WashU Public Health

School Assembly

September 2, 2025

1. Welcome

2. Dean's updates

3. Digital Innovation; Betsy Sinclair, Nathan Jacobs

4. Other

1. Welcome

Dean Sandro Galea (sgalea@wustl.edu) welcomed attendees to the School of Public Health assembly.

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WashU Public Health

Agenda

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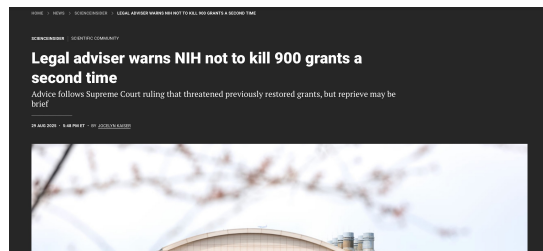4. Other

WashU Public Health

2.   Dean's Update
Dean Sandro Galea shared school-wide updates.

Agenda

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WashU Public Health

1. The moment

SCIENCEINSIDER | SCIENTIFIC COMMUNITY

Legal adviser warns NIH not to kill 900 grants a second time

Advice follows Supreme Court ruling that threatened previously restored grants, but reprieve may be brief

29 AUG 2025 · 5:48 PM ET · BY JOCELYN KAISER

OPINION
GUEST ESSAY

We Ran the C.D.C.: Kennedy Is Endangering Every American's Health

Sept. 1, 2025

Cheriss May for The New York Times

Institutions with (greater or lesser) longevity

Name	Founded (closed)
Catholic Church	30CE Edict of Milan 313
University of Bologna	1088
University of Oxford	1167
Havard University	1636
East India Company	1600 (wound up 1874)
Standard Oil	1870 (wound up 1911)

2. Since we last met

a. Our people

b. Space

c. Communication

d. Structures

a. Our people

b. Space

c. Communication

d. Structures

WashU Public Health

46 primary faculty

57 secondary faculty

125 staff

188 students

953 alumni

Mission

To ensure all can live healthier, fulfilling lives

Vision

To promote health and well-being through excellence in interdisciplinary population health science and scholarship, distinction in education, and a deep commitment to local and global impact.

Values

The School of Public Health is committed to excellence, diligence, compassion, and integrity. We aspire to an optimistic, inclusive, collaborative community with a sustained focused on advancing our shared mission.

Strategy 1: Engage world-class faculty and staff

Strategic Question	Measure	School-Level Indicator
1. What resources have faculty and staff garnered to support world class science and scholarship?	External funding	a. Total dollars in external funding applied for and awarded annually, segmented by: • Type of funding (Federal vs. Non-Federal) • School overall • Average per faculty
2. In what ways do the university- and school-level research infrastructures create facilitators or barriers to productivity?	Quality of research infrastructure	a. Retention of research administrators at university- and school-levels b. Average time from award to setup in Workday c. Research teams' satisfaction with pre-award and post-award supports
3. To what extent are faculty and staff disseminating their scholarship?	Academic publications	a. Annual # new publications by primary faculty b. Average # new publications per primary faculty annually
	Non-academic publications	c. Annual # new publications by primary faculty, total and by type (e.g., op-ed, blog post, policy/policy brief, podcast, etc.) d. Average # new publications per primary faculty annually
4. In what ways is the scholarly work of the SPH advancing the conversation towards a better world for all?	Field-Weighted Citation Impact (FWCI)	a. Four-year average FWCI of all publications by SPH primary faculty
	Innovations	b. # patent disclosures, # patent filings, # patents issued, and # patent citations for SPH-generated ideas c. # WashU startups initiated by the SPH
5. To what extent do faculty, staff, and students engaged with the SPH feel a sense of belonging within the school?	Tenure and promotion	a. % of eligible faculty who are promoted/granted tenure annually b. % of staff who are promoted annually
	Faculty and staff retention	c. Five-year primary faculty retention d. Two-year administrative staff retention
	Sense of belonging and well-being	e. % of SPH community reported sense of belonging f. % of SPH community reported well-being
6. In what ways are faculty and staff externally recognized for their leadership and service?	Awards and recognitions	a. #/type of awards and recognitions received
	Leadership and service	b. % primary faculty and % staff with leadership positions c. % primary faculty and % staff engaged in extramural service

