

# Year of the Librarian: The Future is Ours for the Taking

R. David Lankes

Slides and Screencast @ <http://www.DavidLankes.org>

# I Believe...

- Best Days of Librarianship are Ahead of Us
- We are the Right Profession, Uniquely Positioned to Lead in the Knowledge Age
- However, We won't get there Following Current Trends and with our Current Focus on "Recorded Knowledge" and Buildings

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**Cornell University Library** will have to cut around about \$944,000 from the fiscal year 2010 materials budget. "A reduction in the materials budget is in keeping with reductions across the university," said John Saylor, associate university librarian for scholarly resources and special collections, in the April 14 *Cornell Chronicle*. "It's unfortunate but unavoidable," he continued. "The library is committed to maintaining and building a collection that ensures our lasting position among the top research libraries. Ongoing library contract reductions are around 7-9%, with an FY2009 permanent reduction of \$2.3 million."

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At the **University of Tennessee Libraries**, Dean of Libraries Barbara I. Dewey sent a memo ([PDF file](#)) February 16 to deans, department heads, and library representatives warning that they were "facing a potential 3% base budget cut. This cut represents reductions totalling \$1,343,299 from the library's operations, personnel, and collections budget." She noted that "the magnitude of the economic situation no longer makes it possible for us to avoid collection cuts."

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**MIT Libraries** are faced with a \$1.4 million budget cut this summer. A [report](#) on the library website calls the reduction "part of the Institute-wide mandate to reduce General Institute Budget expenditures in the 2010 fiscal year." This mandate requires the MIT Libraries to reduce their budget by 6% by July 1. The library anticipates further budget reductions for FY2011 and FY2012.

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**Emory University Libraries** have already cut \$200,000 (1.8%) from the current (2008–2009) collections budget, and FY2010 will bring additional collection cuts as the library struggles to adjust a reduced budget to inflationary pressures, which can range from five to ten percent, according to an April 2009 [report](#) from the library's *Information for Social Scientists*. Chuck Spornick, head of collection management for the General Libraries, estimates that almost \$637,000 (6.0%) will need to be trimmed from the 2010 collections budget.

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# Thought Experiments

The background features a series of blue rays emanating from the top left, creating a sunburst effect. In the bottom left corner, there is a stylized white cloud with soft, rounded edges.

# Thought Experiments



What is the Fundamental and Recognizable Contribution of Library Science in the Academy?

# Thought Experiments

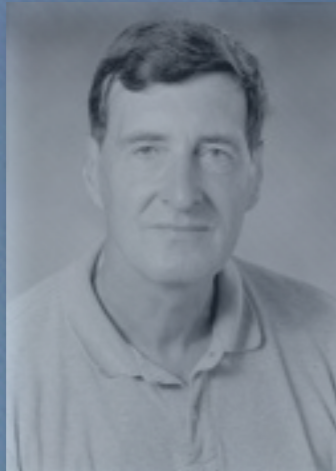


What is the Fundamental and Recognizable Contribution of Library Science in the Academy?



What is a Librarian without a Library?

# Thought Experiments



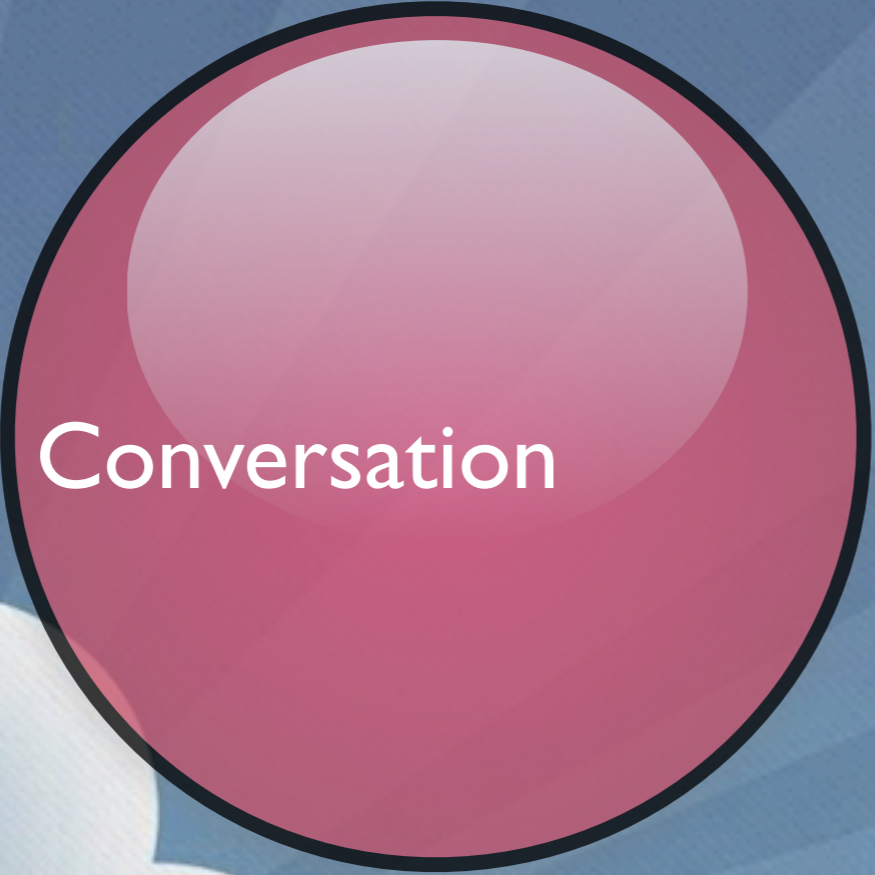
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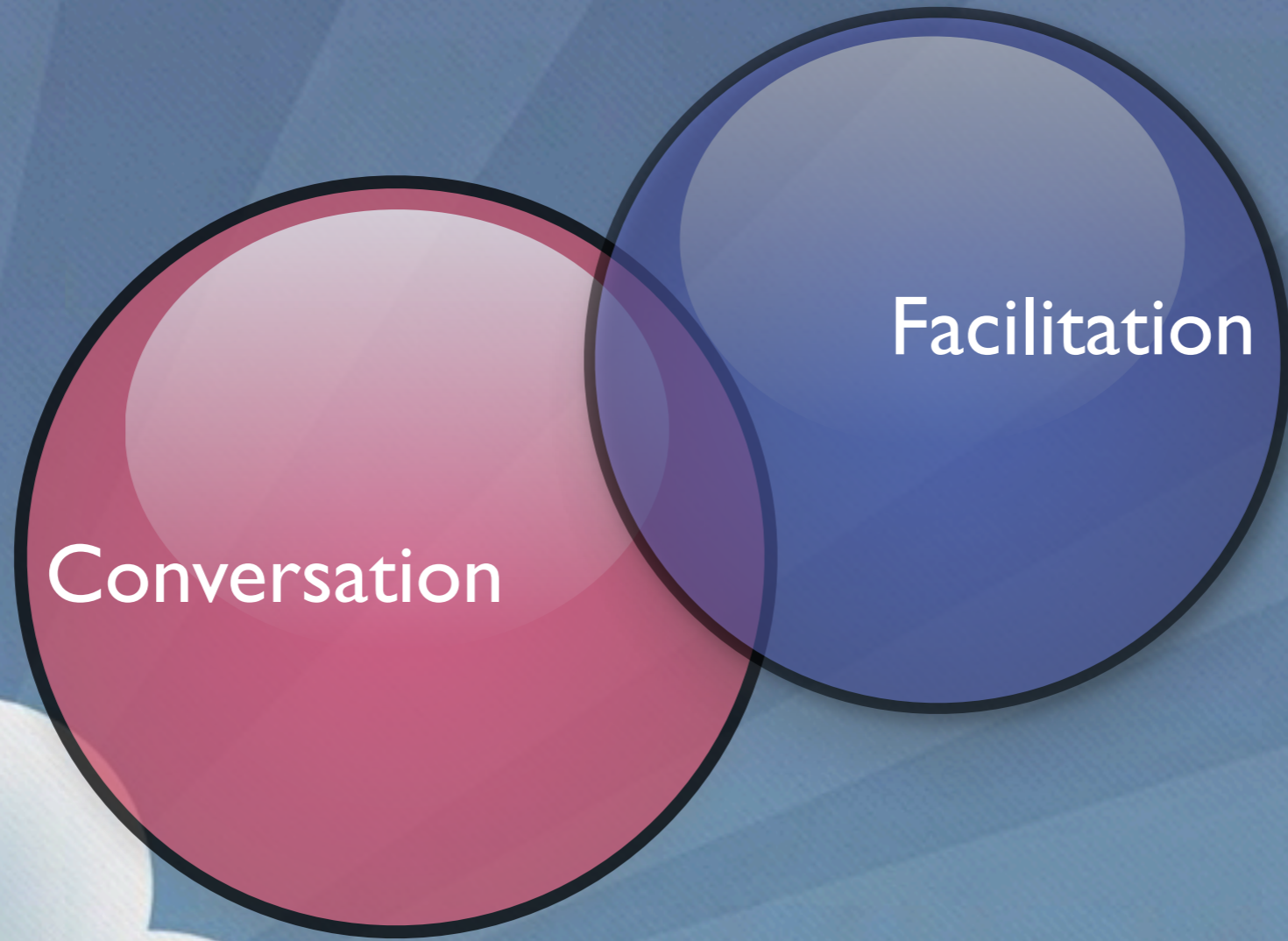
What is a Librarian without a Library?



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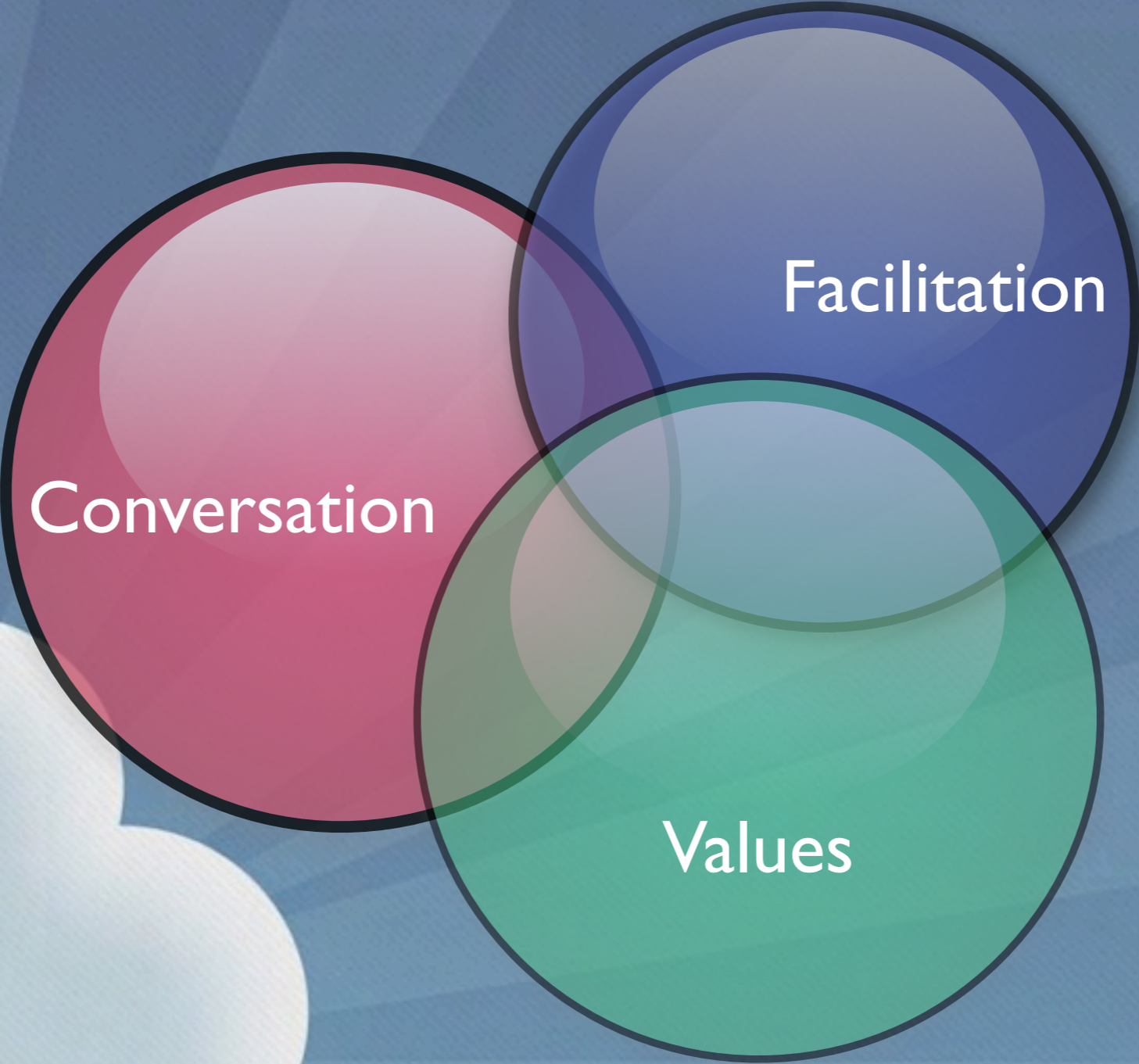
Conversation



