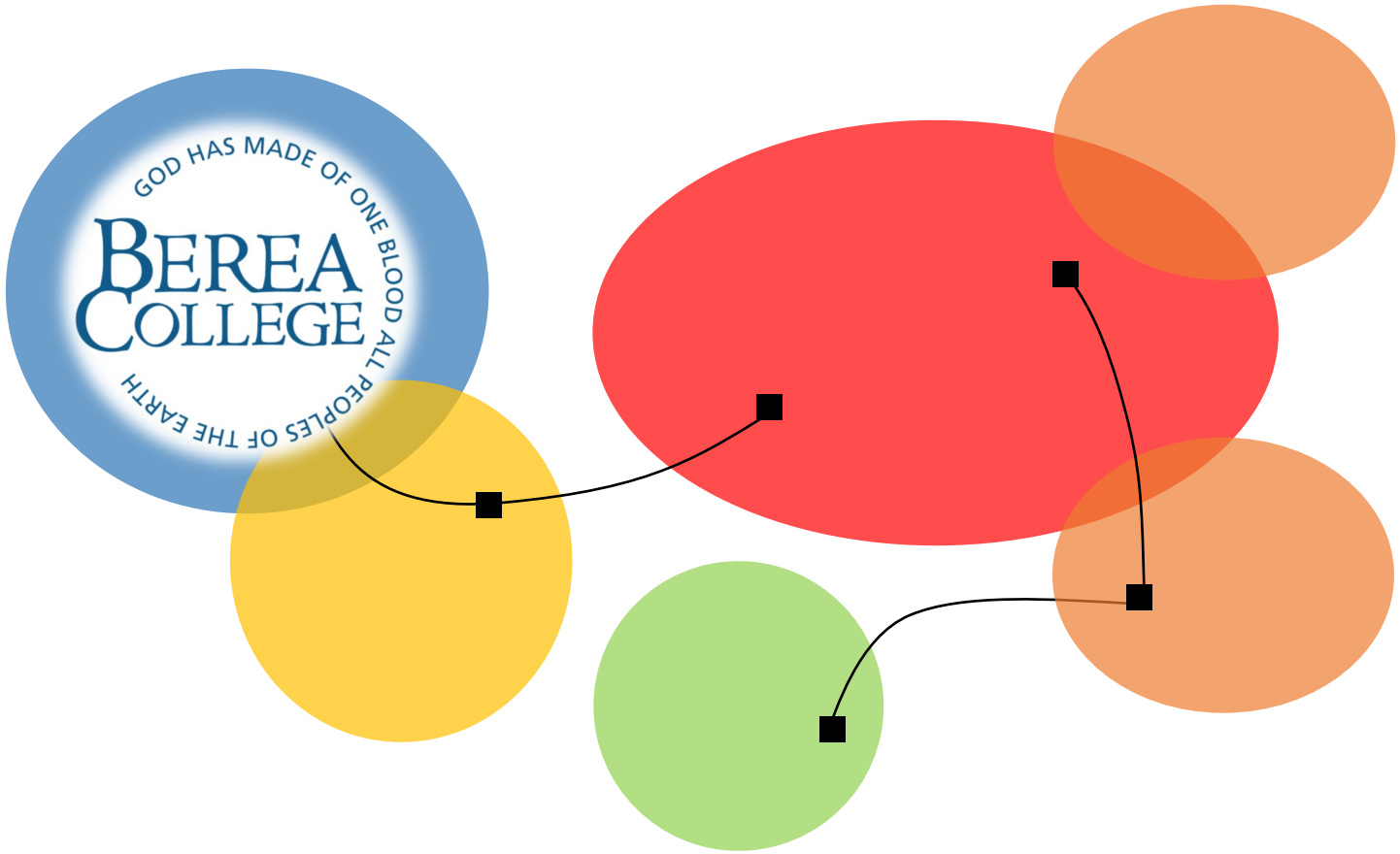
Elsevier Research Intelligence

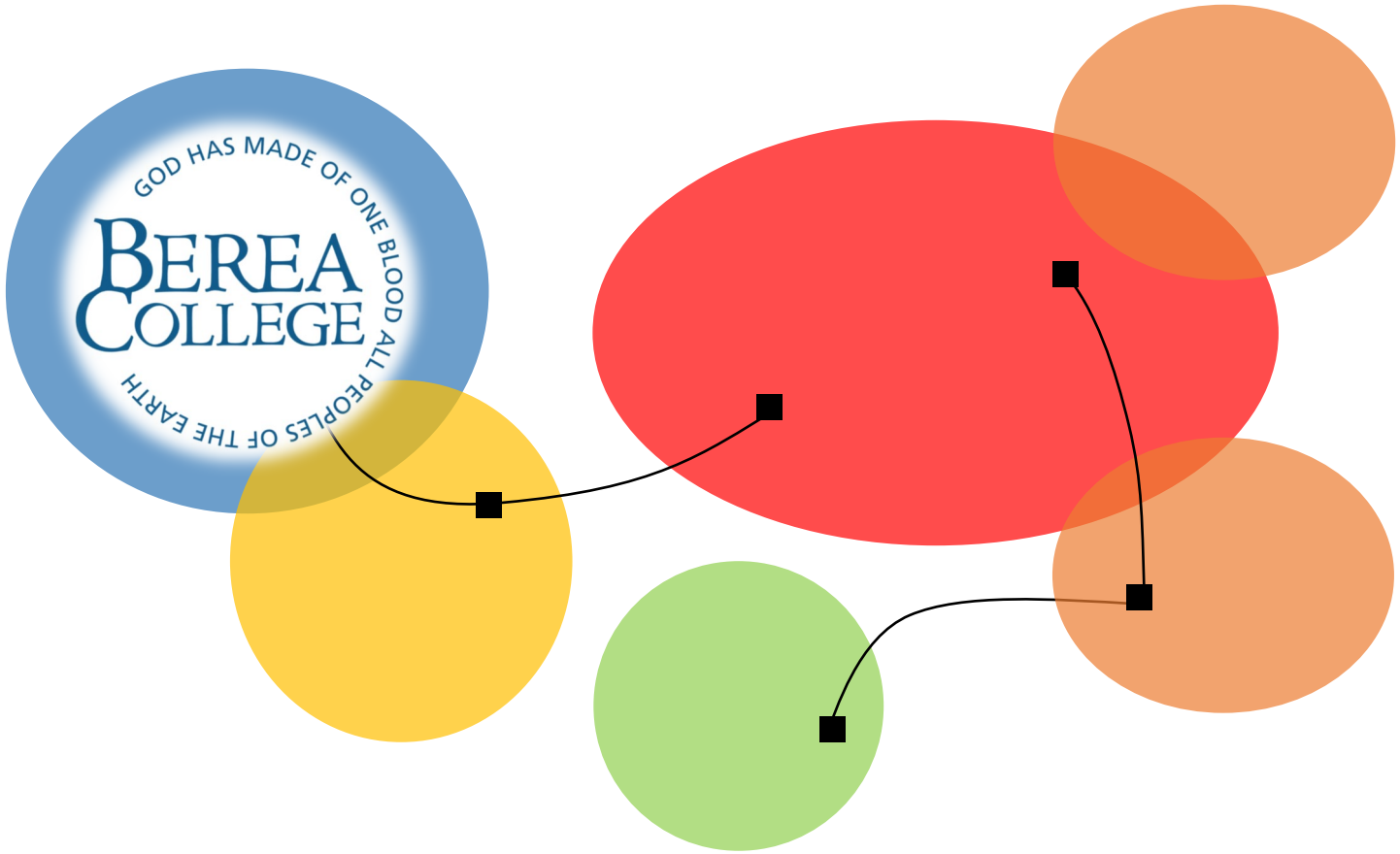
SciVal


Campus Units
Persistent Identifiers
Team Science
Unified Data Sources
External Partnerships
Research Analytics



My Journey & Connections





- Founded in 1855 by Abolitionist
- 45-minutes south of Lexington, KY
- Inclusive Mission
- *No Tuition Promise* results in a full $177,200 scholarship for every student
- Serving Appalachia
- **Work to Learn**