Strategy 2: Nurture outstanding teachers and students

Strategic Question	Measure	School-Level Indicator
1. To what extent is the school attracting and retaining a broad student population?	Successful enrollment	a. Yield (%) b. # applications
	Background of students	c. % students with prior work experience d. Geographic representation of student body
2. To what extent are our curricula preparing students to address current and future public health concerns?	Quality of curriculum	a. Student satisfaction with quality of instruction b. Student satisfaction with quality of curricula c. Adherence to curricular standards
	Effectiveness of curriculum	d. Years to degree completion e. Employer feedback on SPH graduates' preparedness for the workforce f. Alumni feedback on their preparedness for the workforce
3. To what extent is our training of teachers preparing students to address current and future public health concerns?	Faculty engagement in professional development	a. # professional development trainings offered by SPH on teaching and instruction b. # unique teaching instructors participating in teaching and instruction-related professional development trainings
4. To what extent does the SPH contribute to the scholarship of teaching?	Curricular expansion	a. New courses, modalities, and programs launched
	Publications	b. # academic and non-academic publications about education and training
5. How satisfied are students, faculty, and staff with their experiences of professional development in the SPH?	Mentorship opportunities	a. Overall # formalized mentoring opportunities and unique # for students, staff, and faculty b. Overall % satisfaction with mentor-mentee relationships and disaggregated by program
	Student practicum experience	c. % satisfaction with practicum experience d. Practicum site satisfaction with students
	Student research experience	e. # WashU students engaged in SPH research activities, segmented by academic degree f. % satisfaction with research experience g. Student participation in publications, conferences
6. How do students fare after graduation?	Graduates' employment rate	a. Overall student employment rates upon graduation and disaggregated by program b. Overall employment rate one-year post-graduation and disaggregated by program
	Alumni satisfaction	c. Overall % of alumni satisfied with their SPH experience and disaggregated by program

Strategy 3: Public Health plus

Strategic Question	Measure	School-Level Indicator
1. What infrastructure exists within the SPH to facilitate interdisciplinary collaborations?	Infrastructure	a. Policies that incentivize interdisciplinary collaboration b. Opportunities created by SPH to facilitate collaborations c. Suggested improvements to infrastructure
2. What resources have faculty, staff, and students garnered to support and catalyze interdisciplinary science?	Funding awarded for interdisciplinary science	a. Total amount awarded to support interdisciplinary science, including total brought in for the school and segmented by: • Awardee (Innovation Research Networks, Research Centers) • Funding Type (Internal, External)
3. How strong is our interdisciplinary curriculum?	Interdisciplinary teaching	a. # courses (cross-taught, cross-listed, cross-registered) b. # dual degrees offered c. # students enrolled in each dual degree program
4. How engaged have faculty, staff, and students been in interdisciplinary science, both inside and outside the university?	Interdisciplinary collaborations	a. Total active # interdisciplinary collaborations, adhering to Times Higher Education's (THE's) definition of interdisciplinary science and including: • # internal collaborations • # secondary appointments at WashU by school • # of co-PIs • # publications between primary and secondary faculty b. Annual # new interdisciplinary collaborations
5. How strong are our interdisciplinary collaborations, and in what ways have they contributed to the literature and influenced the field?	Strength of interdisciplinary collaborations	a. Network Mapping
	Interdisciplinary science publications	b. Total # interdisciplinary publications, adhering to THE's definition of interdisciplinary science c. Annual # new interdisciplinary publications