Conversation

Facilitation





Conversation

Facilitation

Values



Facilitation

Conversation

Values



**The Mission of Librarians is  
to Improve Society through  
Facilitating Knowledge  
Creation in their  
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**Facilitation**

**Knowledge**

**Worldview/  
Mission**

**Improve  
Society**

**Communities**

**Librarians**

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**Facilitation**

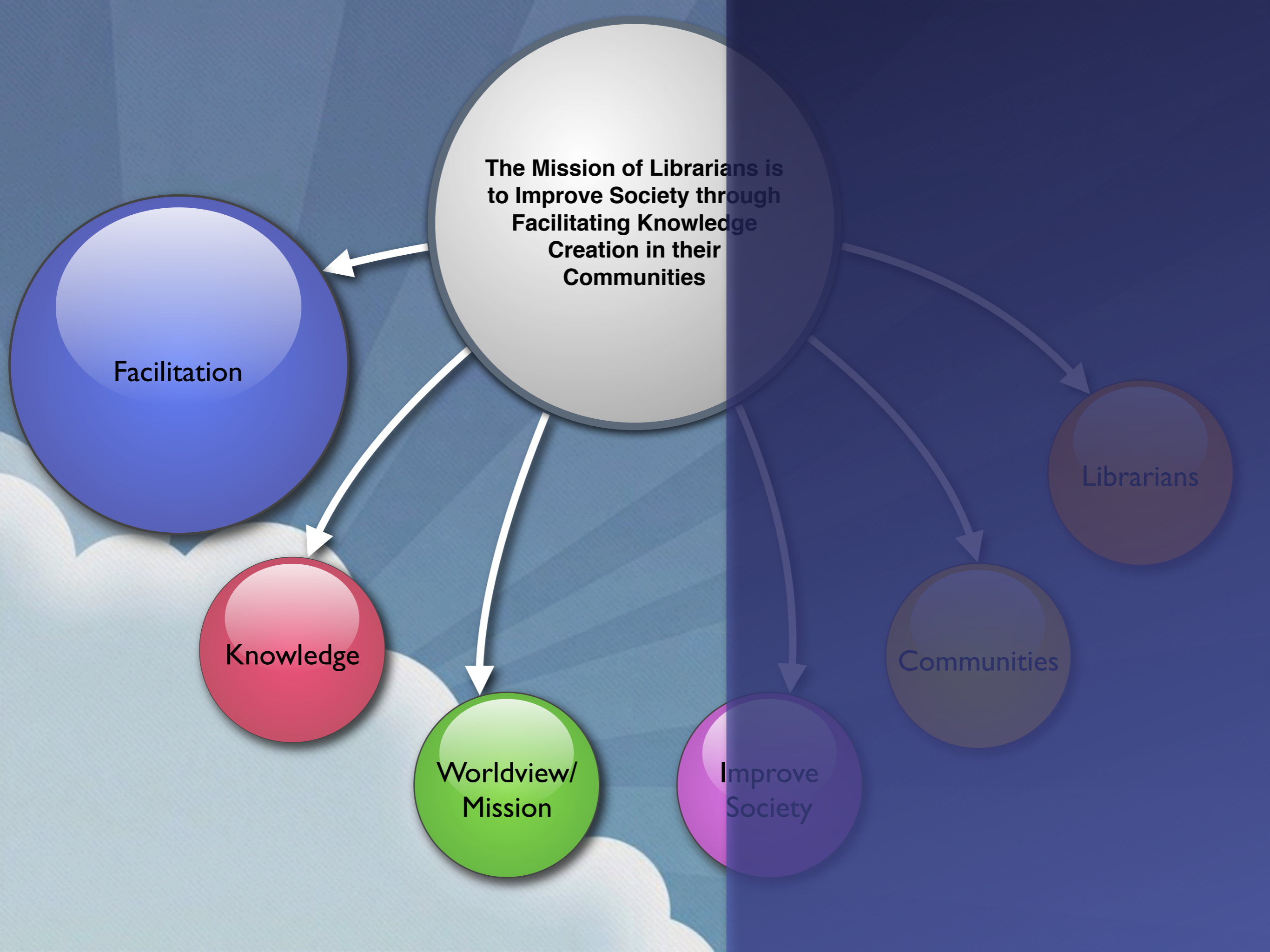
**Librarians**

**Knowledge**

**Worldview/  
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**Improve  
Society**

**Communities**



**The Mission of Librarians is to Improve Society through Facilitating Knowledge Creation in their Communities**

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Mission**

**Librarians**

**Communities**

**Improve Society**

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**Knowledge**

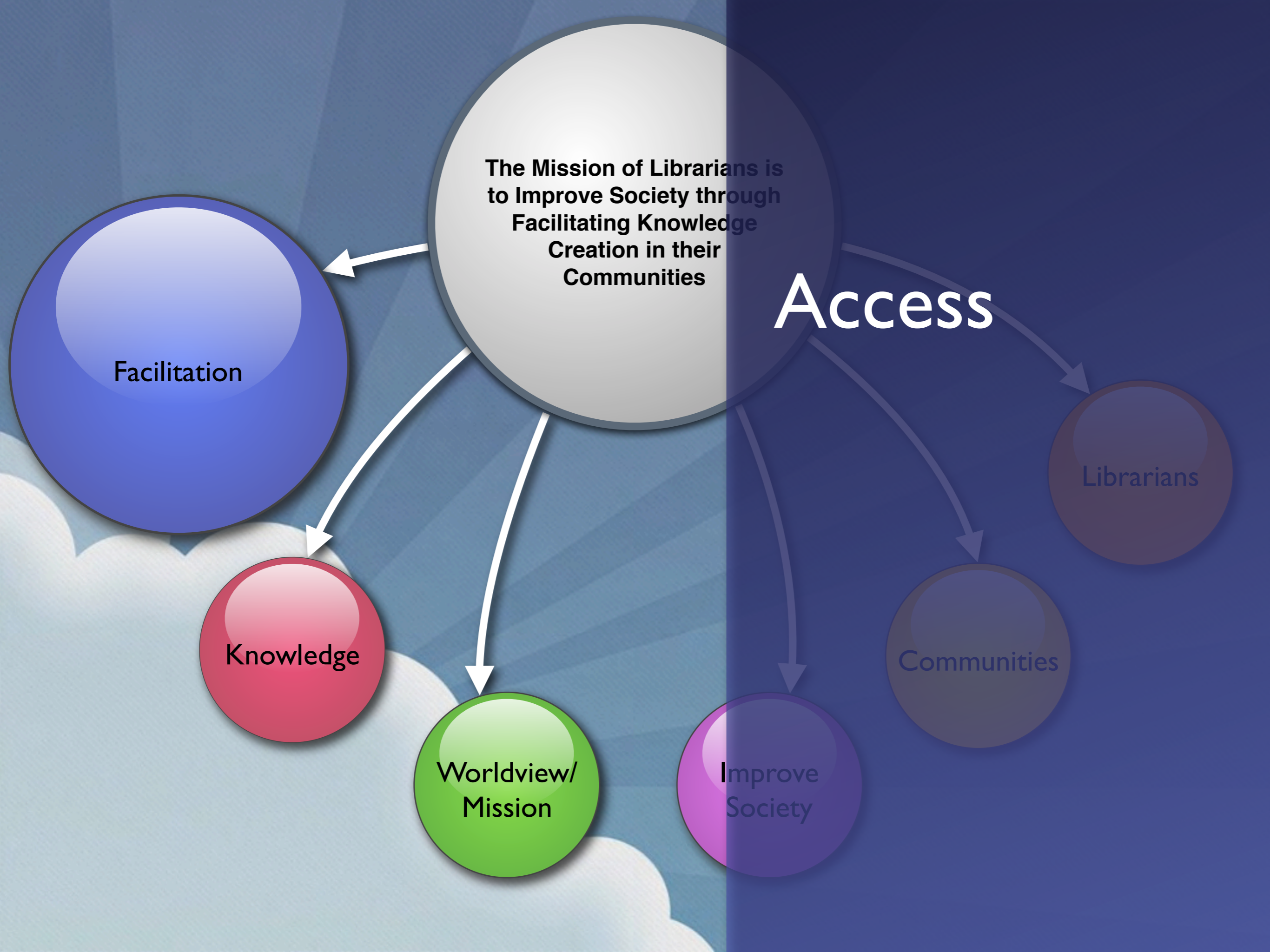
**Worldview/  
Mission**

**Access**

**Librarians**

**Communities**

**Improve  
Society**



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Worldview/  
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Environment

