

Go Interdisciplinary!

And be happy

What the * do you mean?

BR Data

Scientists

Coders

Journalists

Statisticians

Lawyers

Radio + TV
Journalists

Bio-Engineers

Mathematics

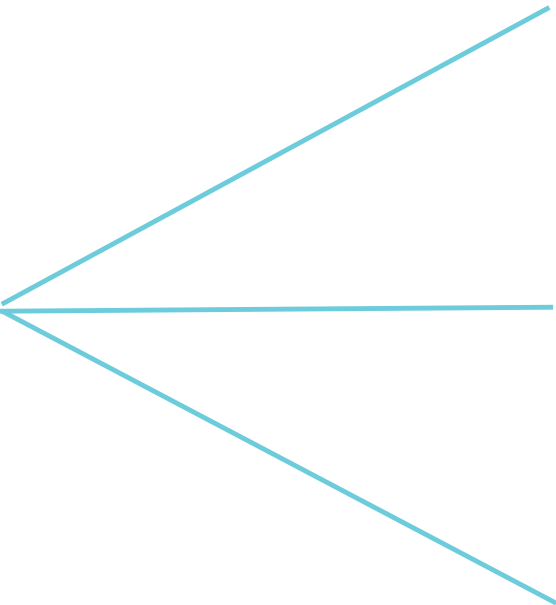
Open Data
Activists

Designers

Topic
Experts

Why?

Different
Skill Sets
+
Backgrounds

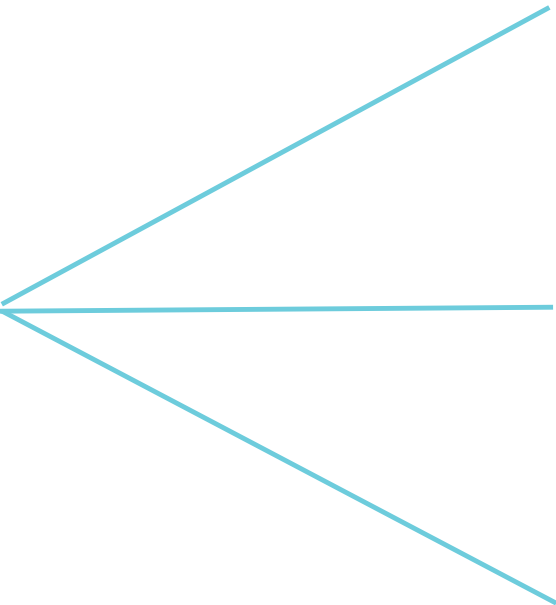


Diverse

Innovative

Effective

Skill Sets
+
Backgrounds



Diverse

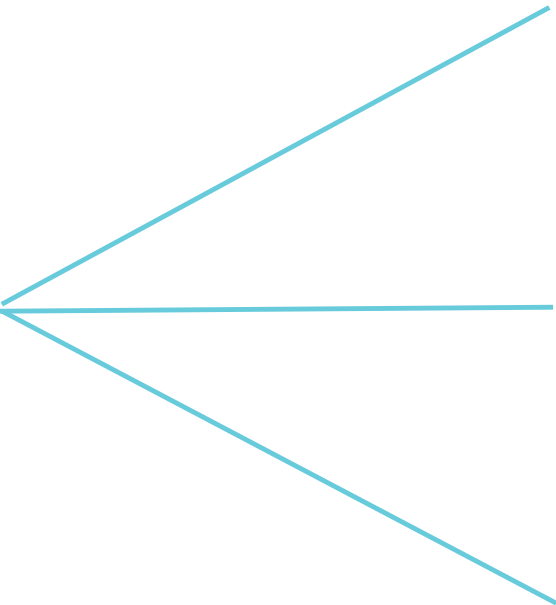


Innovative



Effective

Skill Sets
+
Backgrounds



Diverse



Innovative



Effective



My Journey

Industry



Academia



Industry

Digital Newsroom

Nieman
Fellowship

BR Data



Transmedia Team

AI/Automation Lab

Data Team

Manifesto for Happy Newsrooms

The Plan B Version

1. Define Your Mission

“People in an interdisciplinary team need to fit together like puzzle pieces”

Cameron Hickey,
Team Lead “Information Disorder Lab”
at Harvard’s Shorenstein Center