Berea College
Work to Learn

https://www.workcolleges.org

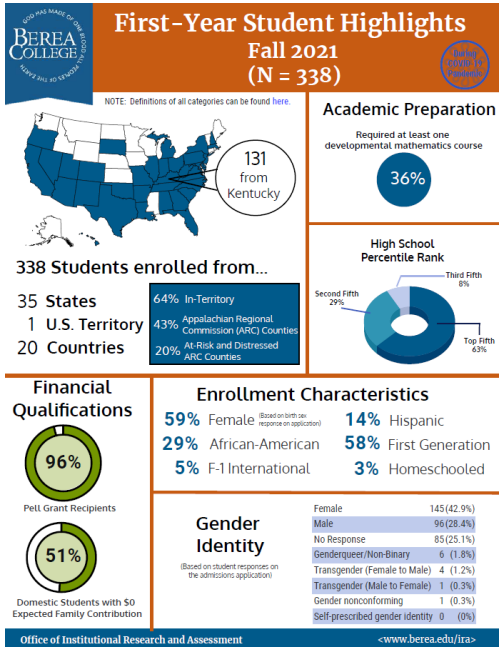
All students work a minimum of 10 hours per week at a campus job

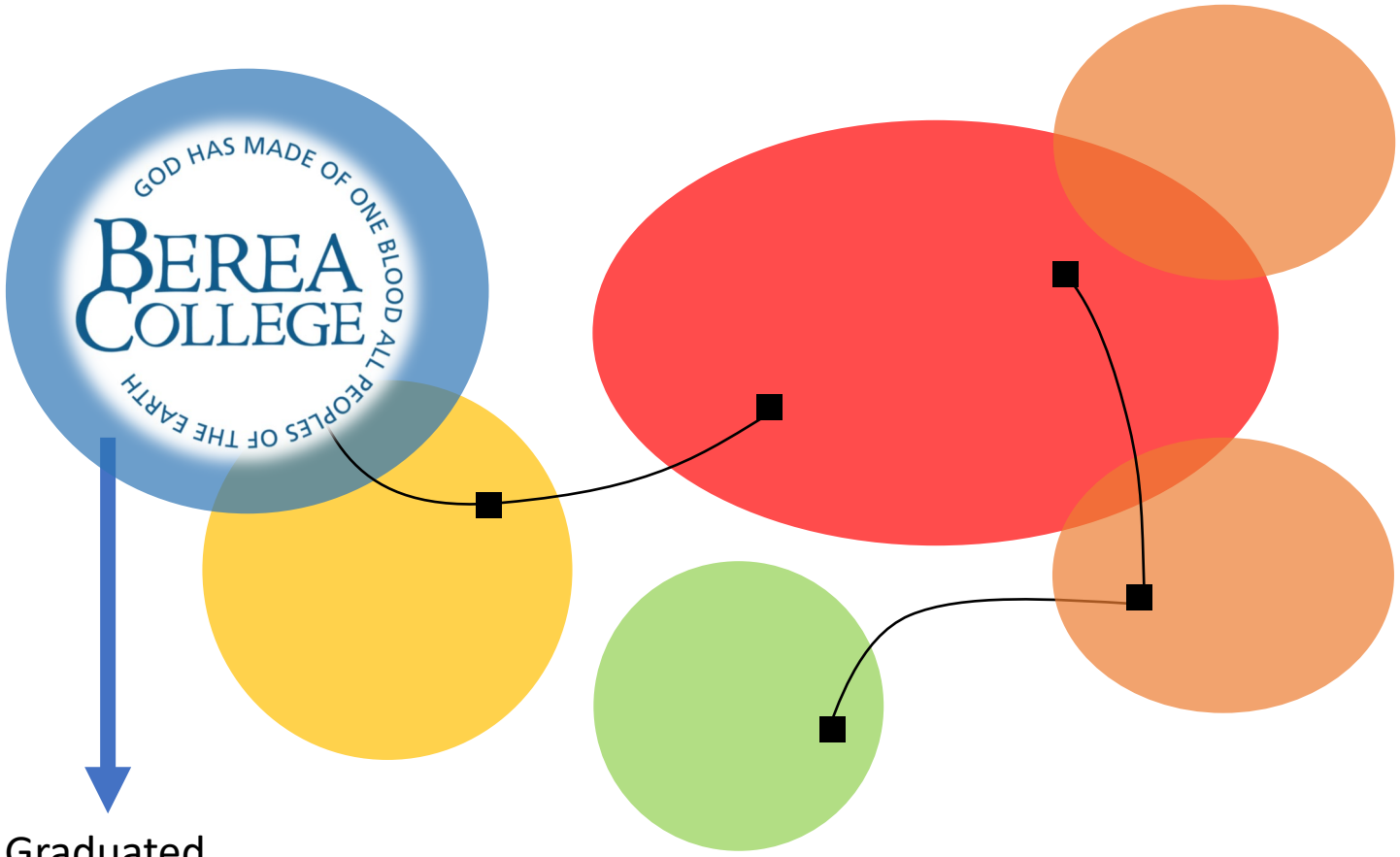
- 1 of 10 federally recognized Work College
- Work supports the operations of the college and provides experience
- Students earn income
- More than 1,500 campus jobs
- Provides practical application and professional mentorship

60% of enrolled students donate a portion of their campus income back to the college to support operations—thus creating leaders who are also philanthropists

Berea College
Work to Learn

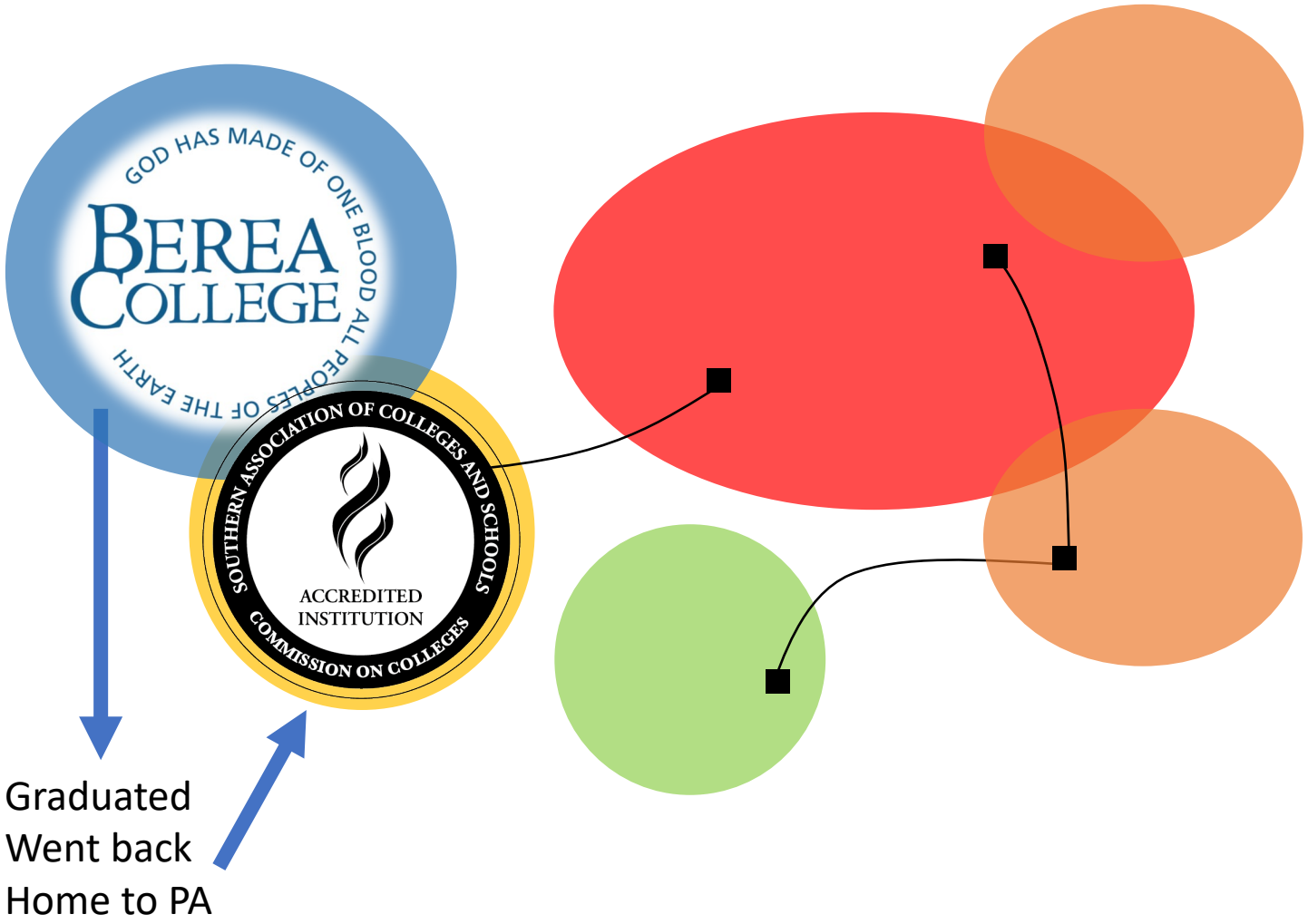
- Studying Agriculture and Natural Resources
- Labor Position: **Office of Institutional Research & Assessment**
  - **Data Analysis**
  - **Research Projects**
  - **Student Surveys**
  - **Course Evaluations**
  - **Fact Books**
  - **Statistical Software**



