### Much Ado about Data

Update on the NISO/NFAIS
Supplemental Journal Materials
Working Group



# Wearing my NISO and NFAIS hats



Business Working Group Co-Chairs: Linda Beebe, APA Marie McVeigh, Thomson Reuters

Technical Working Group Co-Chairs:
Alexander ('Sasha') Schwarzman, AGL
David Martinsen, ACS





# The Problem of Supplemental Materials

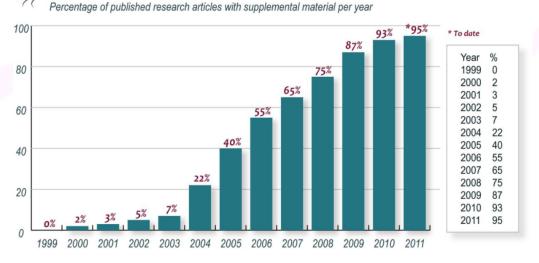
Widely varying practices across journals:

- definitions
  - peer review
    - data dumping ground?



# The Problem of Supplemental Materials

Increasing burden on editors and reviewers The Journal of Clinical Investigation





# The Problem of Supplemental Materials

Authors, editors, reviewers and readers don't know what to expect



Bring order to chaos

Preserve the record of science as embodied in the "article" ...

... while still encouraging innovation



Bring order to chaos

Better discoverability



Bring order to chaos

Better transportability



Recommendations/Best Practices, NOT Standards

Applicable now, but also an eye to to the future



### **Defining Terms**

What are supplemental materials supplemental to?

What is an article?

Why is something classified as supplemental?



# Classifying Supplemental Materials

- Integral

- Additional

Other



# Defining the categories

- Integral

Necessary for the general reader to understand the science

- Additional

Of interest to the specialist for deeper understanding



### Some Questions

Who decides what is and what is +?

Do supplemental materials always need to be stored at the publisher's site?



1. It's All About the Metadata

Metadata to describe the
supplemental materials and their
relationship to the main article,
and if necessary, to each other



2. Bidirectional Linking:

Supplemental Materials should indicate the article they supplement, and visa versa



#### 3. Persistent Identifiers:

Supplemental Materials should have persistent identifier(s) (DOI, e.g. CrossRef, Datacite, or some discipline specific identifier such as a PDB ID)



4. Preservation:

- at same level as article

- best effort

\*\* if using an "innovative" format, include a "primary" format for preservation purposes



5. Packaging: When an article is delivered, the supplemental materials should also be packaged with the article



6. And more...





We are not recommending how to format or tag the supplemental material content

We are not trying to solve the problem of archiving primary research data

We are not creating a solution for programmatic access to data for data mining and discovery of new knowledge



#### Photo of the Working Groups@Work



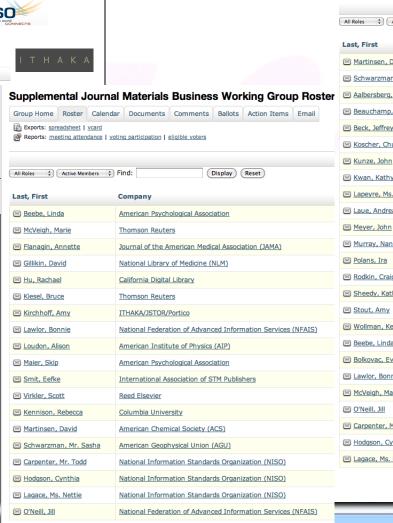
#### **Progress:**

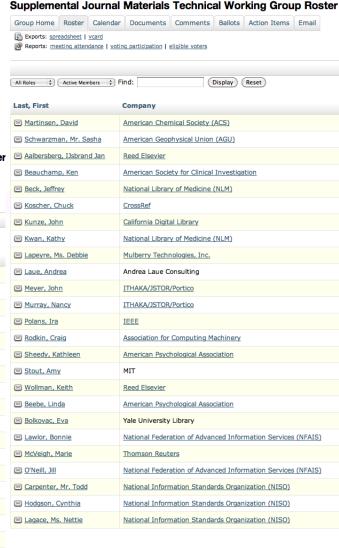
BWG has draft of recommendations for circulation to NISO/NFAIS Stakeholders

TWG working on recommendations for implementing recommendations from BWG (includes narrative, table, non-normative DTD, examples

After comments from NISO/NFAIS, revisions and circulation for broader comment

NISO and NFAIS publish the recommendation







# Time's Up!

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(but I' m generally anti-social