Librarians

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**Knowledge**

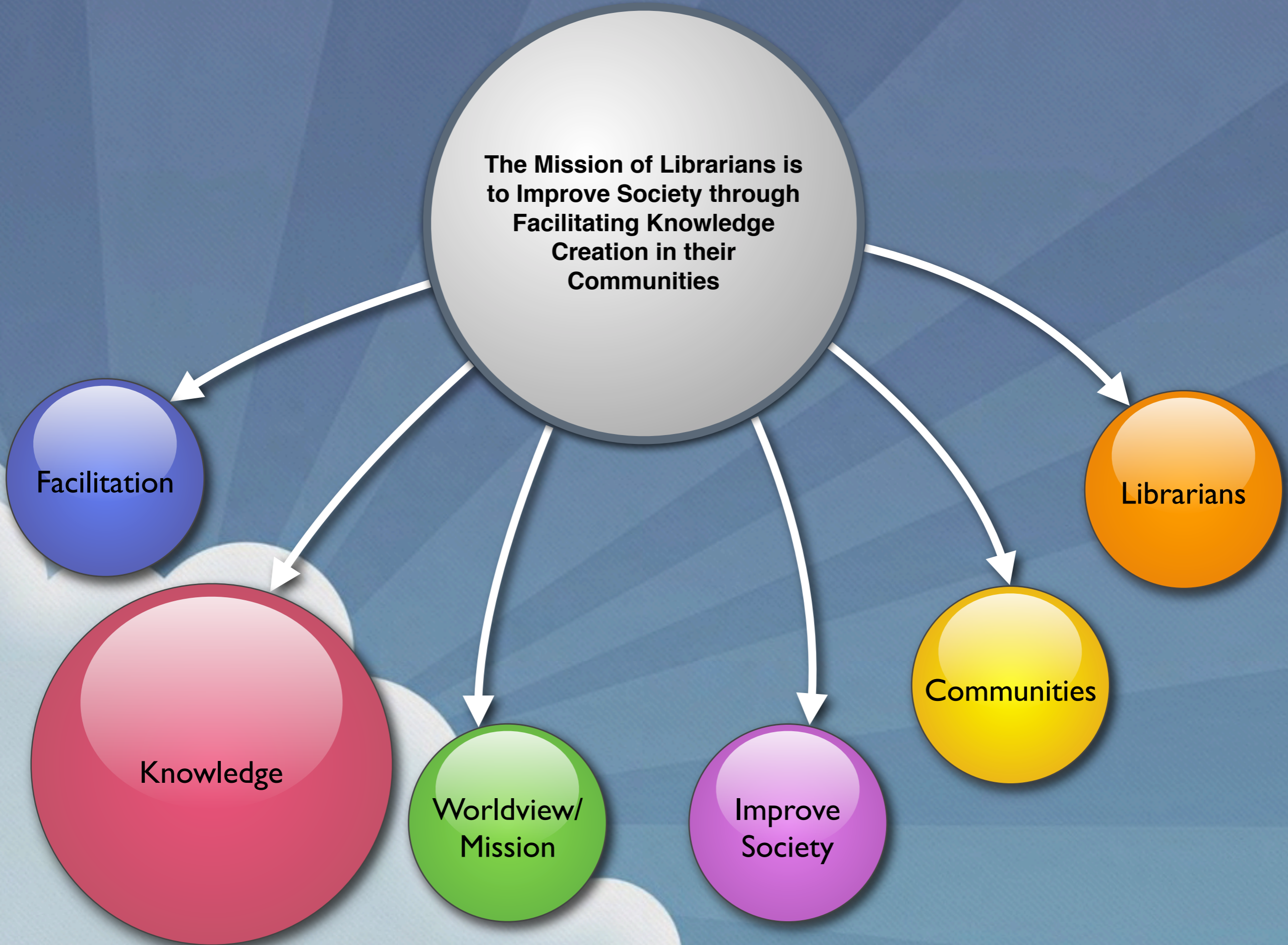
**Worldview/  
Mission**

**Access  
Knowledge  
Environment  
Motivation**

**Improve  
Society**

**Communities**

**Librarians**



**The Mission of Librarians is to Improve Society through Facilitating Knowledge Creation in their Communities**

**Facilitation**

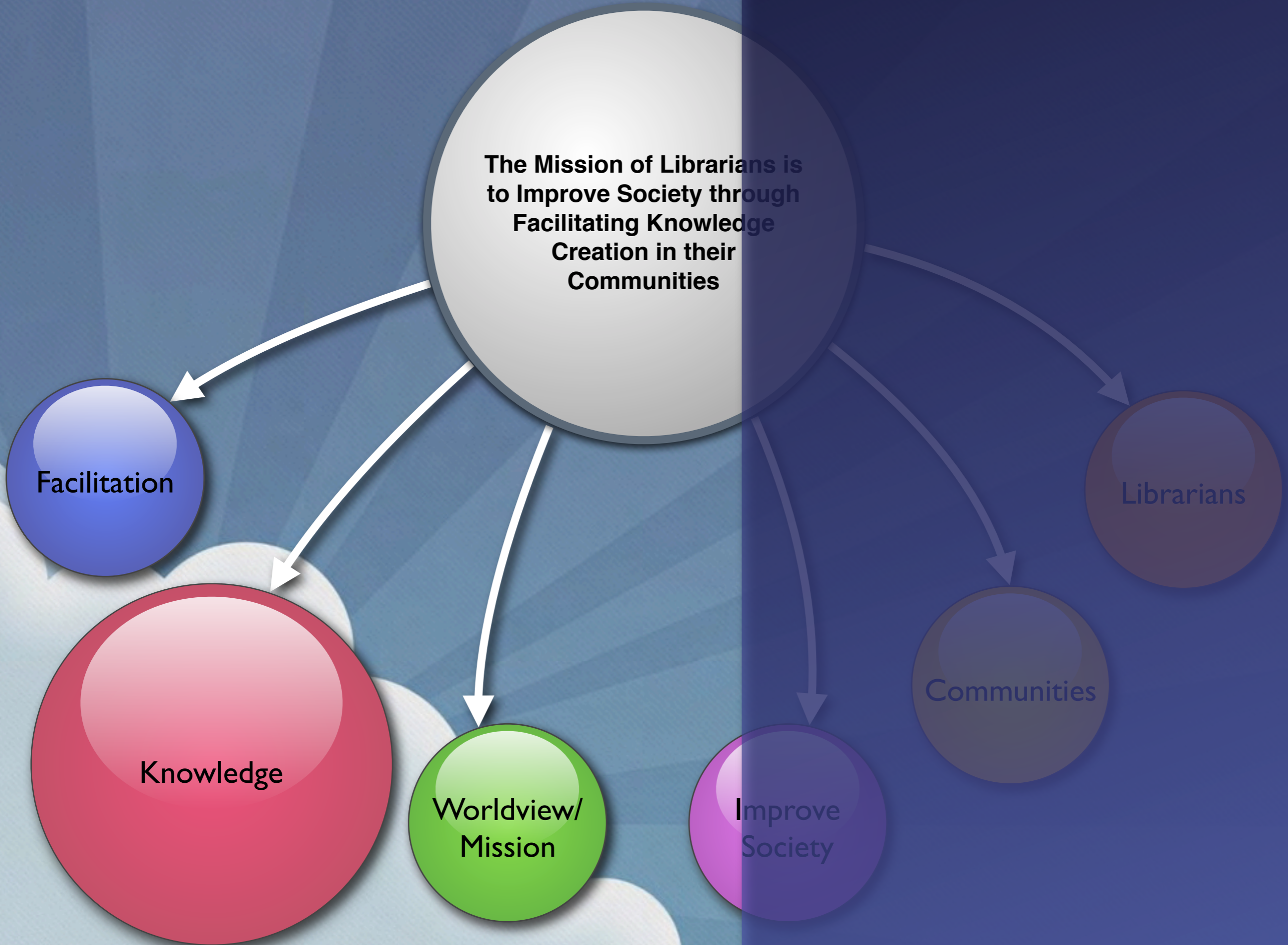
**Knowledge**

**Worldview/  
Mission**

**Improve  
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**Conversants**

**Facilitation**

**Knowledge**

**Worldview/  
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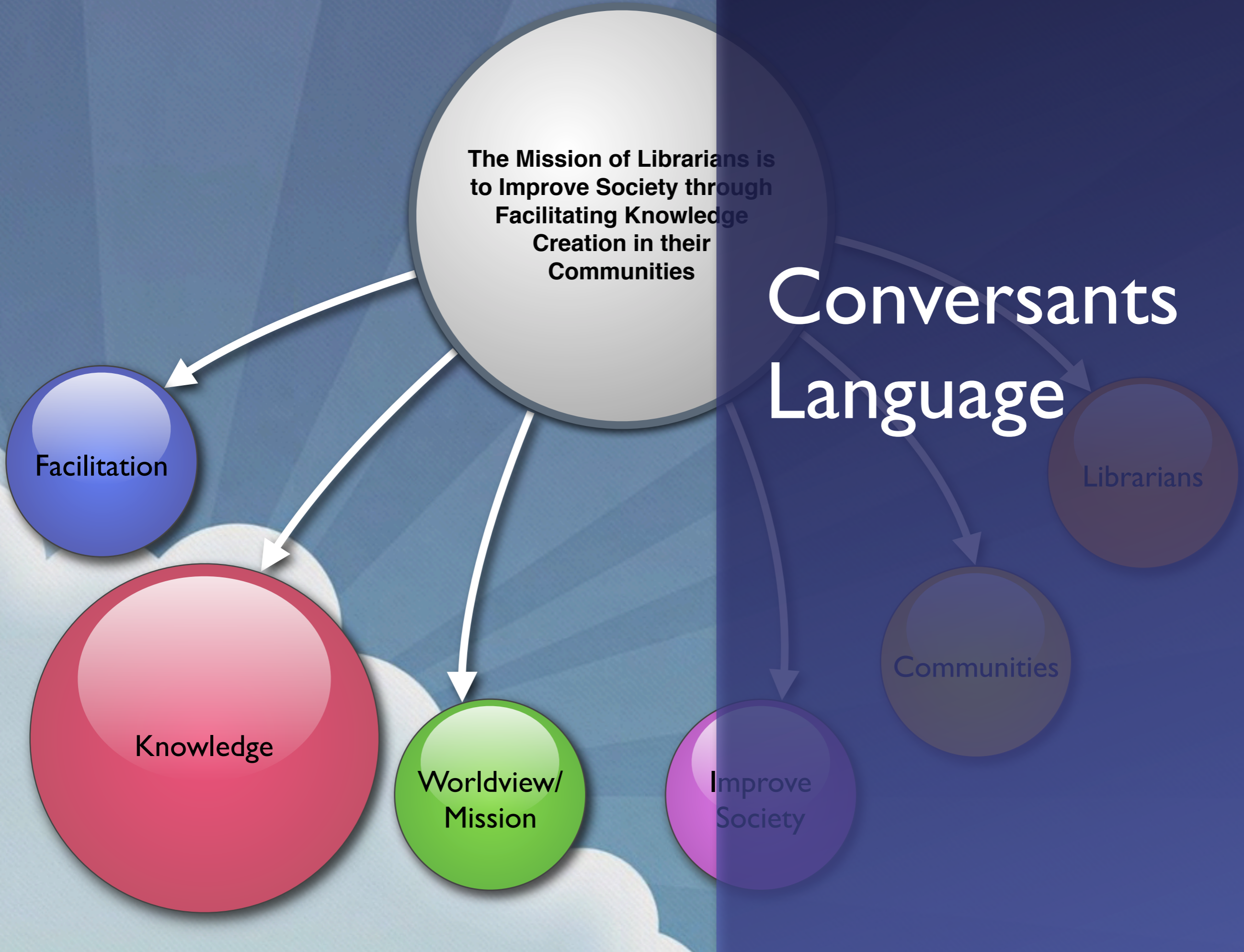
**Worldview/  
Mission**

