

Professor Robert Grossman of University of Chicago and Dr. Heidi Alvarez of FIU lead a BoF entitled, "Collaborative Opportunities with the Open Science Data Cloud." The BoF addressed the need of scientists in a wide variety of disciplines who are struggling to manage, analyze, and share their medium to large size datasets containing unprecedented volumes of data that have the potential to transform science.

Our presentation portion of the BoF discussed the Open Science Data Cloud (OSDC) which has been developed to fill this gap. It is a cloud-based computing infrastructure that allows researchers to manage, analyze, integrate and share medium to large size scientific datasets. It is operated and managed by the not-for-profit Open Cloud Consortium.

The goal of our BoF session was to provide an informal opportunity to learn more about the OSDC and how interested parties could use the OSDC for big data research projects. The OSDC-PIRE (NSF's Partnership for International Research and Education) project was presented to interested graduate students and faculty as well. We distributed a survey to the attendees and compiled their responses as well as a list of the people willing to give up their name and email addresses. It gives us a feel for the make-up of the BoF attendees. TACC provided three attendees and there were a lot of .gov email addresses in our BoF group. We collected over 30 email addresses and of those attending 13 returned our surveys. We are still processing the survey responses but overall the responses to various questions range in the 75-100% positive range.