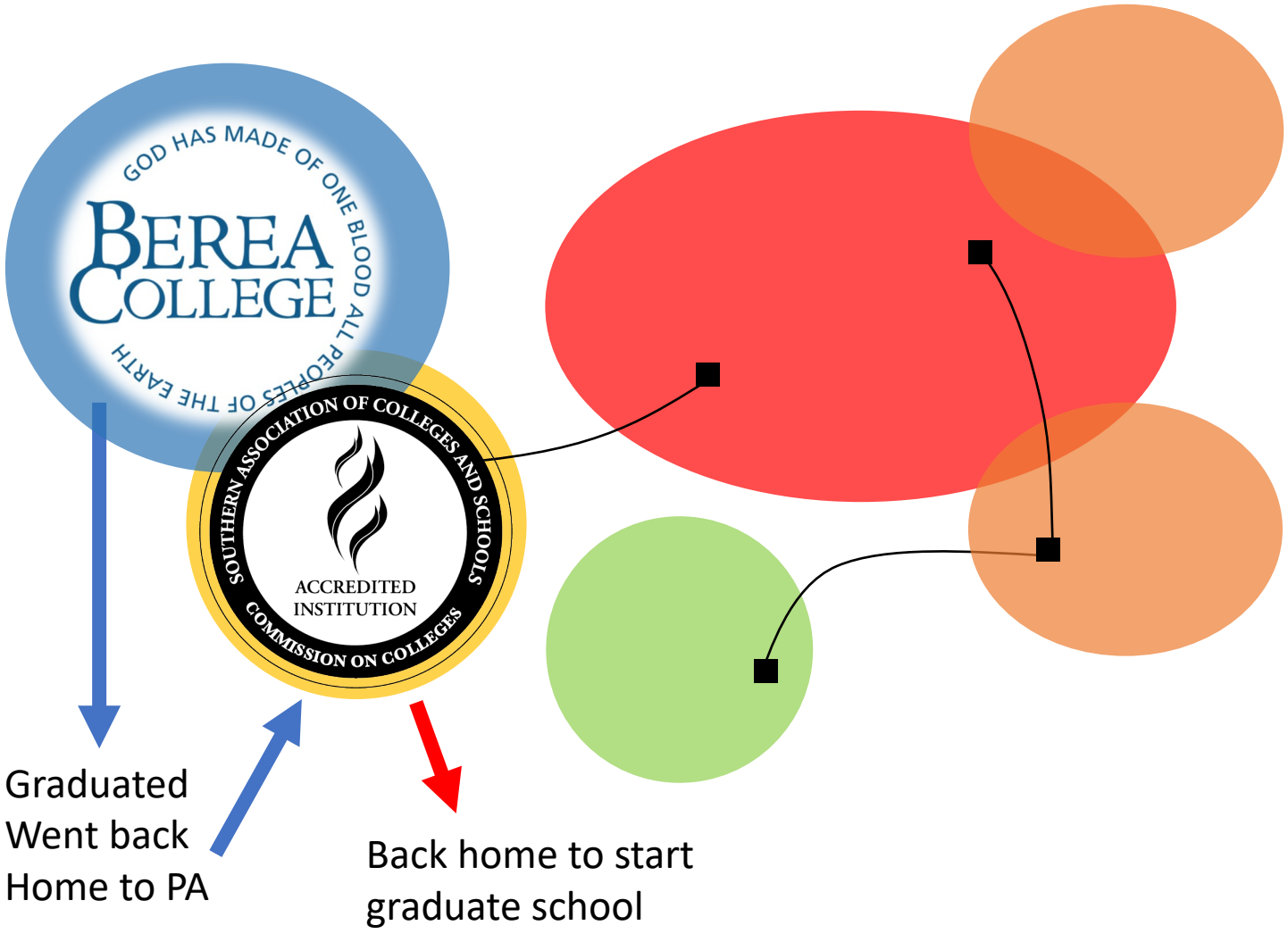


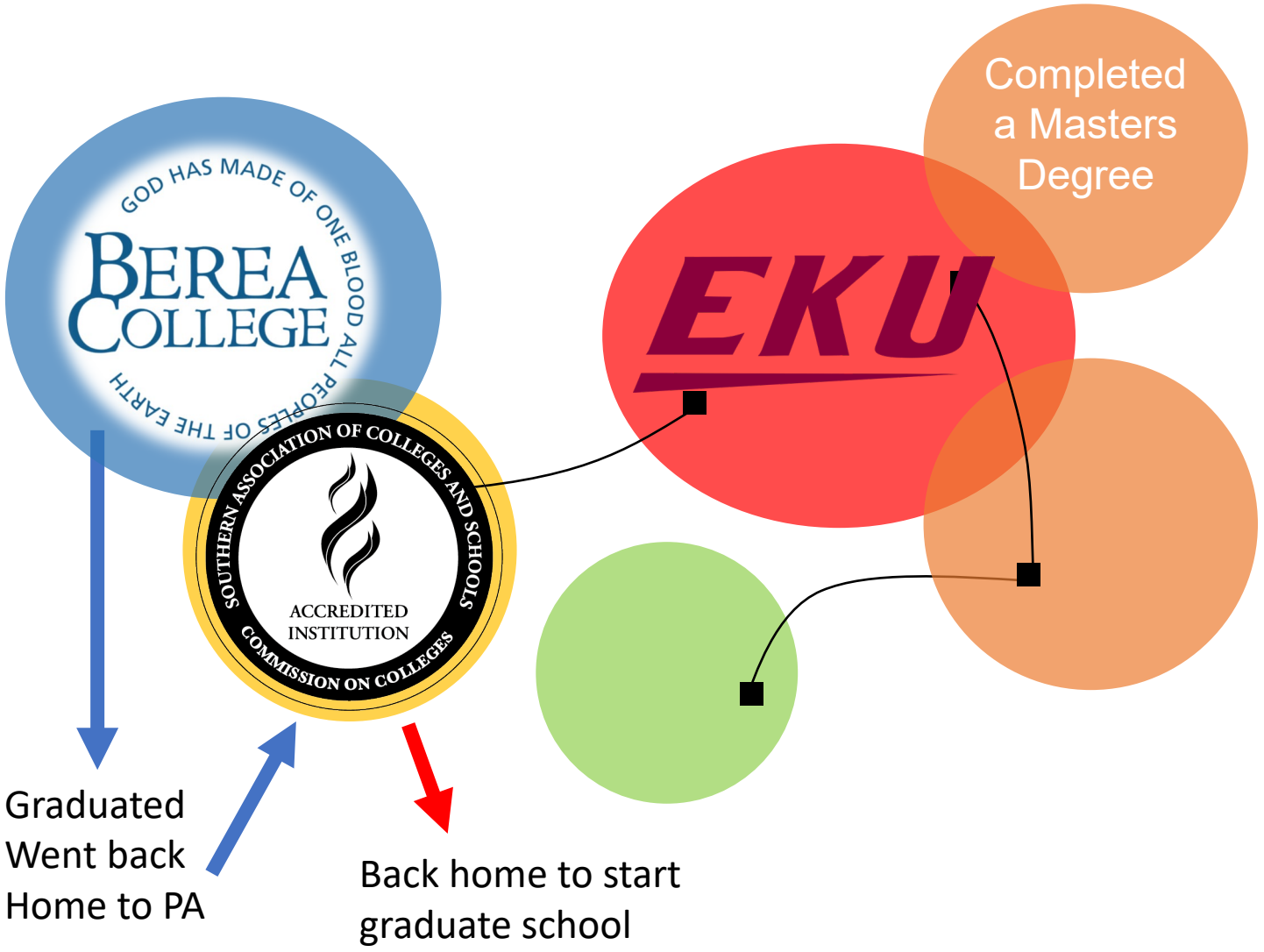
Graduated
Went back
Home to PA

- Graduated and returned home to northwestern Pennsylvania
- Did NOT know what was next—could I afford graduate school or where would I start a career?