Strategy 4: Prioritize local and global impact

Strategic Question	Measure	School-Level Indicator
1. What infrastructure exists within the SPH to facilitate local and global collaborations?	Infrastructure	a. Policies that incentivize external collaboration b. Opportunities created by SPH to facilitate collaborations c. Suggested improvements to infrastructure
2. What has been the measurable impact of SPH activities on our local and global community's health?	Impact of external collaborations	a. Total direct and indirect funds going to non-WashU partners and disaggregated by: • Sector (e.g., public, private) • Type of allocation (e.g., research grant subcontracts, vendors, contracts) b. Case studies and quantifiable data about impact of external collaborations at the following levels: • Individual • Community • Policy
3. In what ways is the SPH seen as a good community partner? What are opportunities for improvement?	Community perceptions of the impact of Public Health at WashU	a. Perceived impact of the School of Public Health from the following constituencies: • Community-engaged research partners • Current and potential employers of alumni • Practicum supervisors • Current and potential funders • Policymakers
4. To what extent has the SPH partnered with our local and global community to advance population health science? How sustainable are these partnerships?	Local and global collaborators	a. Total # collaborators and disaggregated by: • Location • Sector b. Duration of partnerships c. # capacity building opportunities offered by the SPH d. Reciprocity, mutuality, and strength of partnerships

" Thank you. I'll be following along to see what this new vision for public health looks like for … Washington University. I'm not sure that small tweaks here and there will be enough. My opinion: as public health professionals, we need to reimagine what it means to work in our profession. Less us versus them, more "we are part of the system, society, the culture" "

46 primary faculty

57 secondary faculty

125 staff

188 students

~1,000 alumni

a. Our people

b. Space

c. Communication

d. Structures

a. Our people

b. Space

c. Communication

d. Structures

Subject: Welcome to The WashU Public Health Moment
Date: Sunday, August 31, 2025 at 6:01:40 AM Central Daylight Time
From: WashU School of Public Health
To: Galea, Sandro

The WashU Public Health Moment
August 31, 2025

From the Dean

Dear colleagues,

The first half of 2025 has been a challenging moment for public health. A new U.S. federal administration has implemented substantial workforce reductions across the Department of Health and Human Services, affecting core agencies responsible for disease surveillance, research, and regulation, including the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the Environmental Protection Agency, and others. The director of the CDC, and key deputies, were removed or resigned last week. Threats to

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Subject: Inside WashU Public Health
Date: Monday, September 1, 2025 at 6:00:16 AM Central Daylight Time
From: WashU School of Public Health
To: Galea, Sandro

Inside WashU Public Health
September 1, 2025

From the communications director

All the news that's fit to email

August 31 marked the introduction of the School of Public Health's external weekly newsletter, *The WashU Public Health Moment*; if you did not receive it in your email, let me know at Elizabethe.durando@wustl.edu so we can fix that right away. The Moment will feature many of the items that have been appearing in this newsletter — among them, stories about SPH news and people, published research, and Public Health

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Subject: Public Health Education Weekly
Date: Tuesday, August 26, 2025 at 6:00:23 AM Central Daylight Time
From: Angela Hobson
To: Galea, Sandro

Public Health Education Weekly
August 26, 2025

"Education is the passport to the future, for tomorrow belongs to those who prepare for it today." — Malcolm X

From the Associate Dean of Education

Dear Students,

Happy first week of the Fall 2025 semester! I'd like to extend a note of gratitude to all students, staff, faculty, and campus partners who participated in the first WashU SPH