Mission → Roles → People → Work

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graph LR; Mission --> Roles; Roles --> People; People --> Work;
```

Mission → Roles → People → Work



Narrow Simple

Define Your Mission

Mission = Plan B

2. Grow Your Team Organically

“Your mission and your team have to grow together.”

Cameron Hickey,
Team Lead “Information Disorder Lab”
at Harvard’s Shorenstein Center



Transmedia Team



BR Data



Piloting Formats
Connecting Web/Radio/TV

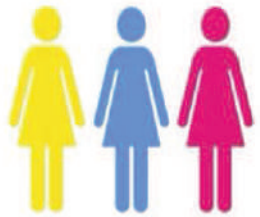
Innovation
Journalism/Tech
Interdisciplinarity

Investigative
Data Journalism

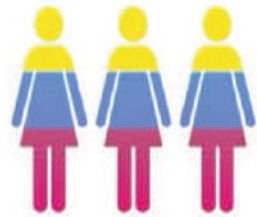
3. Grow Your Team Organically

Plan B: Spend More Time on Your Mission

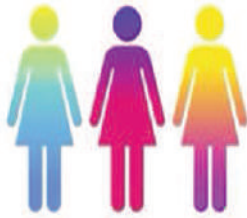
4. Work With Overlapping Skill Sets



specialists



generalists