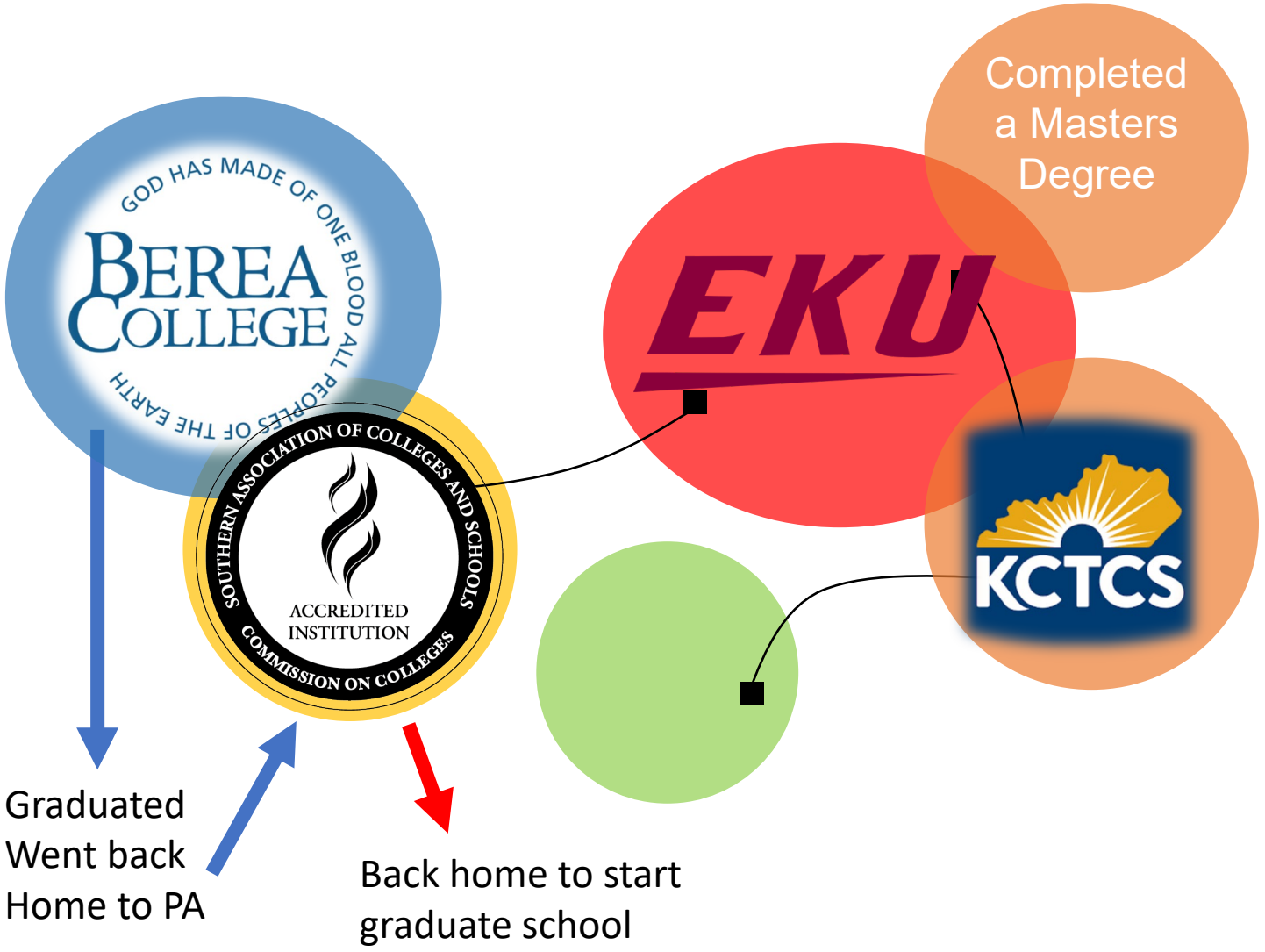
- Graduated and returned home to northwestern Pennsylvania
- Did NOT know what was next—could I afford graduate school or where would I start a career
- 6-months later **Berea College Called!!!**
  - Returned to Berea College as a full-time temporary employee for six months
  - Assisted with the college's 10-year SACSCOC accreditation process
  - Gained additional real-world experience in an environment in which I was familiar


GOD HAS MADE OF ONE BLOOD ALL PEOPLES OF THE EARTH
BEREA COLLEGE
SOUTHERN ASSOCIATION OF COLLEGES AND SCHOOLS
ACCREDITED INSTITUTION
COMMISSION ON COLLEGES
Graduated
Went back
Home to PA
Back home to start
graduate school



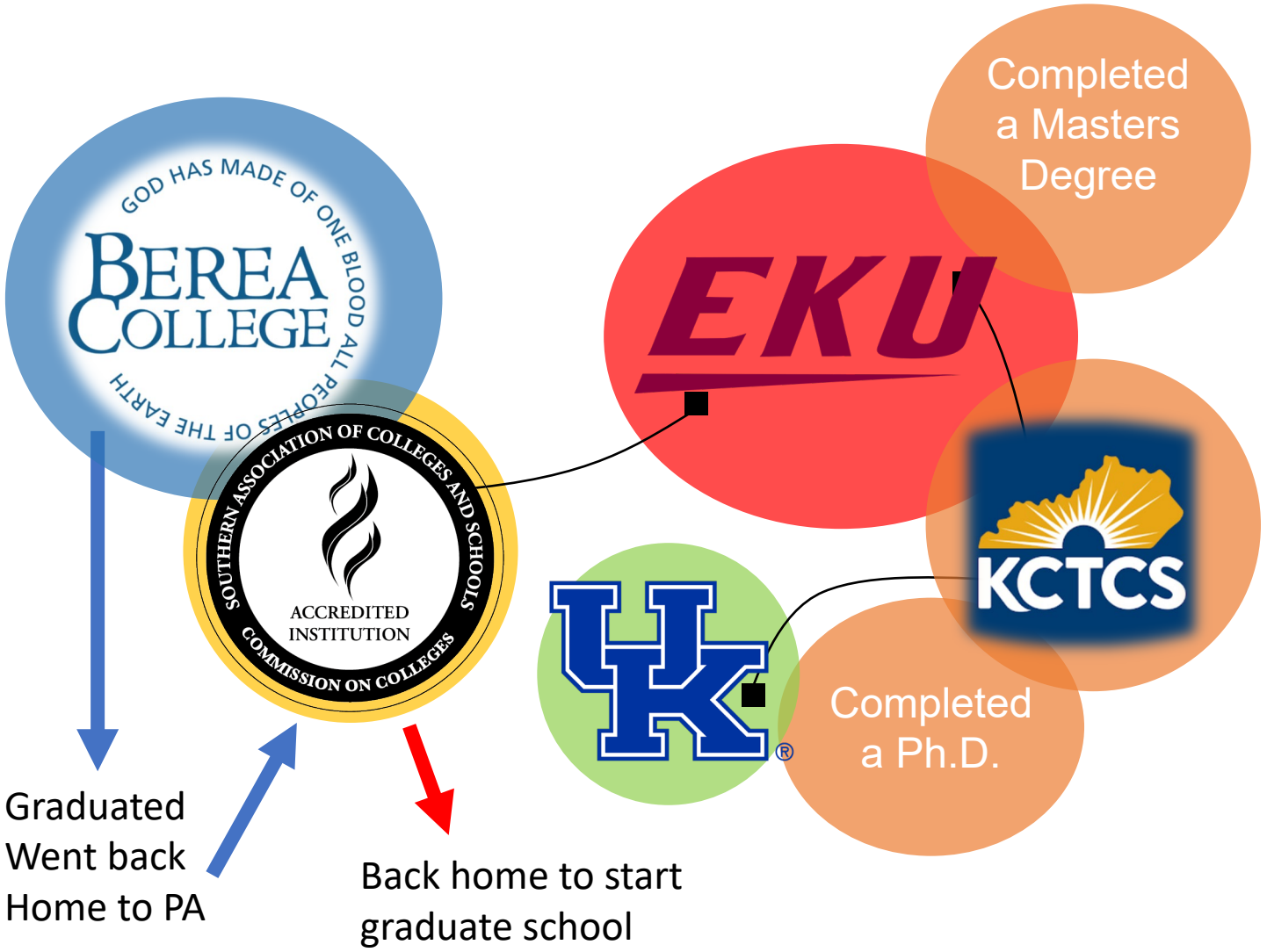
EASTERN KENTUCKY UNIVERSITY

- Office of Institutional Research and Effectiveness
- Data Analyst Position
- 3-Year tenure
- Building professional network and experience
- Served professional community through state-wide conference planning, presenting at national conferences, and serving on special projects
- Completed a Masters in Public Administration



KENTUCKY COMMUNITY & TECHNICAL COLLEGE SYSTEM

- Office of Research and Policy Analysis
- Research Coordinator
- Supporting needs of 16-Community and Technical Colleges
- 7-Year tenure
- Continued to develop technical skills, leadership, and building a professional network



Research

- Office of the Vice President for Research
- New Position: Decision Support Analyst
- New Vice President focused on data-informed decision making
- Translation of past student/financial data analytics and analysis from Institutional Research & Effectiveness into the research enterprise

GOD HAS MADE OF ONE BLOOD ALL PEOPLES OF THE EARTH
BEREA COLLEGE
SOUTHERN ASSOCIATION OF COLLEGES AND SCHOOLS
ACCREDITED INSTITUTION
COMMISSION ON COLLEGES
EKU
Completed a Masters Degree
KCTCS
Completed a Ph.D.