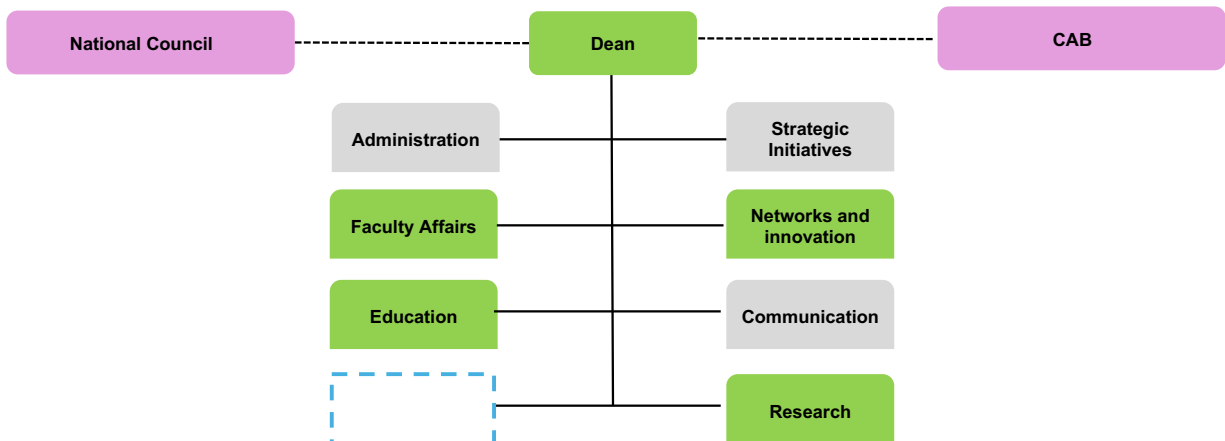## Policy, Biodiversity, and the Future of Food

Tuesday, September 23, 4 p.m. CT
At WashU and online

This panel discussion will explore the alarming decline in biodiversity at genetic, species, and ecosystem levels and its critical implications for food security and public health nutrition. With only nine plant species accounting for 65% of global food production, we face an unprecedented crisis that threatens resilient agrifood systems worldwide. Join leading experts as they discuss policy frameworks, community

a. Our people
b. Space
c. Communication
d. Structures

| National Council | - - - - - | Dean | - - - - - | CAB |

Administration		Strategic Initiatives
Faculty Affairs		Networks and innovation
Education		Communication
		Research

Committees

Dean's Cabinet
Governing Council

Faculty Affairs
Appointments and Promotions
Faculty development
Faculty recruitment

Education
Master's
Doctoral

Faculty Senate
Staff Administrative Advisory Council
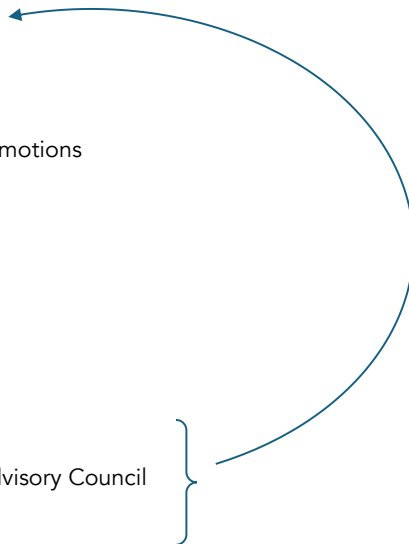Student Senate

Committees

Dean's Cabinet
Governing Council

Faculty Affairs
Appointments and Promotions
Faculty development
Faculty recruitment

Education
Master's
Doctoral

Faculty Senate
Staff Administrative Advisory Council
Student Senate

Regular meetings

School Assemblies
Faculty breakfasts
Staff breakfasts
Student coffee chats

Regular events

Thinking public health
Talking public health

3. Returning to our four strategies

1. **Faculty + staff**

Committee and meeting structures
Strategic planning
Preparing for next faculty

2. **Nurturing teachers + students**

Accreditation
Re-imagining education

3. **Public health plus**

Secondary faculty integration
Innovation Research Networks

4. **Local and global impact**

Building other pieces of org chart

WashU | The Source

Topics Schools Publications

NEWSROOM   SECTIONS ⌄

Gun violence remains top St. Louis public health concern, but mental health, addiction rising

32

PUBLIC HEALTH NEWS

Bringing a medical perspective to global public health

From Switzerland to Honduras, MD/MPH student Priscilla Cruz studies pressing public health issues

By Tamara Schneider | August 29, 2025

Priscilla Cruz, an MD/MPH student at Washington University, has made meaningful contributions to global public health even before completing her training. (Credit: Zachary Linhares/WashU Public Health)