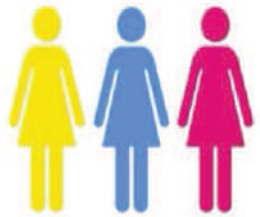


complementary

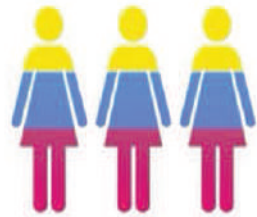


Ines Montani
Start-Up Founder +
Machine Learning Expert

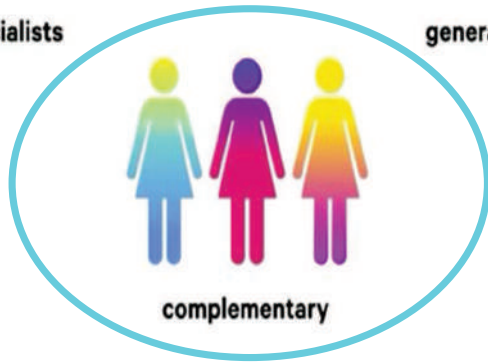




specialists



generalists



complementary



Ines Montani
Start-Up Founder +
Machine Learning Expert



Work With Overlapping Skill Sets

Plan B: Start off with Generalists, Grow More Specialized

5. Find a Common Language

Sharing Domains

“It’s a huge mistake to dive into a project without taking the time. In the end it will definitely save you more than it costs you.”

Ana Serrano,
Chief Digital Officer
of the Canadian Film Center



Find a Common Language

Plan B: Save Time on Ice Breaking + Team Building

6. Hone a Digital Mindset

Find the Right Newsroom Model

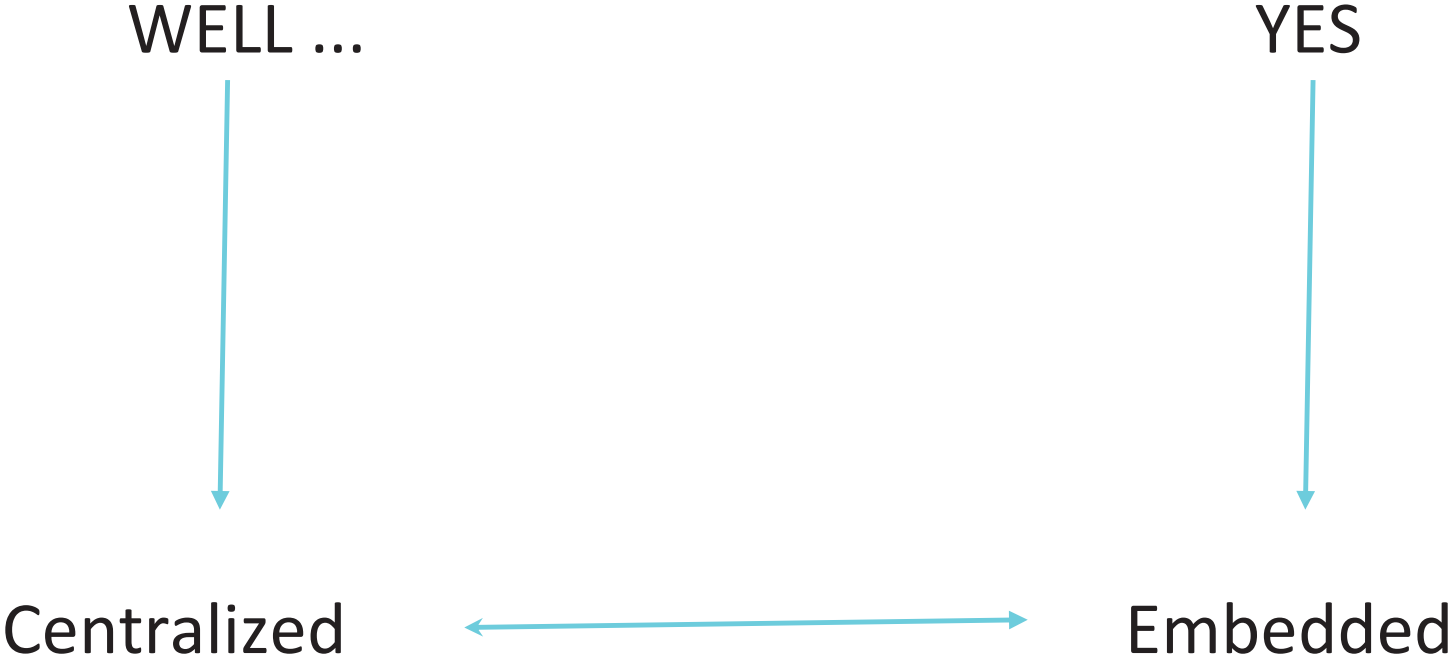