**Conversants  
Language**

**Librarians**

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Mission**

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Language  
Agreements**

**Improve  
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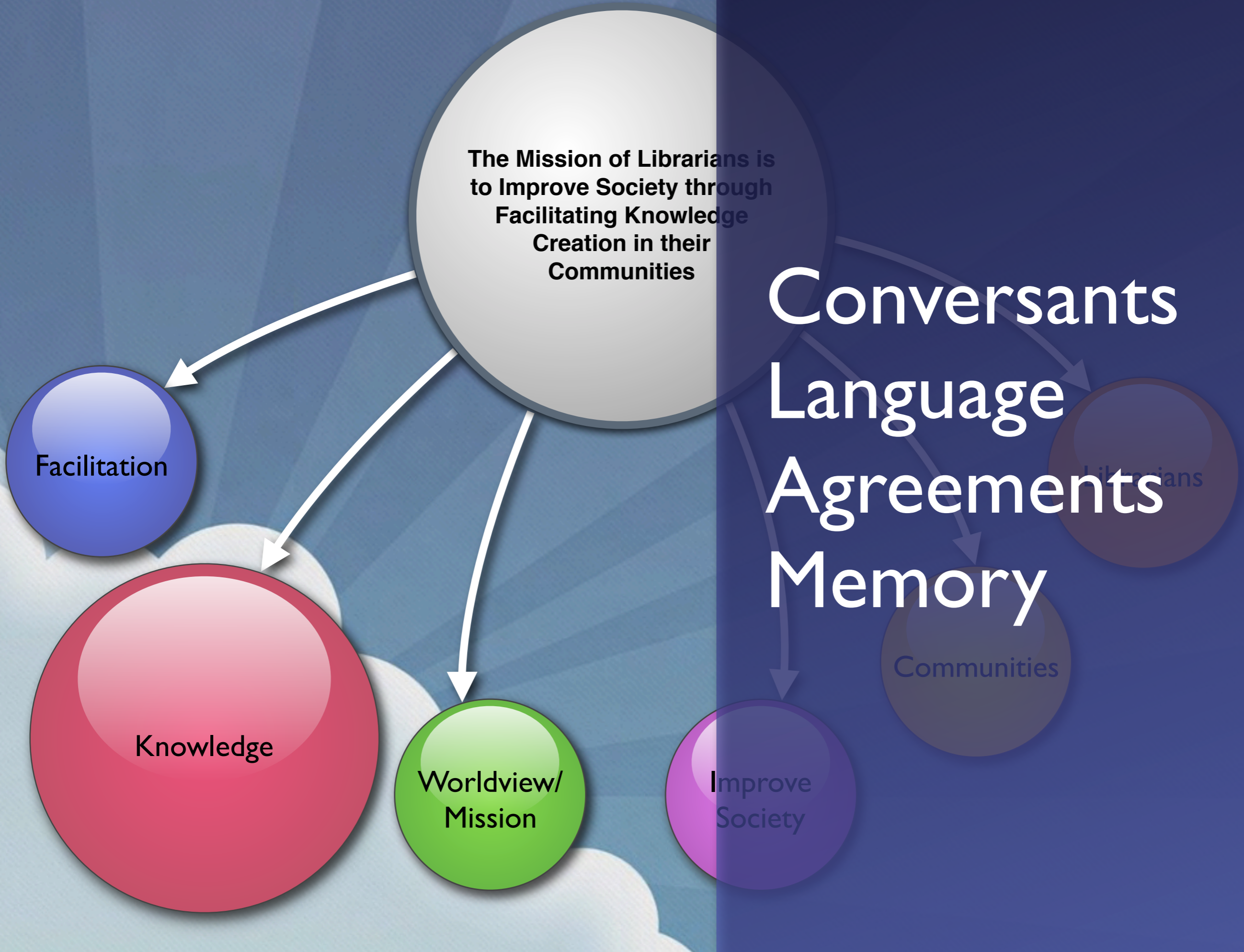
**Worldview/  
Mission**

