**WORKFORCE DATA SCIENCE CONVENING**

Date:  Thursday, September 17, 2015

Time: 11:30am -- 1:00pm

Location: Eisenhower Executive Office Building, Room 172

1650 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20502

**Purpose, Background, and Process**

The purpose of this meeting is to discuss specific policy and engineering requirements that would be necessary to make it significantly easier to extract meaningful information from job descriptions, and potentially create an open, next-generation skills data exchange. These ideas have been in exploration and workforce discussions for several years. Our goal is that this discussion moves us closer to putting something tangible in place, and sets the table for workforce innovation.

Approximately 15–20 people will be in attendance from both the public and private sector. This is intended to be a small, high-level group, and will be closed to the press and off-the-record.

**Agenda**

Participants should come prepared to discuss key challenges and opportunities for public and private collaboration around utilizing workforce data and what the potential solutions might be.

1. **Short Group Intros & remarks by U.S. Chief Data Scientist D.J. Patil**
2. **Background and Brief History of this project**
3. **Who we serve: short use cases** -- Job seekers, employers, technology platforms, researchers, and entrepreneurs all gain from a robust, interoperable ecosystem of workforce data.
4. **Discussion: What are our hypotheses for the best mechanisms to get to a more common, shared understanding of available jobs, job requirements, and employer skill needs?**
   * *Schema*: An alpha version of an occupational schema exists on [schema.org](http://schema.org) exists and has been partially implemented by a few. Is this kind of schema the best way forward? If yes: what else do we need to make it work? If no: what other approaches are viable?
   * *Skills Co-op*: O\*NET provides a rich foundation for building a “co-op” or aggregator of data conforming to the O\*NET taxonomy of occupations and skills. A shared, agile, next-gen co-op could index and aggregate the jobs, training, skills, and wage data that conforms to our schema, organize it, and make it comprehensively available via APIs
   * *Other ideas*: What other concepts of models could help build the ecosystem we want?
5. **Next Steps**. From this core group of stakeholders, we want to understand what commitments can be made, and then expand partners and buy-in. We’ll discuss possible milestones we should set for further design, discussion, implementation, and adoption to get this ecosystem off the ground.