“How far along is the company in shifting the values from the traditional to the digital product?”

Is the digital product at least valued as much as the non-digital product?”

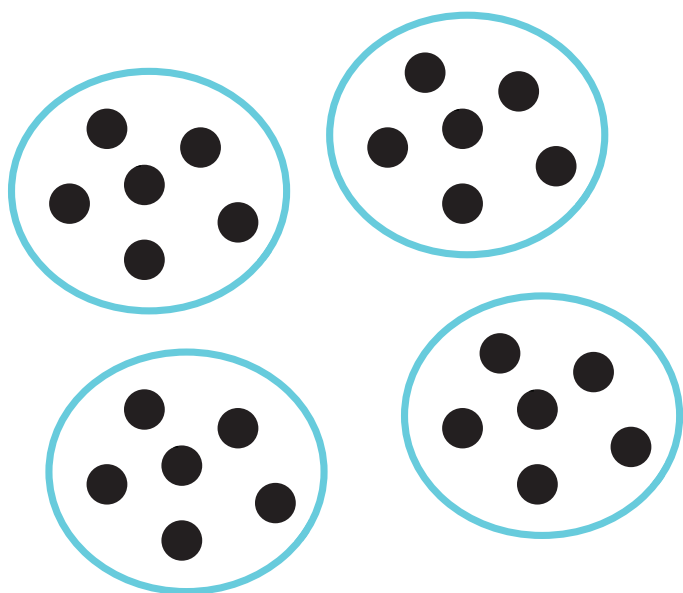
Aron Pilhofer,
Digital Strategies
for NYT + Guardian



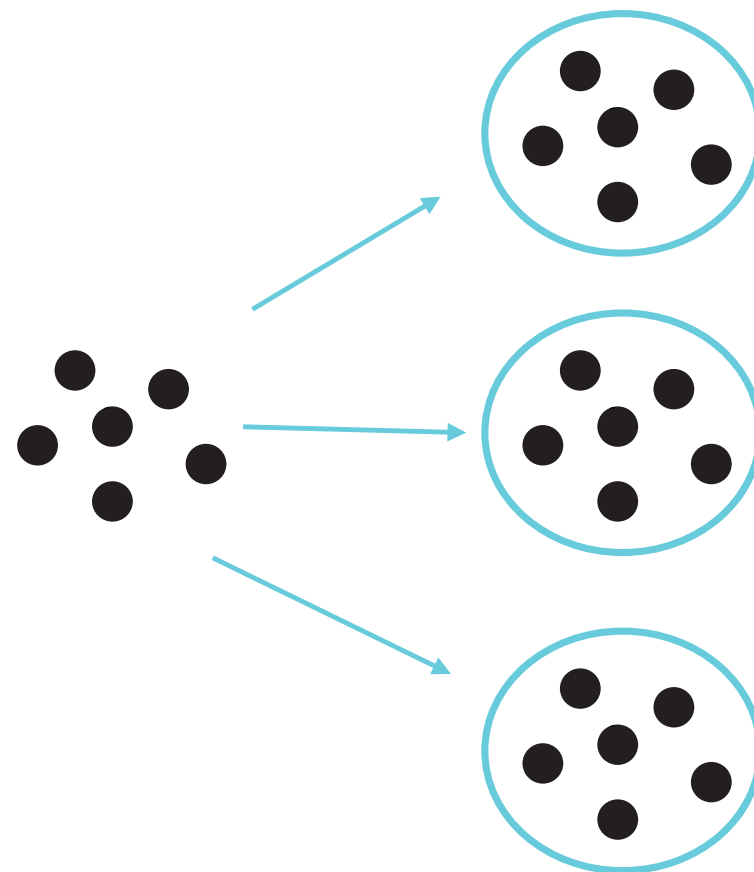
Digital Product Valued?



Centralized



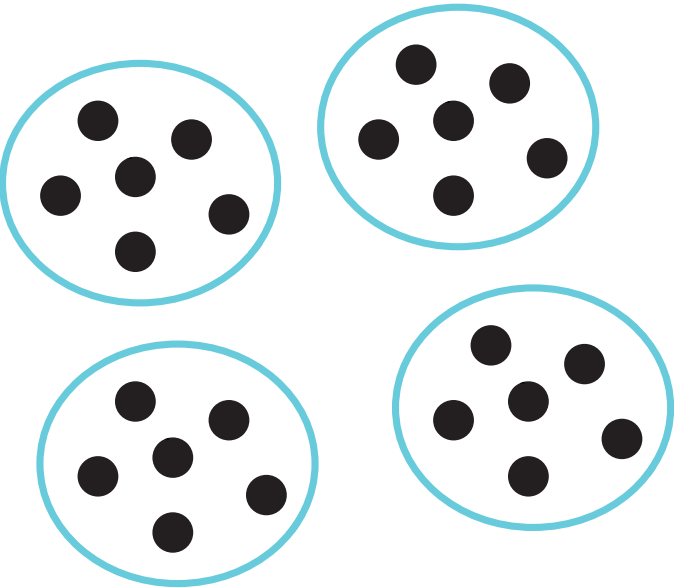
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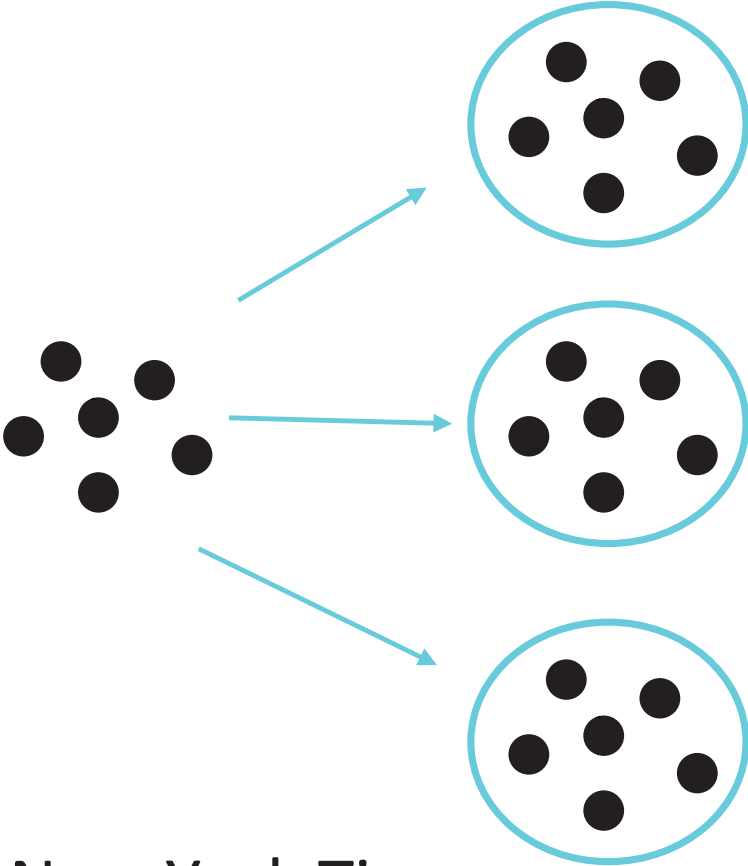
Centralized



Embedded



ProPublica Washington Post



New York Times

Hone a Digital Mindset

No Plan B!

(In The Meantime Centralize Your Team)



July 9, 2019

Working Across Disciplines: A Manifesto for Happy Newsrooms

For news outlets to successfully innovate, interdisciplinary teams are essential. Here's how to make them work

Thank you!

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