Completed
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Research Analytics

TRANSFORMING TOMORROW by Utilizing Data to Drive Decisions

- Decision Support for Senior Leadership
- Deploy same solutions across campus to all leadership
- Integrated data sourcing
  - Internal sponsored projects data
  - Internal university data sources (HR, finance, student, etc.)
  - External data sources
- Research Analytics – relatively new to the research enterprise
- Building and making connections through professional organizations

https://www.research.uky.edu/research-analytics

Research Analytics

TRANSFORMING TOMORROW by Utilizing Data to Drive Decisions

Building **trusted & transparent** data infrastructure

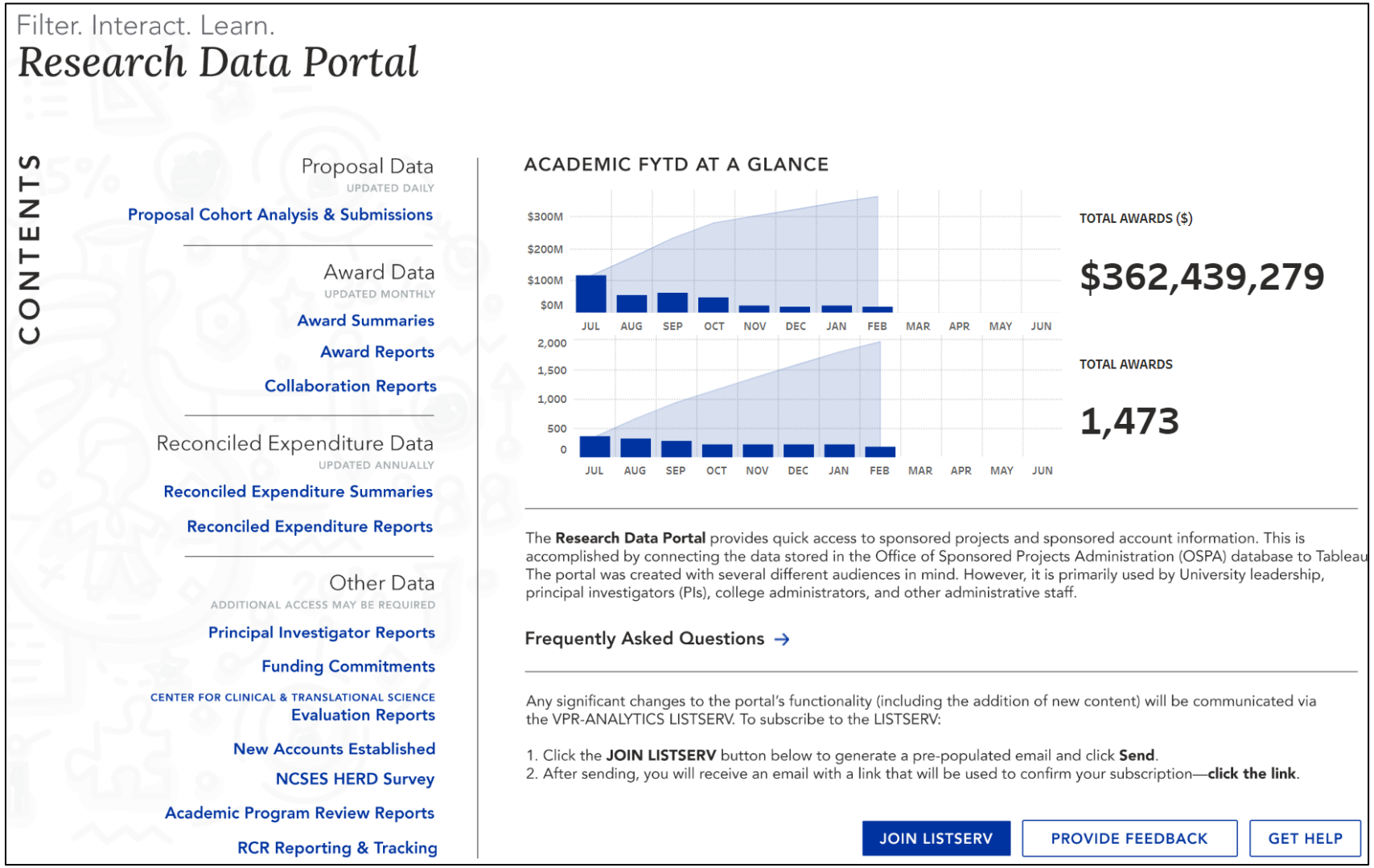
Creating **value-driven** approaches promotes accessibility

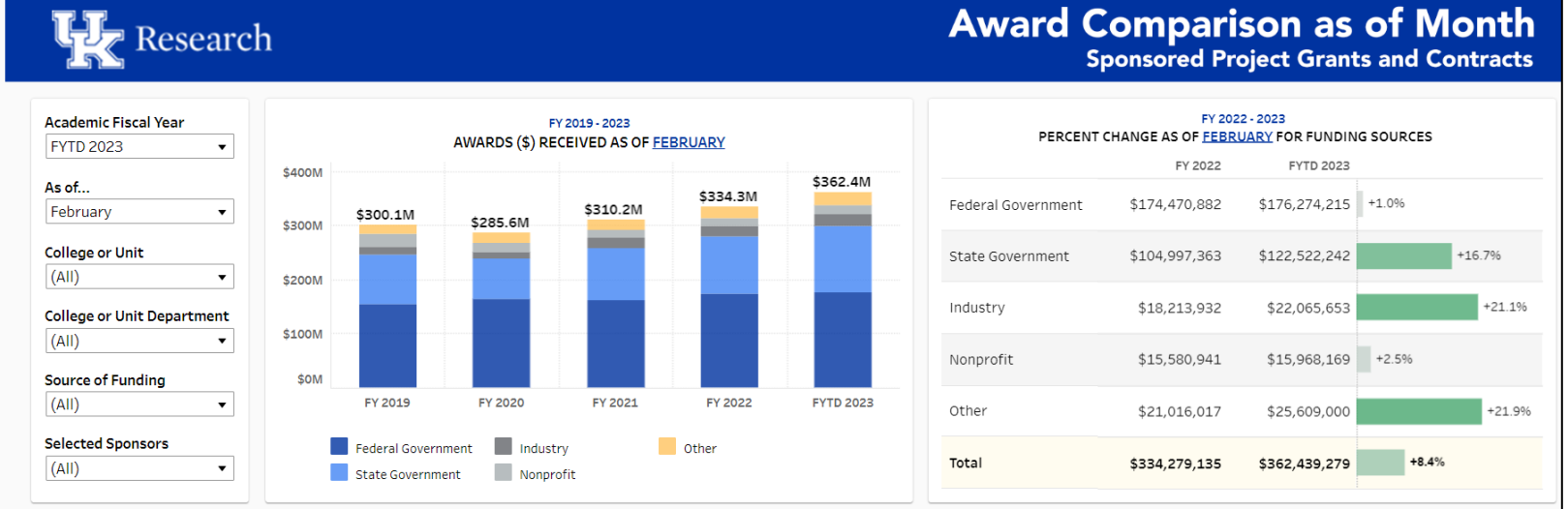
Putting data in the hands of **who need the information**

