

AISP's New Executive Director

Dennis Culhane and John Fantuzzo are excited to announce that Matthew Hill, Ph.D., has been hired as AISP's new **Executive Director**. Dr. Hill will be responsible for the planning and implementation of [AISP Innovation](#), a new grant from the Laura and John Arnold Foundation as well as [Phase III of the MacArthur Grant](#). He will also establish regular communication with the [AISP Network sites](#) in addition to working with new developing sites. Through these efforts, Dr. Hill will focus on building strategic relationships with foundations, researchers, and IDS sites to identify opportunities to expand the field of IDS.



Prior to AISP, Dr. Hill was formerly the Associate Director and Sr. Research Fellow at the Center for Heritage & Society and the Dept. of Landscape Architecture and Regional Planning at UMass Amherst. He has consulted with city governments, public park systems, and nonprofit organizations in the areas of strategic planning and revenue generation. He completed his Ph.D. at the University of Chicago in anthropology with a focus on cities and urban development.

Additional Information

April 26 - DQC Webinar: Time to Act: Making Data Work for Students

June 1st Deadline: Public Administration Review (PAR)
Call for Papers - Using Administrative Data for Social Policy Research

LJAF - RFP: Randomized Controlled Trials to Evaluate Social Programs

Toolkit for Communities Using Health Data: National

AISP Network Sites in the News

Dennis Culhane and John Fantuzzo Awarded \$1.9M for AISP and IDS Research



“Two grants, totaling nearly \$2 million, have been awarded to University of Pennsylvania professors [Dennis Culhane](#) and [John Fantuzzo](#), enabling the continued development and expanded use of Integrated Data Systems, or IDS, for evidence-based policymaking through the [Actionable Intelligence for Social Policy](#), or AISP, initiative.”

“The major grants came this year from both the [Laura and John Arnold Foundation](#) – \$1.1 million – and the [John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation](#) – \$800,000.” Access the complete [article](#).

AISP’s Assessment Tool Release

We’re excited to announce that our [online assessment tool](#) for developing IDS sites is live. Using this tool, jurisdictions can now quickly determine where they are with regard to their IDS development, and obtain suggestions on what next steps to take in order to continue creating an IDS that can ultimately be used to generate actionable intelligence for policy-makers in their community.

The History of Allegheny County’s IDS and its Potential to Improve the Foster Care System

“Humming away in a brick building near the banks of Pittsburgh’s Monongahela River, two servers filled



with personal data hold the potential to improve the lives of the state's most vulnerable children.”



“Harnessing what’s on these servers would represent an ambitious use of big data, one that could possibly safeguard thousands of kids from abuse and neglect and transform a foster care system in need of help.” Access the [complete article](#).

Knowledge @ Wharton Interviews AISP’s Research Associate



Dan Loney at Knowledge @ Wharton’s Business Radio talk show spoke with AISP Research Associate, [Whitney LeBoeuf](#), about her work with Philadelphia, the AISP project, and Penn’s GSE Child Research Center. During the interview, Whitney discusses how government agencies collect administrative data on individuals they serve that can be harnessed by researchers to create a more cost-efficient, effective government. For example, social services or public education are only aware of the individuals they are serving, and are completely blind to these individuals’ experiences with other agencies, so researchers are encouraging the use of integrating data from the different agencies to build a bigger picture of the individual. Access the full [interview](#).

Administrative Data in the News

The Evidence-Based Policymaking Commission Act of 2016

The H.R. 1831: Evidence-Based Policy Act was passed by the House and Senate on March 17, 2016. Fifteen individuals will be appointed to the commission, which will include a mix of academic researchers, data experts,

program administrators, experts in protecting personally-identifiable information, and experts in data minimization.

The Commission is charged with conducting “a comprehensive study of the data inventory, data infrastructure, database security, and statistical protocols related to Federal policy making” in order to determine best practices for integrating administrative data across federal programs. To this end, it will evaluate how administrative data are integrated and made available to researchers and institutions for program evaluation, policy-relevant research, cost-benefit analysis, and will also identify methods that assure data security. The Commission will have approximately 15 months to create a report for submission to Congress and the President. The report will include a detailed statement of the group’s findings, conclusions, and recommendations for administrative actions. Access the complete [text](#).

W.T. Grant Foundations Blog: The Next Generation of Evidence-based Policy



“It is promising that at a time of heightened political rancor, evidence-based policy is finding bipartisan support. But the road ahead is still tenuous, and much will depend on whether the evidence movement can evolve. Here, I draw on the terrific ideas and insights from the authors of this series to suggest three steps for moving forward: focus on improvement, attend to bodies of evidence, and build state and local capacity for evidence use.” Access the complete [blog post](#).

Education and the Workforce Committee Discussed Finding the Balance between Education Research and Student Privacy



“The House Committee on Education and the Workforce, chaired by Rep. John

Kline (R-MN), held a [hearing](#) today to examine federal policies affecting education research and student privacy. Members and witnesses discussed how education research is used, how states can protect student privacy while conducting education research, and what improvements can be made to update and strengthen federal policies in these areas.” Access the complete [Press Release](#).

AISP Network

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IDS Uses

If you have any questions or comments or comments about the AISP Newsletter or AISP, please contact [Laura Kitson](#).

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