Hey Gia,

As we kick off our Data Governance initiative, I wanted to give you a sense of the goals I had in mind, and the way I’m approaching this in my head. These are essentially the thoughts I presented to John to obtain his buy-in, and he and I agreed that it’s the best way to promote long-term adoption (*aka make sure this sticks!*)

Hope this helps,

Steve

1. Start small. Don’t try to boil the ocean, get quick wins, build ambitions over time.
2. Set clear, measurable, and specific goals. We can’t control what we can’t measure. We should celebrate and recognize goals that are met and encourage people to keep up the cadence.
3. Define ownership. Without acknowledged business ownership, the framework we’re trying to institute can’t succeed.
4. Identify roles and responsibilities after ownership is defined.
5. Educate stakeholders at the business level. John asked that whenever possible, use business terms and translate the academic parts of the DG discipline into content that will actually mean something to business folks.
6. Focus on the operating model. Our framework needs to integrate with our company. This is why we’re not sticking to a dogmatic “*this is how data governance is done!*” approach that you can just plop on top of our environment. Data Governance is an ongoing practice, and we need it to work for us specifically.
7. Map infrastructure, architecture, and tools. The framework needs to be a sensible part of our architecture, rather than an aggravating formality.
8. Develop standardized data definitions / lexicon.
9. Identify data domains.
10. Identify critical data elements. Focus on the most critical stuff first, lock it down, then get more granular.
11. Communication. If you’ve gotten to this one, you’ve gotten the sense that communication is what I believe to be the most crucial part of this entire discipline. This isn’t something we can just plow through in the background (*unfortunately*)