Advocating for tools and resources to **support campus community**

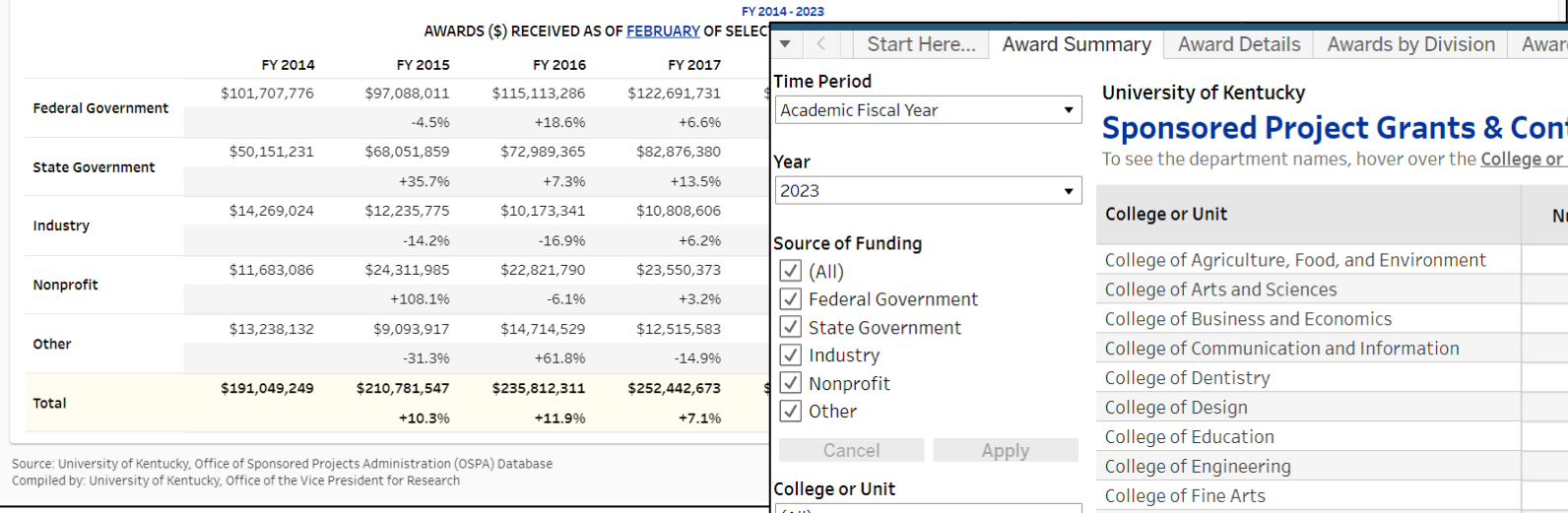
Examples

- **Data Portal**
  powered by Tableau

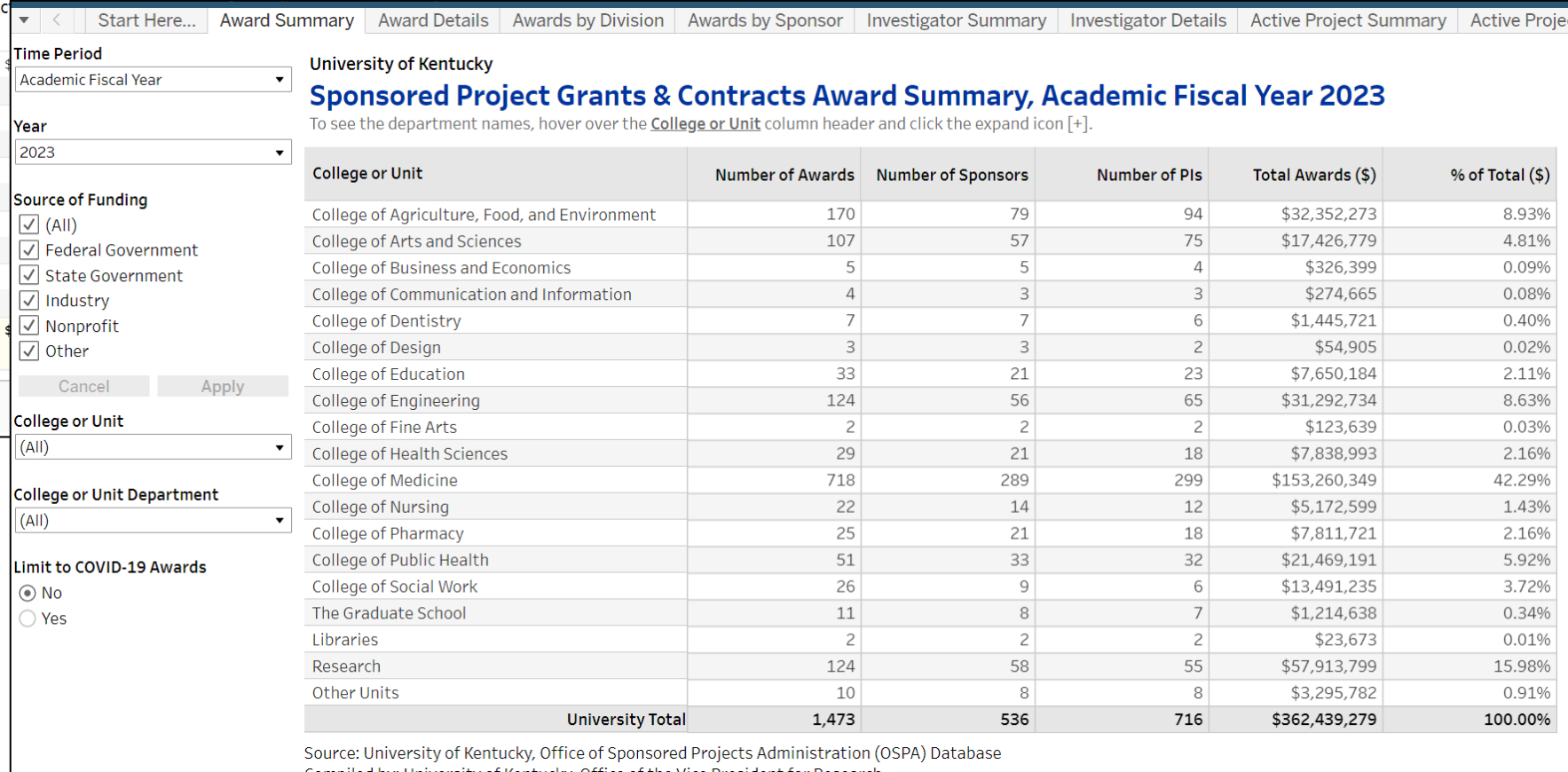




Dashboards provide a high-level overview of trends and comparison



Tabular Reports provide information people need at a more detailed level

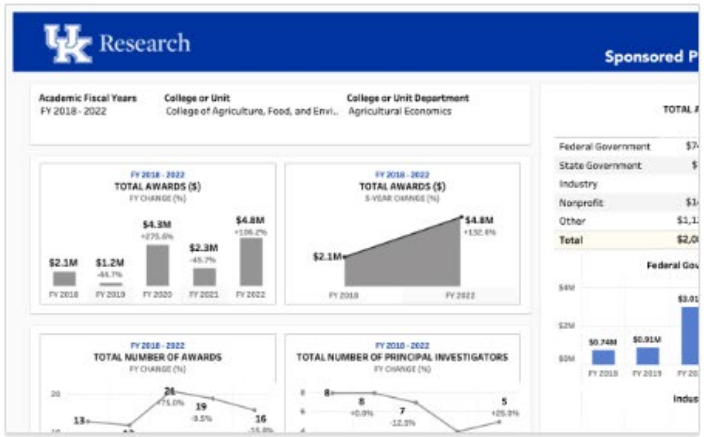


Examples

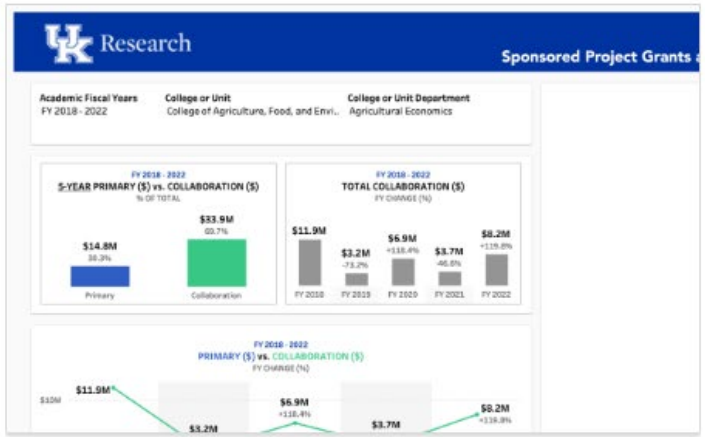
- Data Portal powered by Tableau
- **Ad-Hoc Reporting** powered by Tableau