**Conversants  
Language  
Agreements  
Memory**

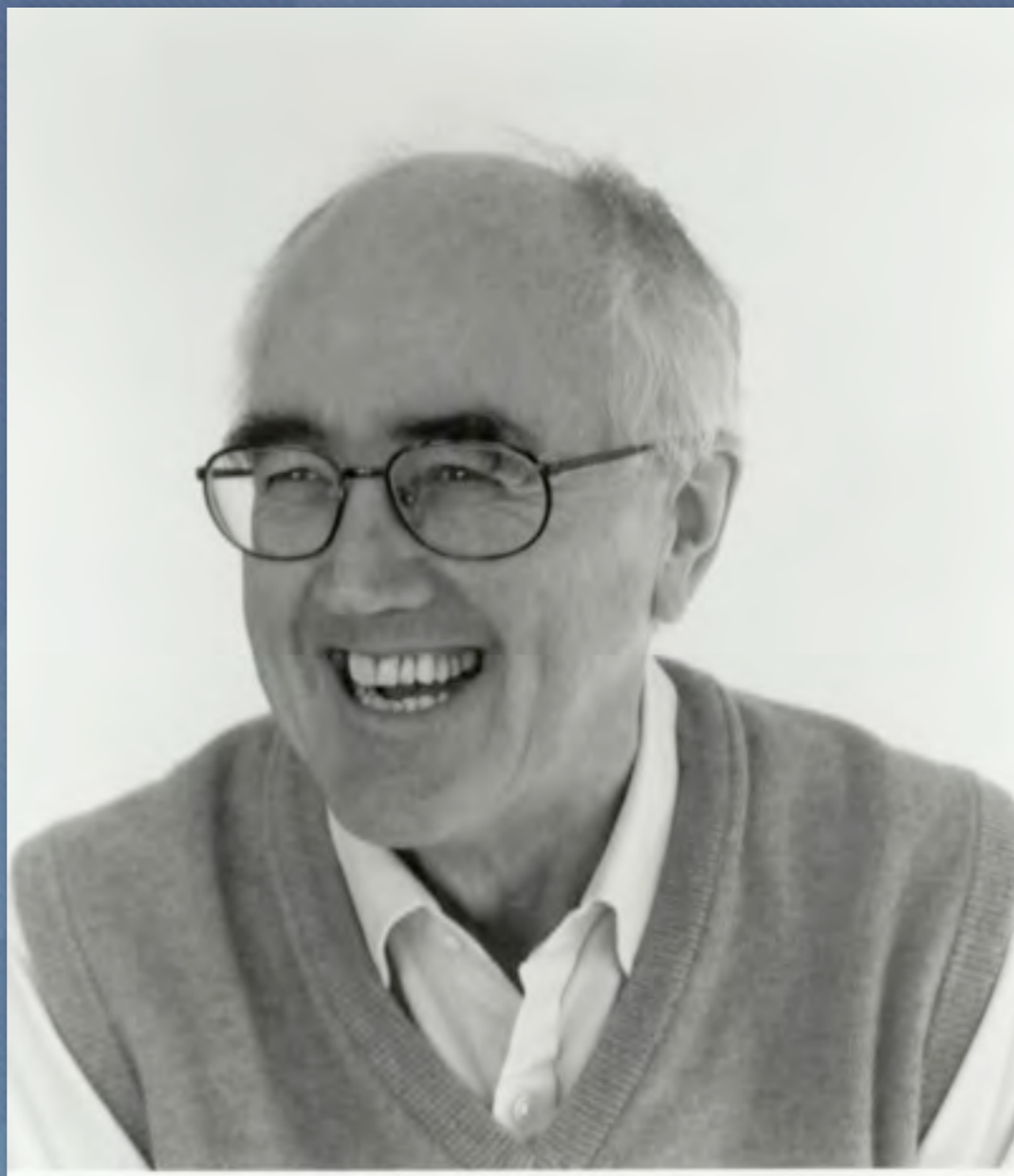
**Improve  
Society**

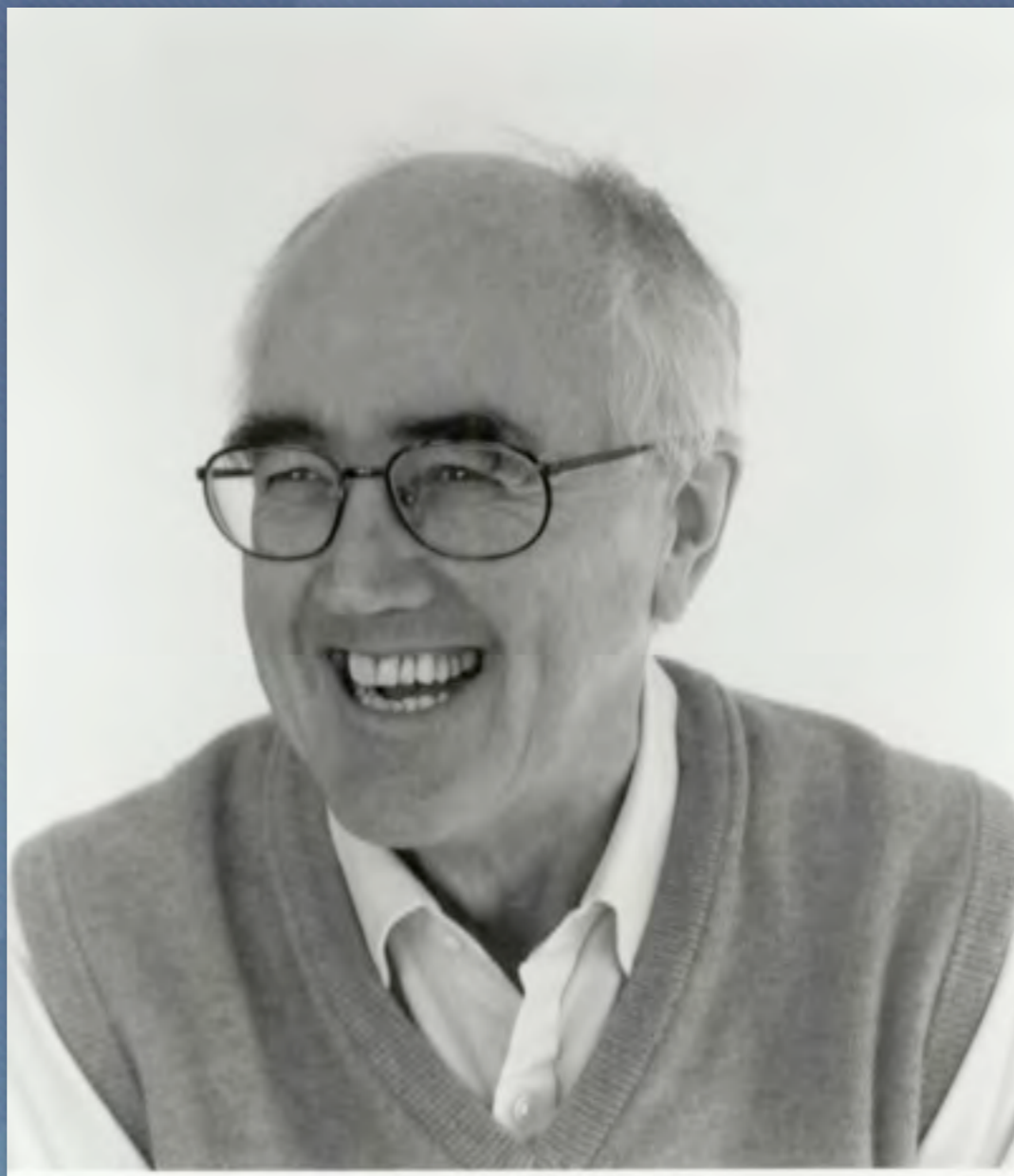
**Communities**

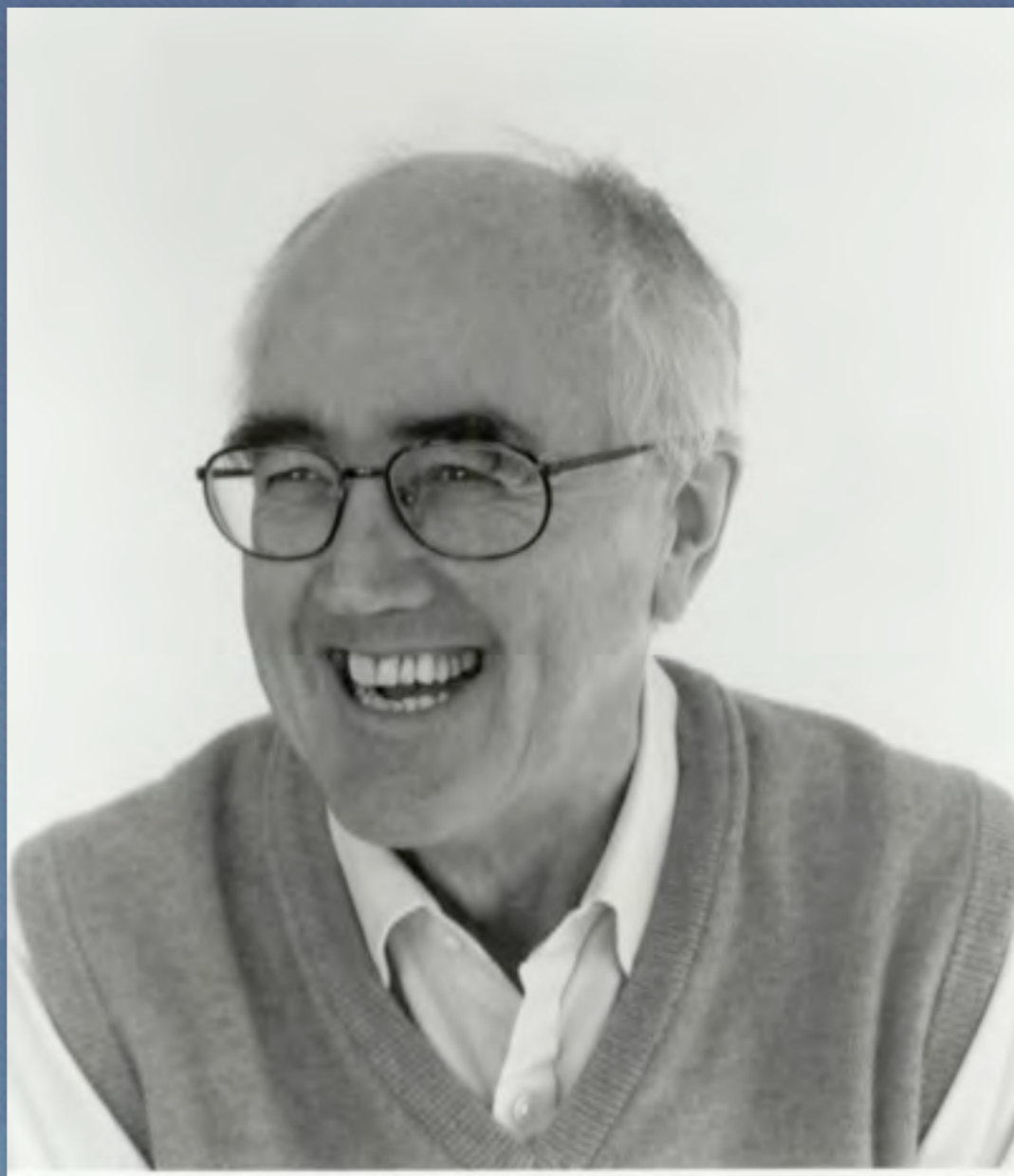
**Librarians**

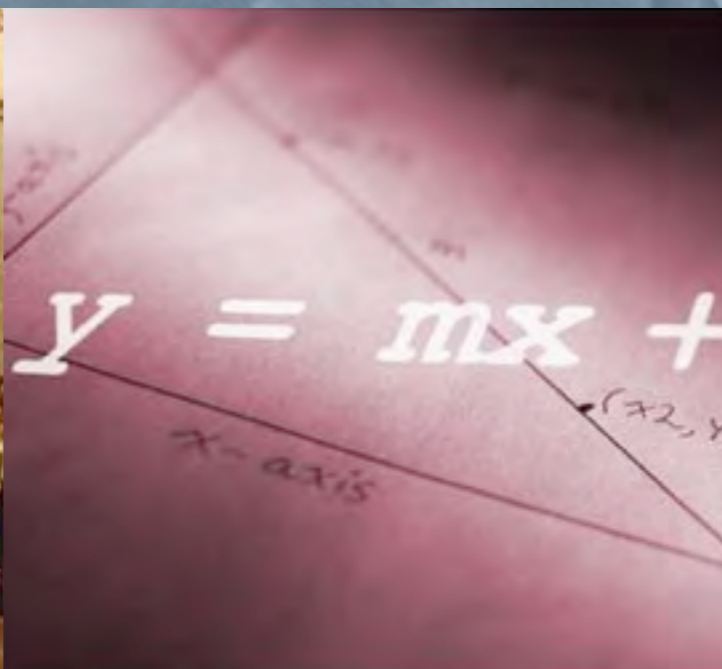
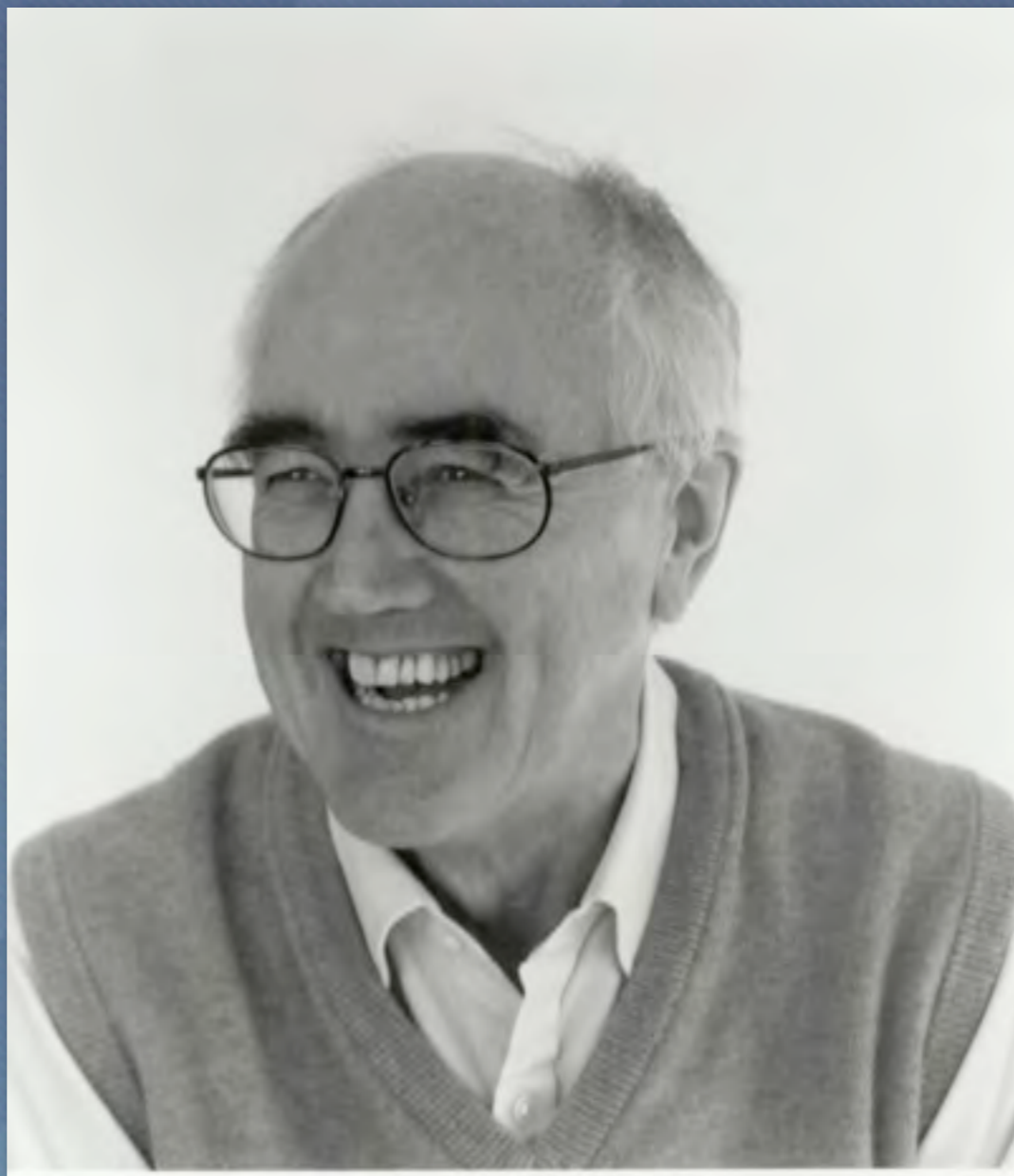