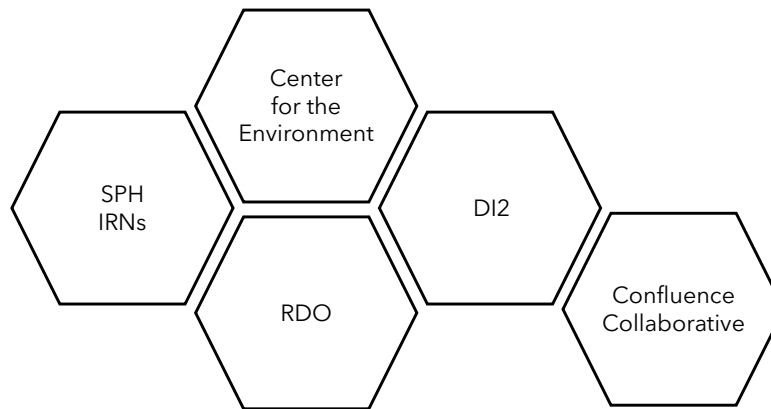COMPLICATING THE NARRATIVE with SALMA ABDALLA

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4. Other

The School of Public Health as part of an interdisciplinary initiatives ecosystem
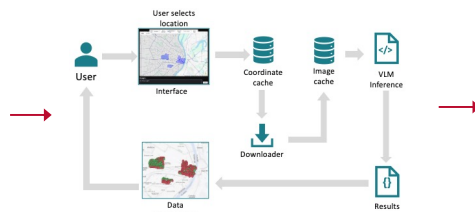

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3. Digital Innovation; Betsy Sinclair, Nathan Jacobs
Incubator for Trasdisciplinary Futures co-director Betsy Sinclair (bsinclai@wustl.edu) presented on the work of the Digital Intelligence & Innovation Accelerator and the opportunities for collaboration with the School of Public Health.

WashU

Digital Intelligence & Innovation (DI²) Accelerator

Betsy Sinclair and Nathan Jacobs

![WashU Public Health logo]

Traditional field survey

Deep learning model trained on Street View imagery

Interface allowing users to perform public health assessments by asking plain language questions about the urban environment.

WashU

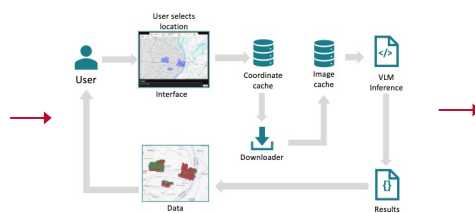

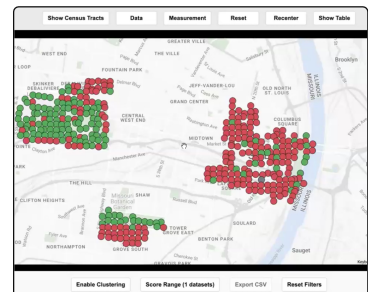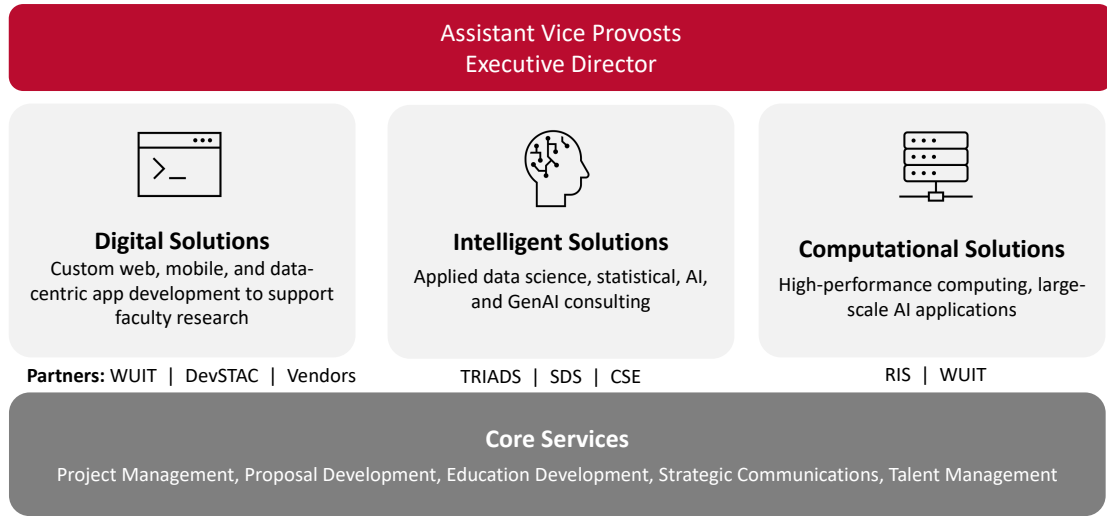Traditional field survey