About RCR Reporting

RCR College Summary



Award Summary

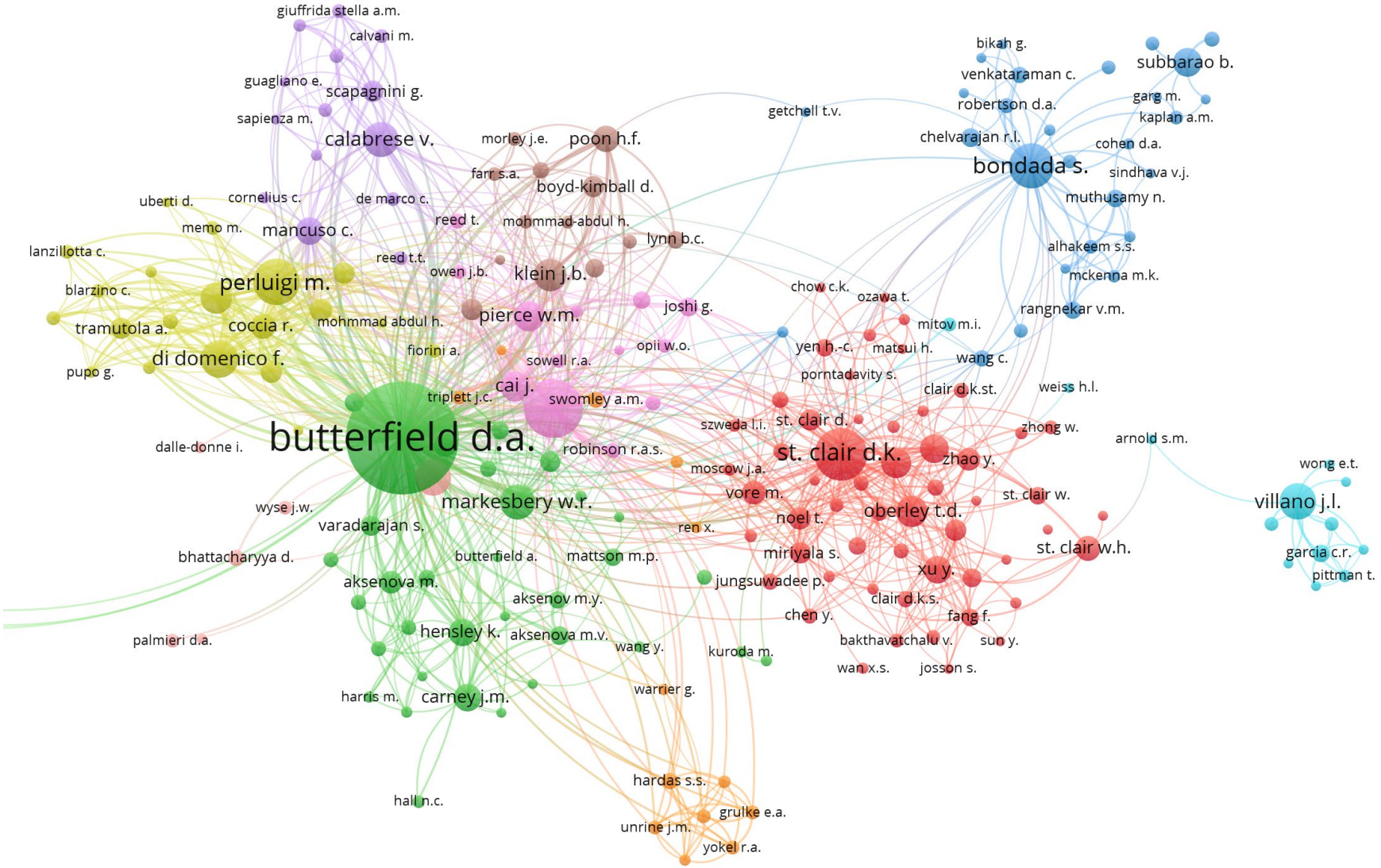


Collaboration Summary

RCR Individual Detail

Examples

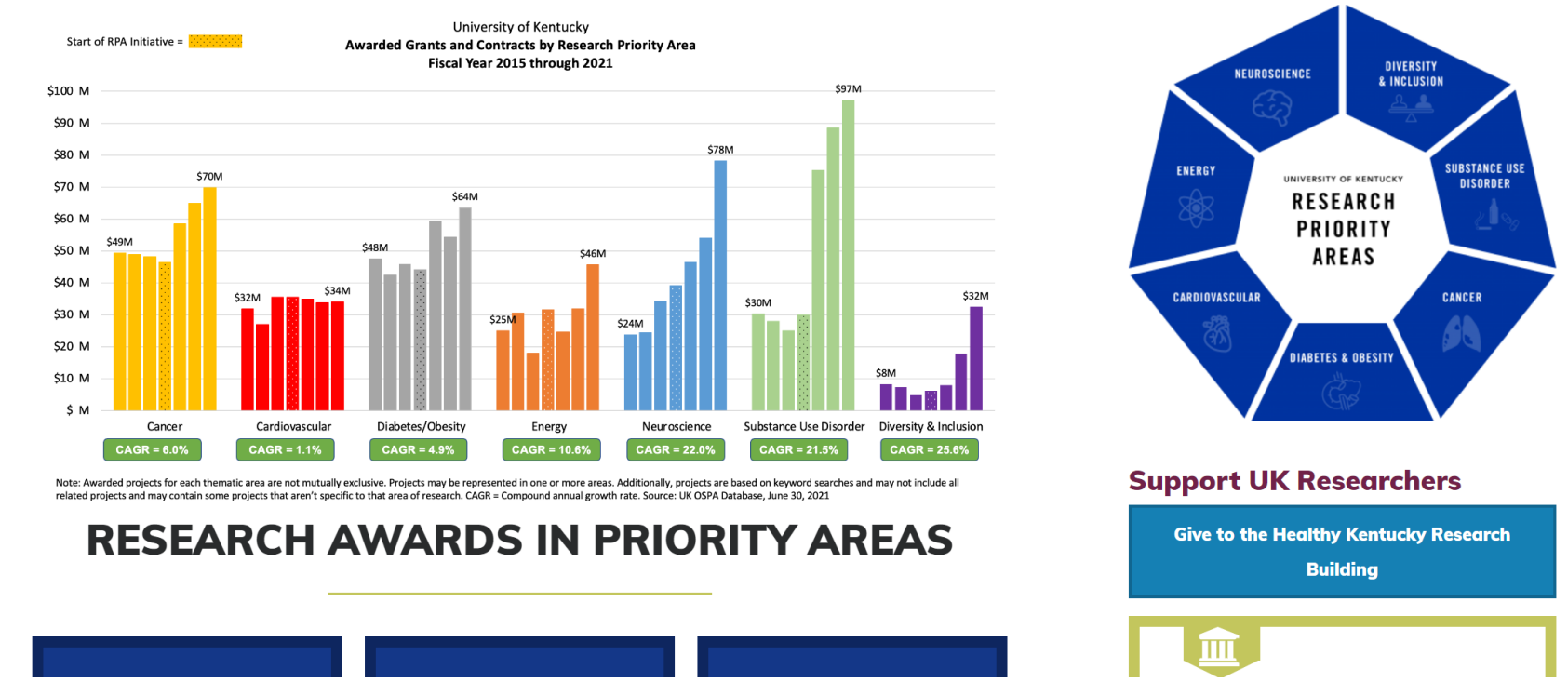
- Data Portal powered by Tableau
- Ad-Hoc Reporting powered by Tableau
- **Network Analysis & Bibliometrics** support strategic decisions



Co-Authorship Analysis using VosViewer

Examples

- Data Portal powered by Tableau
- Ad-Hoc Reporting powered by Tableau
- Network Analysis & Bibliometrics support strategic decisions
- **Program Review** supporting research initiatives



Using data to develop strategic initiatives that lead to institutional growth

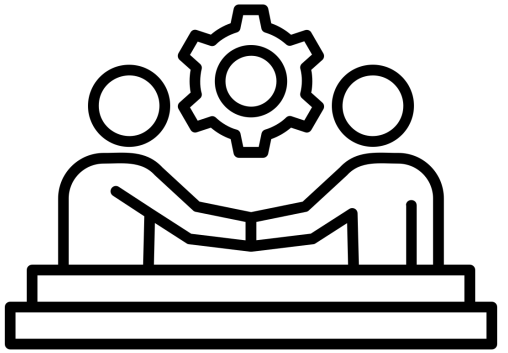
https://www.research.uky.edu/research-priorities-initiative