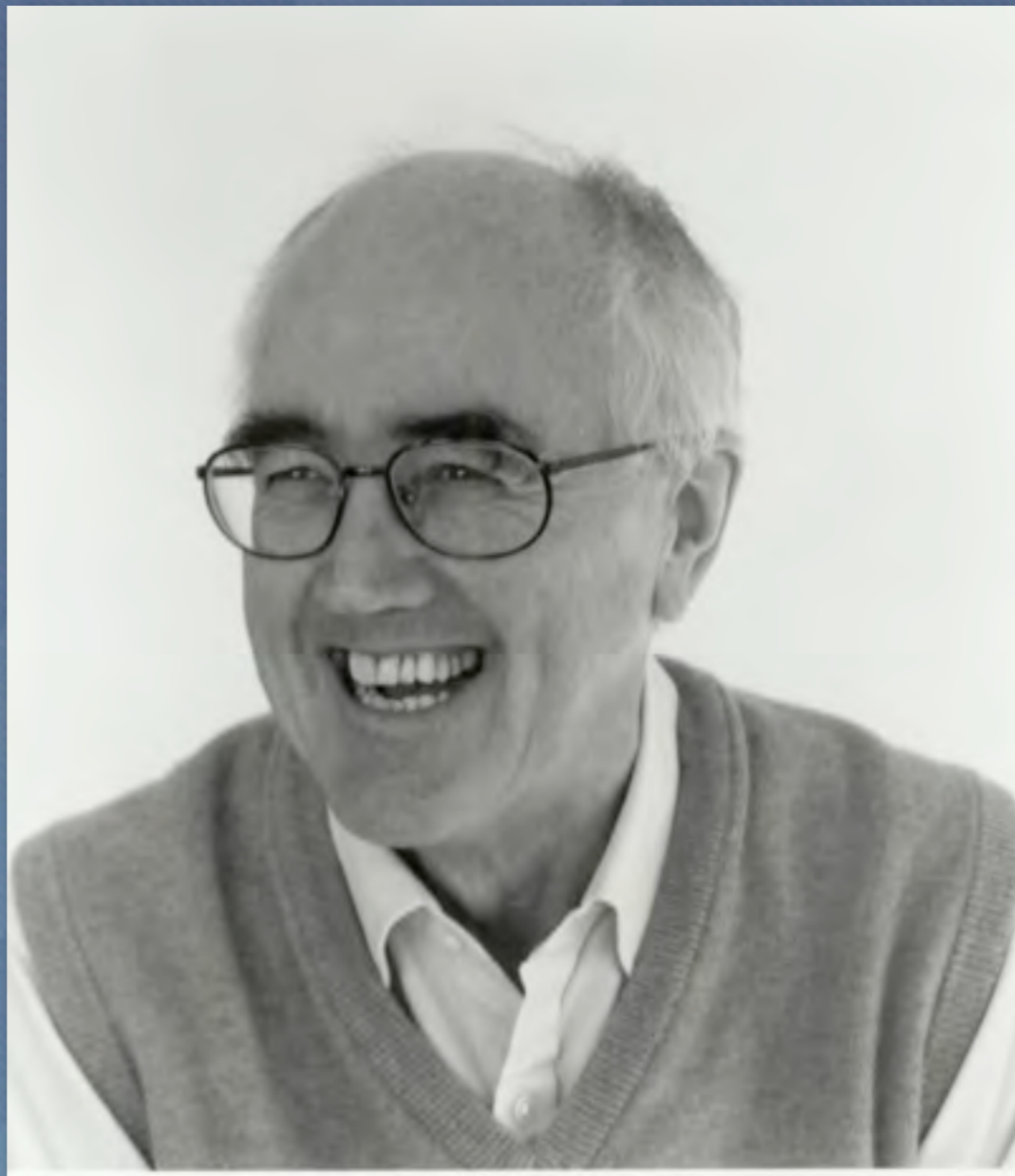


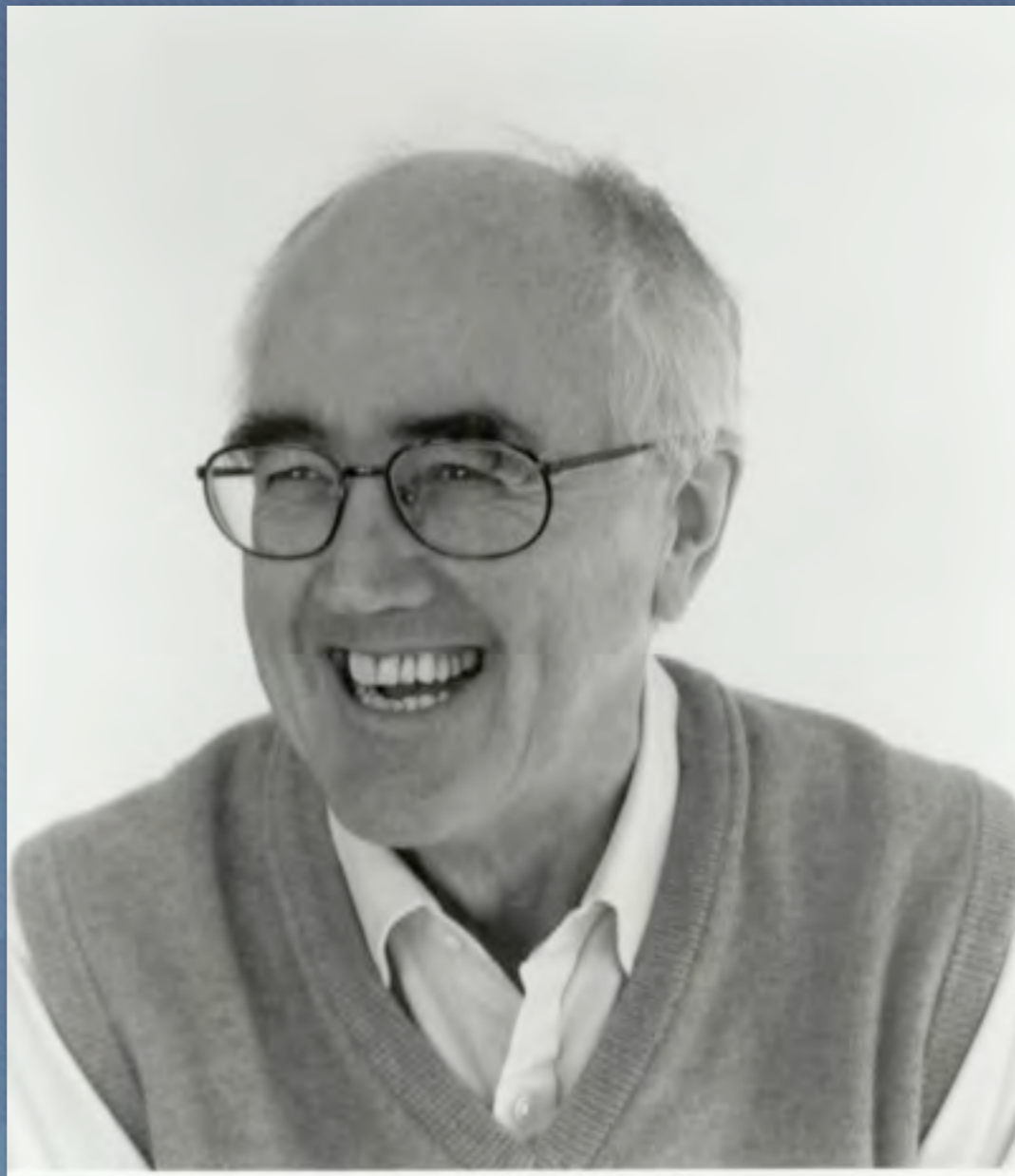


























# Networks of Discovery are:



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Non-Linear



Networks of  
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Non-Linear  
Unique



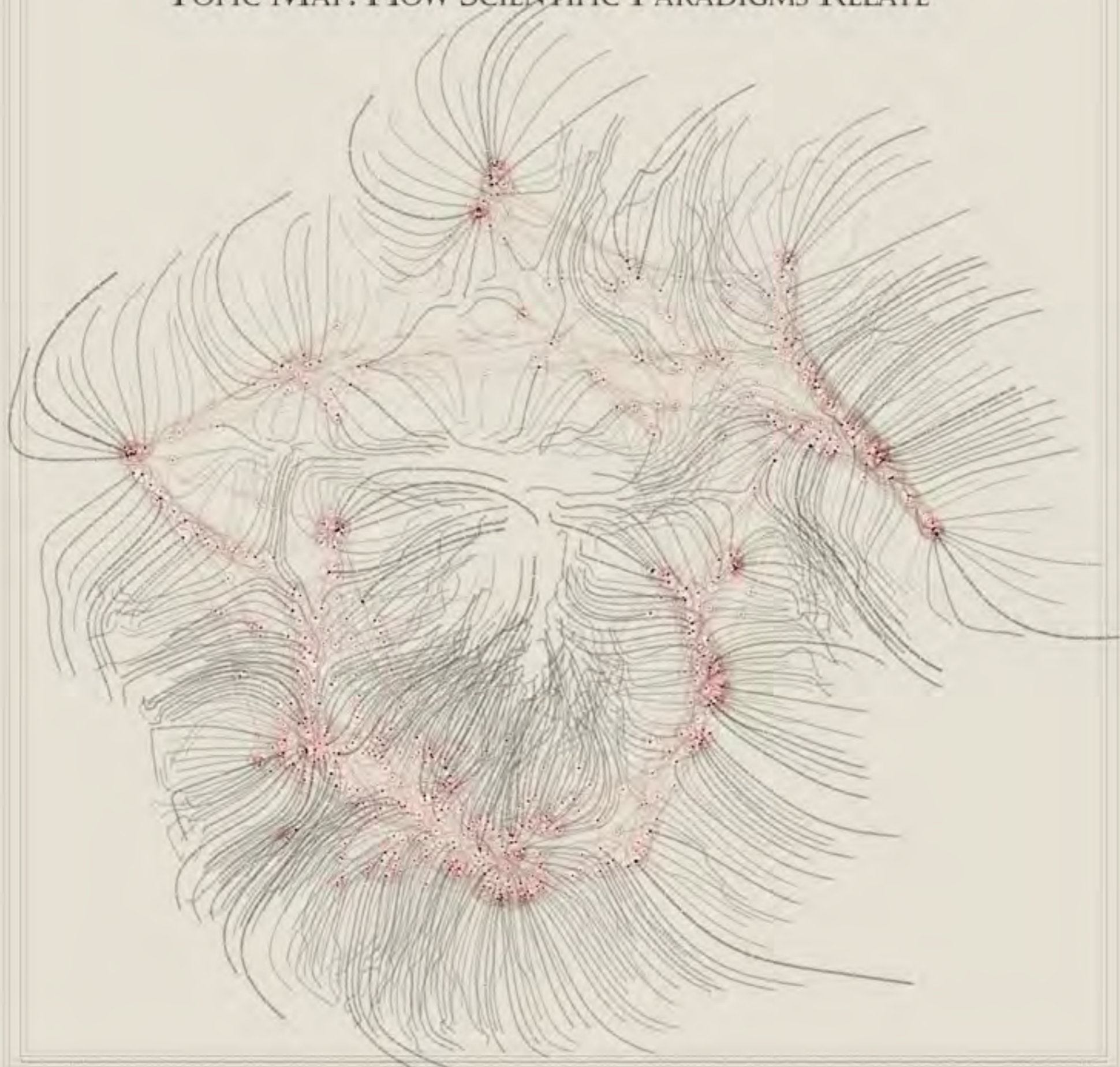


Networks of  
Discovery are:  
Messy  
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Unique  
But in  
Aggregate  
Ordered