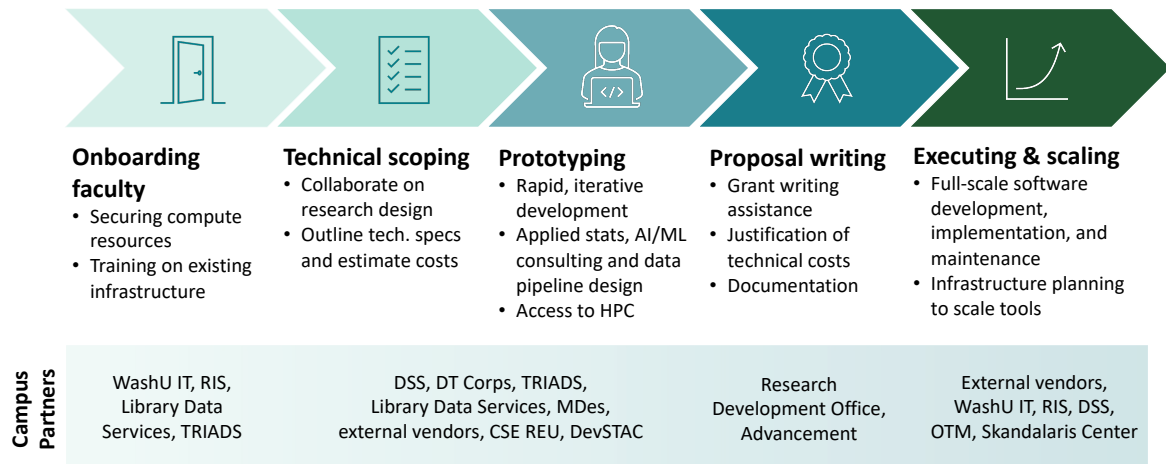
Deep learning model trained on Street View imagery

Interface allowing users to perform public health assessments by asking plain language questions about the urban environment.

WashU

DI2 Functional Structure

Assistant Vice Provosts
Executive Director

Digital Solutions
Custom web, mobile, and data-centric app development to support faculty research

Partners: WUIT | DevSTAC | Vendors

Intelligent Solutions
Applied data science, statistical, AI, and GenAI consulting

TRIADS | SDS | CSE

Computational Solutions
High-performance computing, large-scale AI applications

RIS | WUIT

Core Services
Project Management, Proposal Development, Education Development, Strategic Communications, Talent Management

Partners: Data Services Librarian | Faculty Fellows | Industry | WashU Partners

Research acceleration model

Onboarding faculty
- Securing compute resources
- Training on existing infrastructure

Technical scoping
- Collaborate on research design
- Outline tech. specs and estimate costs

Prototyping
- Rapid, iterative development
- Applied stats, AI/ML consulting and data pipeline design
- Access to HPC

Proposal writing
- Grant writing assistance
- Justification of technical costs
- Documentation

Executing & scaling
- Full-scale software development, implementation, and maintenance
- Infrastructure planning to scale tools

Campus Partners

|			
WashU IT, RIS, Library Data Services, TRIADS	DSS, DT Corps, TRIADS, Library Data Services, MDes, external vendors, CSE REU, DevSTAC	Research Development Office, Advancement	External vendors, WashU IT, RIS, DSS, OTM, Skandalaris Center