Research Information Management System – Newest Initiative

- System to capture consistent and up-to-date research output data and information
- System to create consistent researcher profiles
- Tool for discovery – both internal and external
- **NOT an assessment or evaluation tool**
- Capture new data elements not currently available
- Inclusive of all types of research, scholarship and discovery

https://scholars.uky.edu/

Paced Implementation to Ensure Success & Buy-In

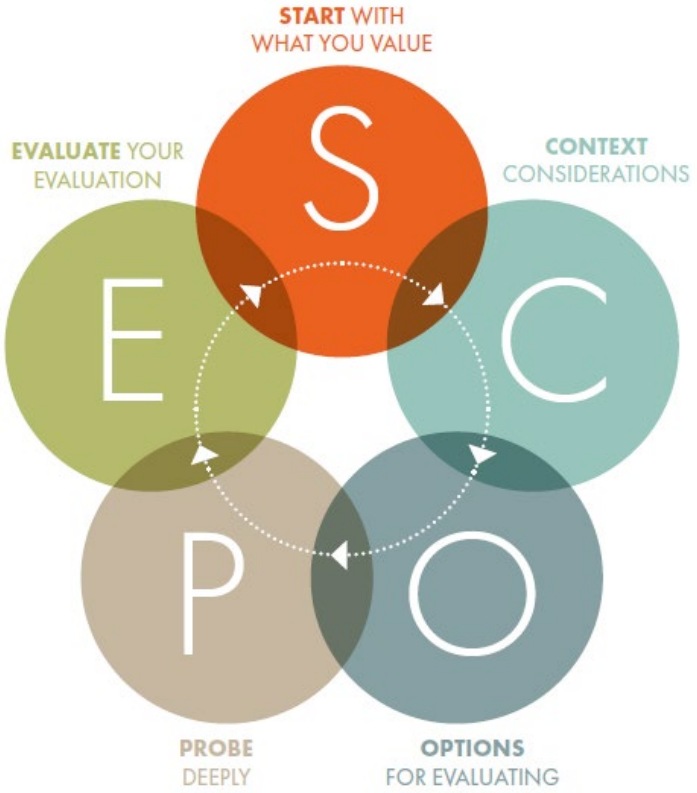


- Research Analytics Team
- Research Information Services (programmers)
- Key Leadership
  - President, Provost, Vice President for Research
  - Associate Deans for Research
  - Department Chairs & Departmental Administrators
- College by College Roll-out
  - Dedicated meetings w/ Loudest Opponents
  - Results in longer time to go-live, but ensures campus buy-in and support

Kentucky is more than...

- Basketball
- Bourbon
- Kentucky Derby
- Biomedical research
- Agriculture research

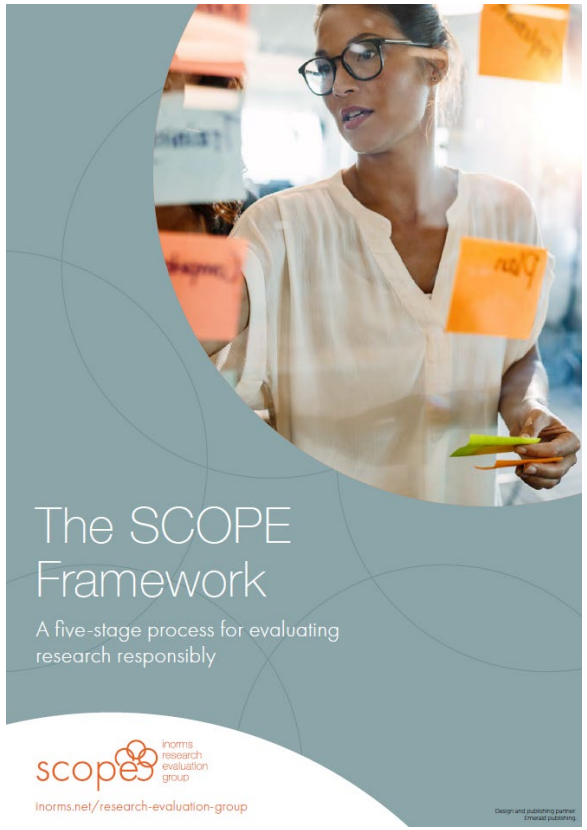
Research Information Management Systems helps UK communicate this through our public online portal and profiles!



https://inorms.net/scope-framework-for-research-evaluation/

inorms

https://inorms.net/research-evaluation-group/



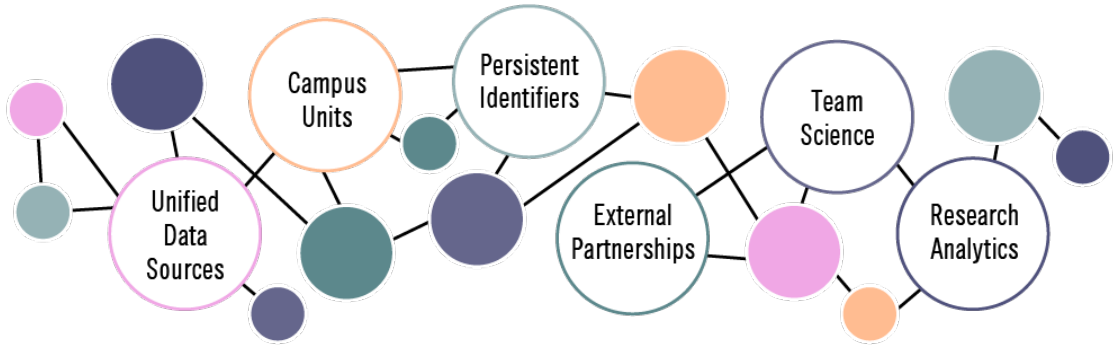
more than our rank

an inorms initiative

https://inorms.net/more-than-our-rank/

Research in Action
Research Analytics Funded Research

- National Council of University Research Administrators (NCURA)
- National Science Foundation Funded Research Project
  Research Analytics Using the Higher Education Research and Development Survey (HERD) to Impact Institutional Strategy
- 2023 NCURA Global Research Fellowship
- Pending conference proposals w/ NSF and the Institute of Museum and Library Services



Thank you!

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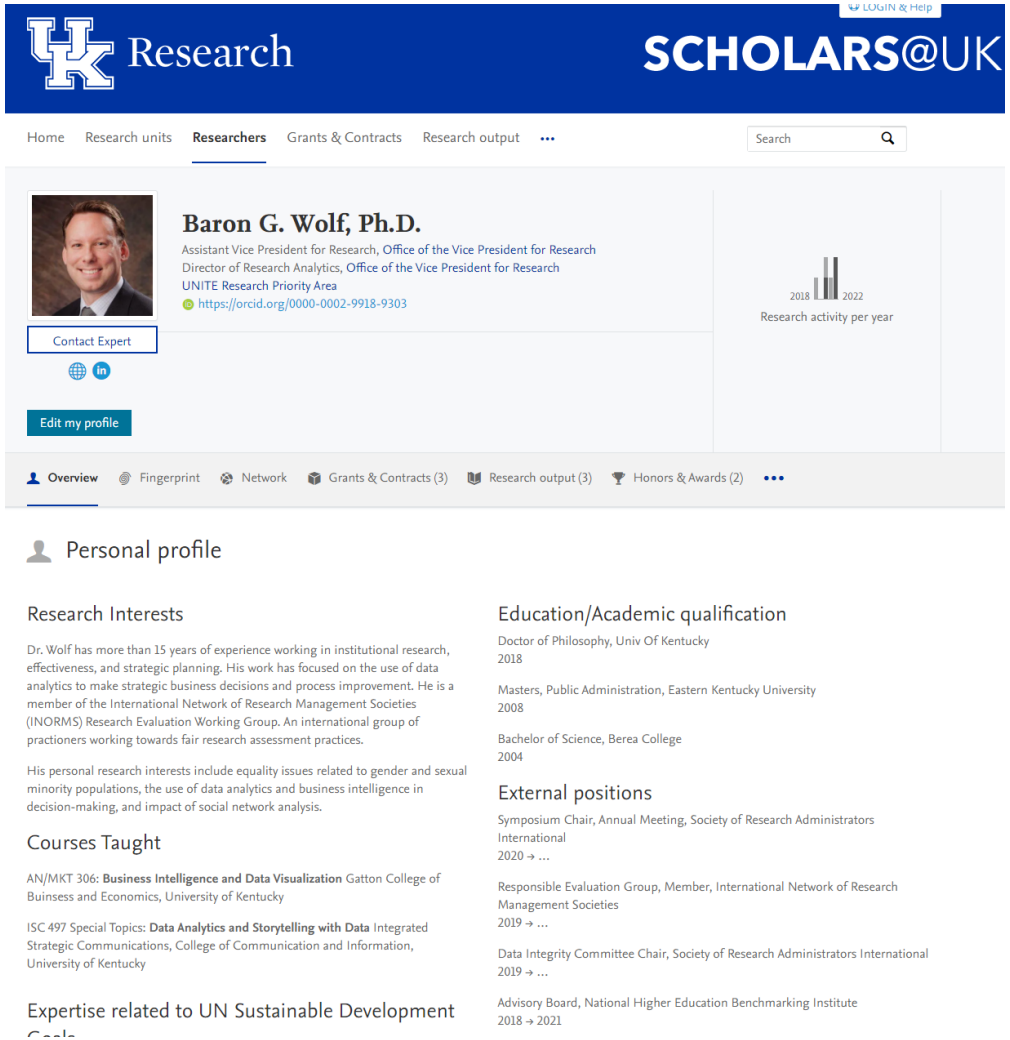
baron.wolf@uky.edu

https://scholars.uky.edu/en/persons/baron-g-wolf