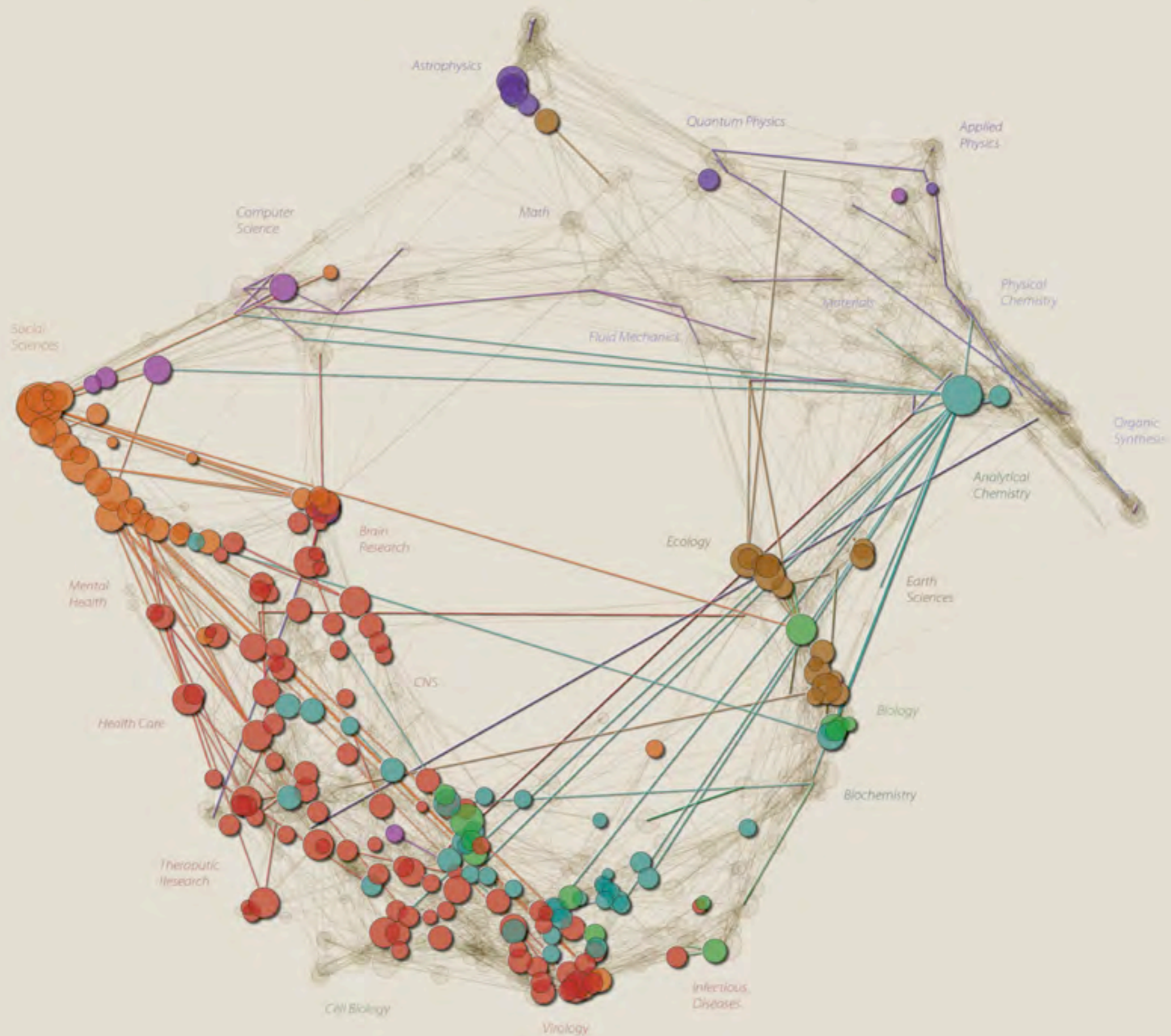




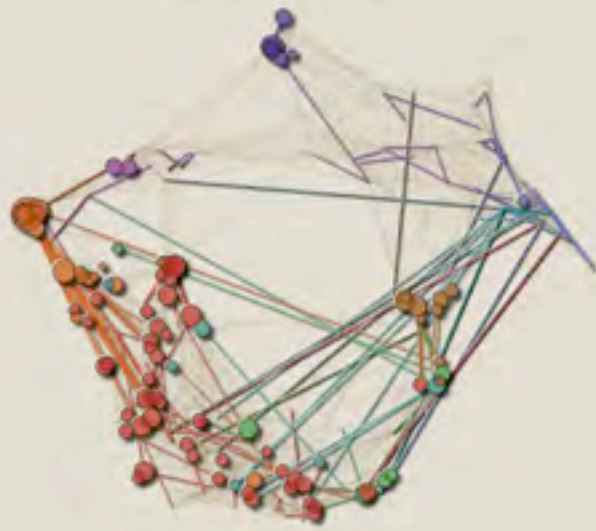
# TOPIC MAP: HOW SCIENTIFIC PARADIGMS RELATE