WashU AI Toolbox

WashU ChatGPT

- HIPAA- and FERPA-compliant
- Designed for safe use with institutional data, IP and teaching/research needs
- Try it now at
 **gpt.washu.edu**

Secure API Access to AI Endpoints

- Provides faculty with a safe and secure way to integrate AI models directly into research workflows
- Additional models coming soon
- Faculty can request access now at
  genai.washu.edu/api
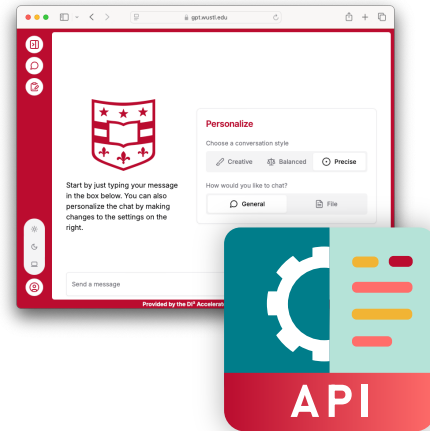
Opportunities for synergy
Community-engaged research tools

DI2 supports community-engaged research through scalable, user-centered tools for:

- Data collection
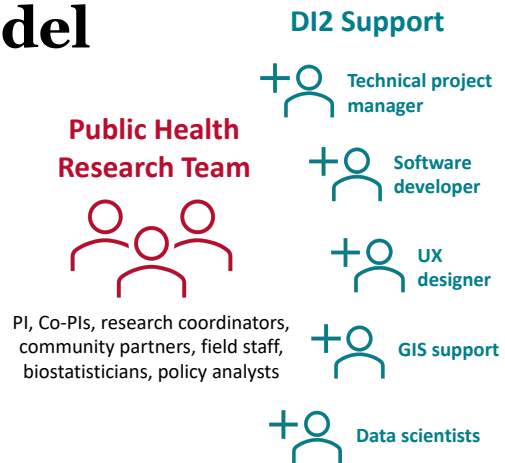- Visualization
- Public engagement
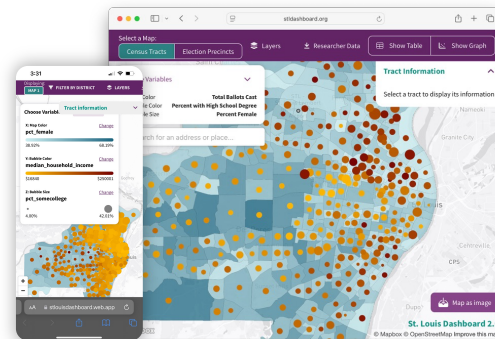
The **St. Louis Dashboard** is an interactive platform that visualizes key regional issues—like housing, public health, and climate resilience—through accessible, well-designed charts for researchers, policymakers, and the public. **stldashboard.org**

Opportunities for synergy

Shared staffing model

- Flexible, embedded support to **complement SPH expertise** and augment research initiatives
- Access to technical project managers, developers, data scientists, and AI experts to embed in research teams
- **Scales with faculty needs** and ensures continuity across funding cycles

DI2 Support

- Technical project manager
- Software developer
- UX designer
- GIS support
- Data scientists

Public Health Research Team

PI, Co-PIs, research coordinators, community partners, field staff, biostatisticians, policy analysts

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Opportunities for synergy

Faculty-lead AI workshops

- Partner with DI2 to host **workshops on using AI in your domain**
- Public Health faculty showcase real examples and **applications from their work**
- DI2 demonstrates AI tools and applied technical expertise
- Builds a foundation for **peer-to-peer learning** and fosters new collaborations

Get in touch!

Have an idea for a research project?
Contact di2accelerator@wustl.edu to get started.

Or visit di2.washu.edu

4. Other
Dean Sandro Galea welcomed attendees to share any addition updates before closing out the session.

Agenda