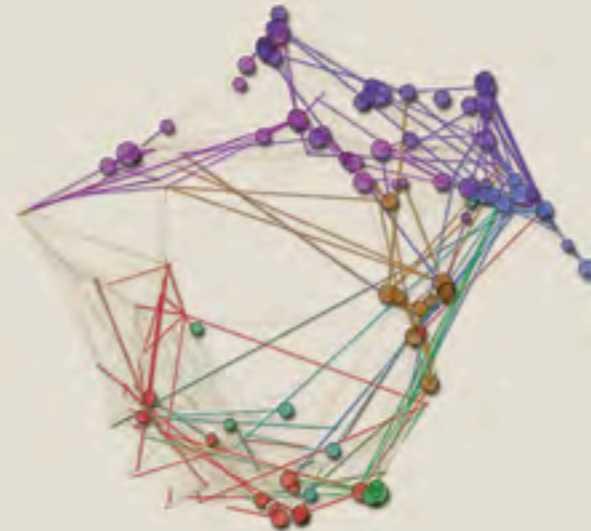
# The United States of America



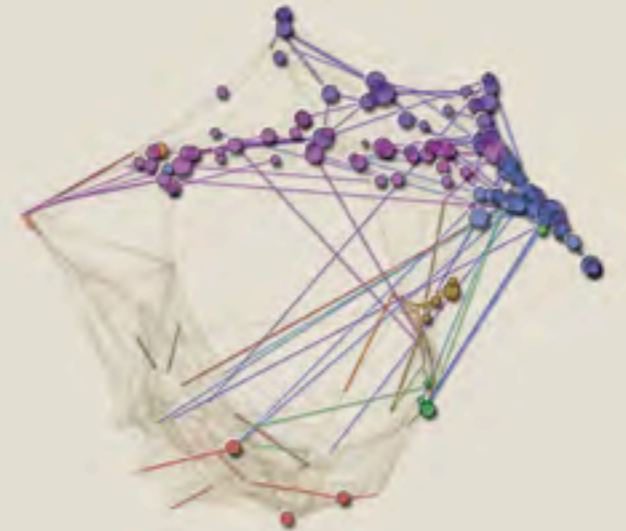
The United Kingdom



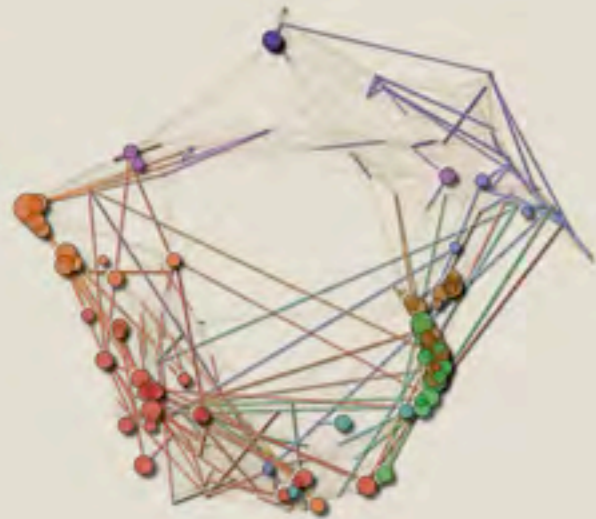
France



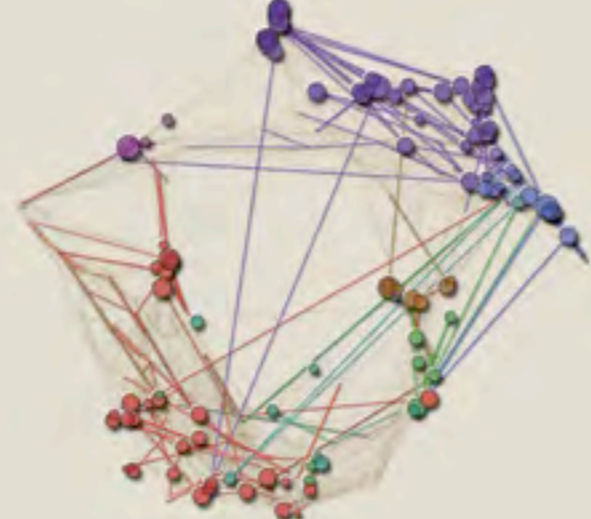
China



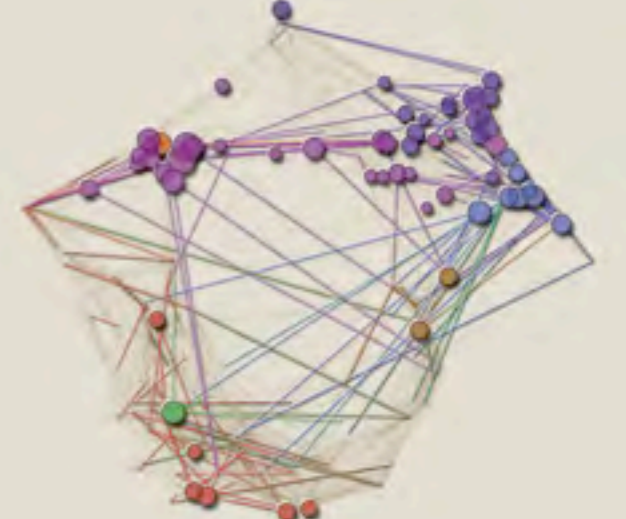
Australia



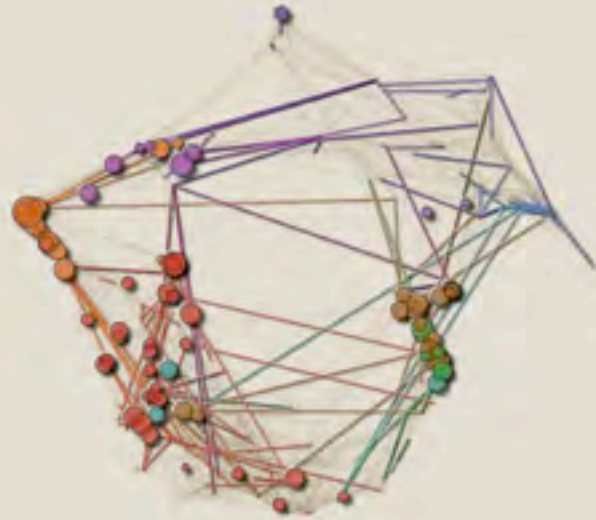
Germany



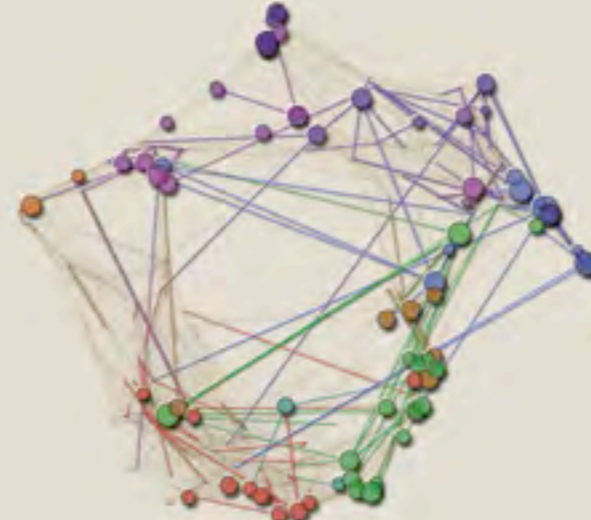
Taiwan



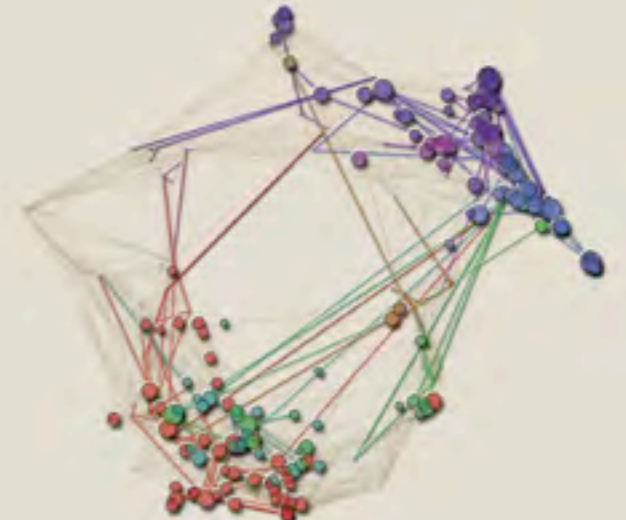
Canada



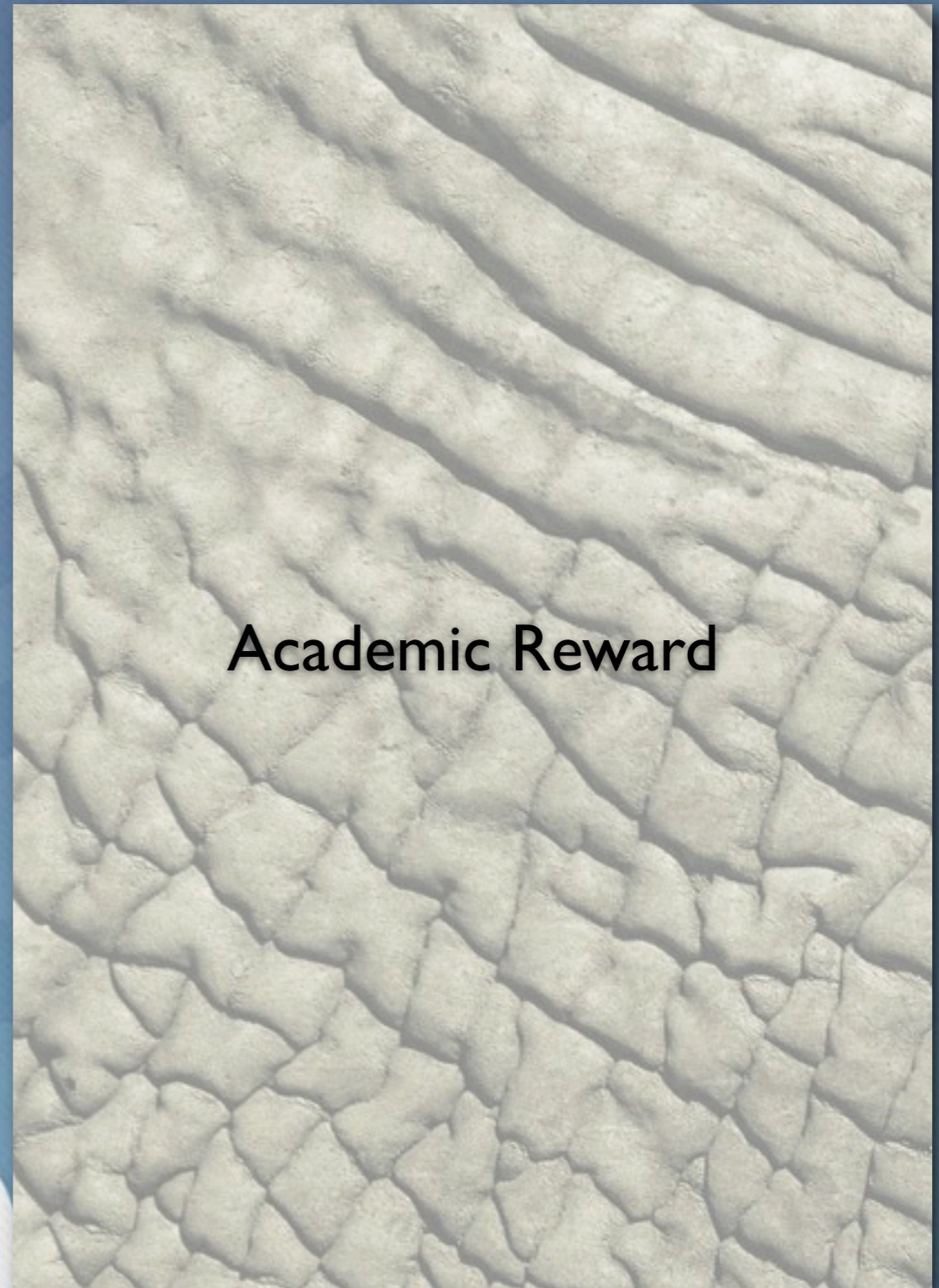
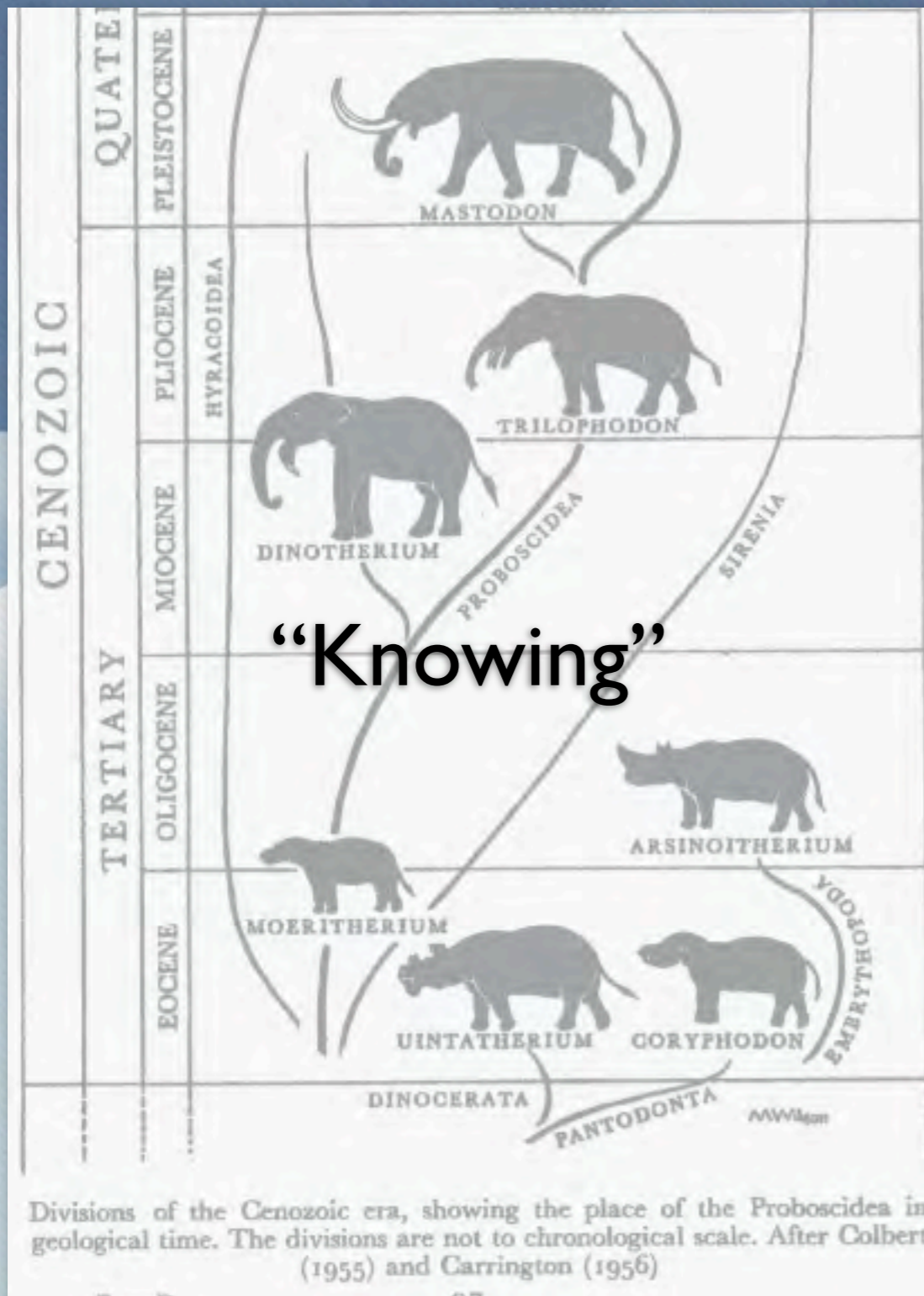
Spain



Japan



# Opportunity Gap



# An Example





# An Example



# An Example



# An Example



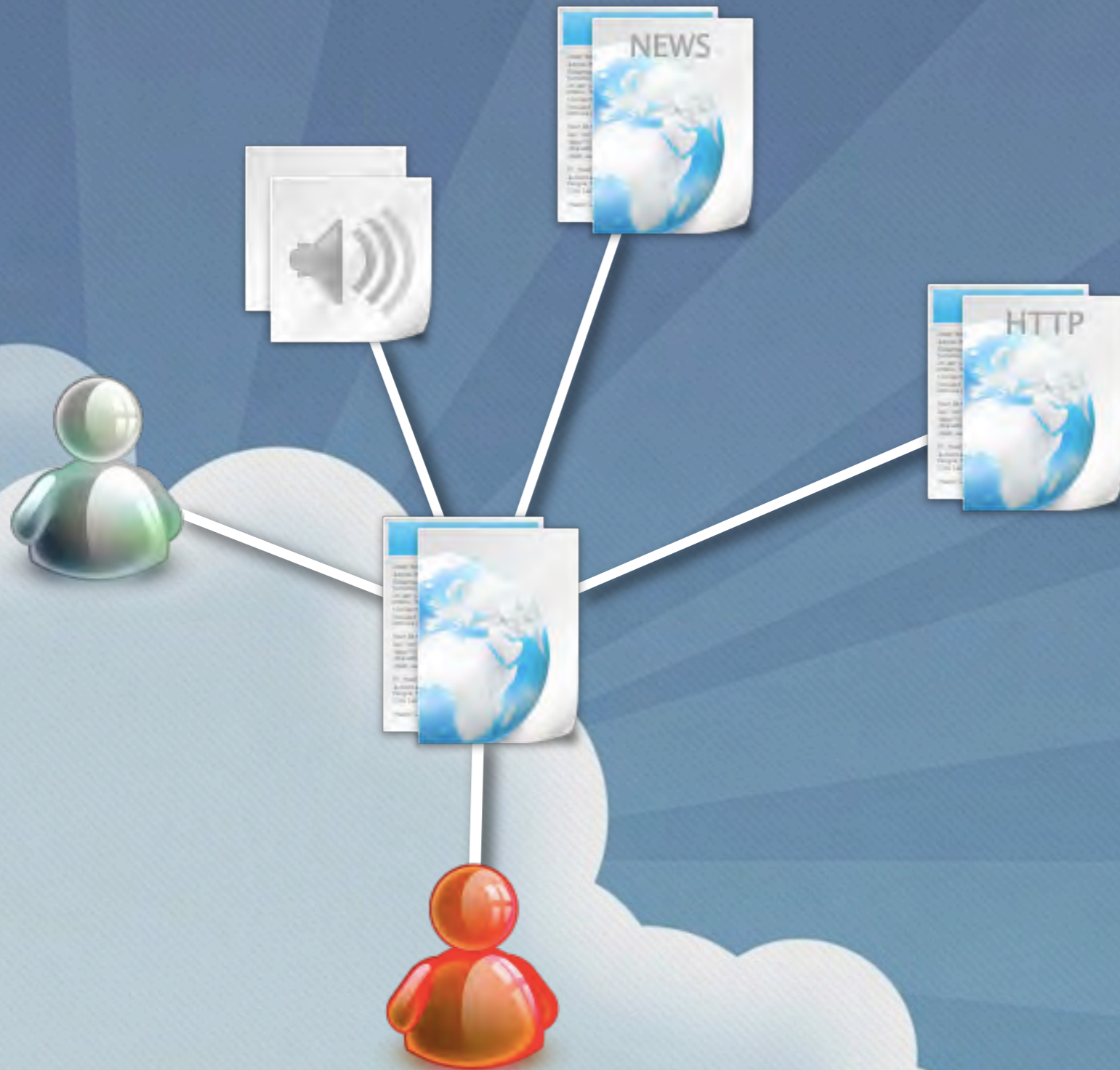
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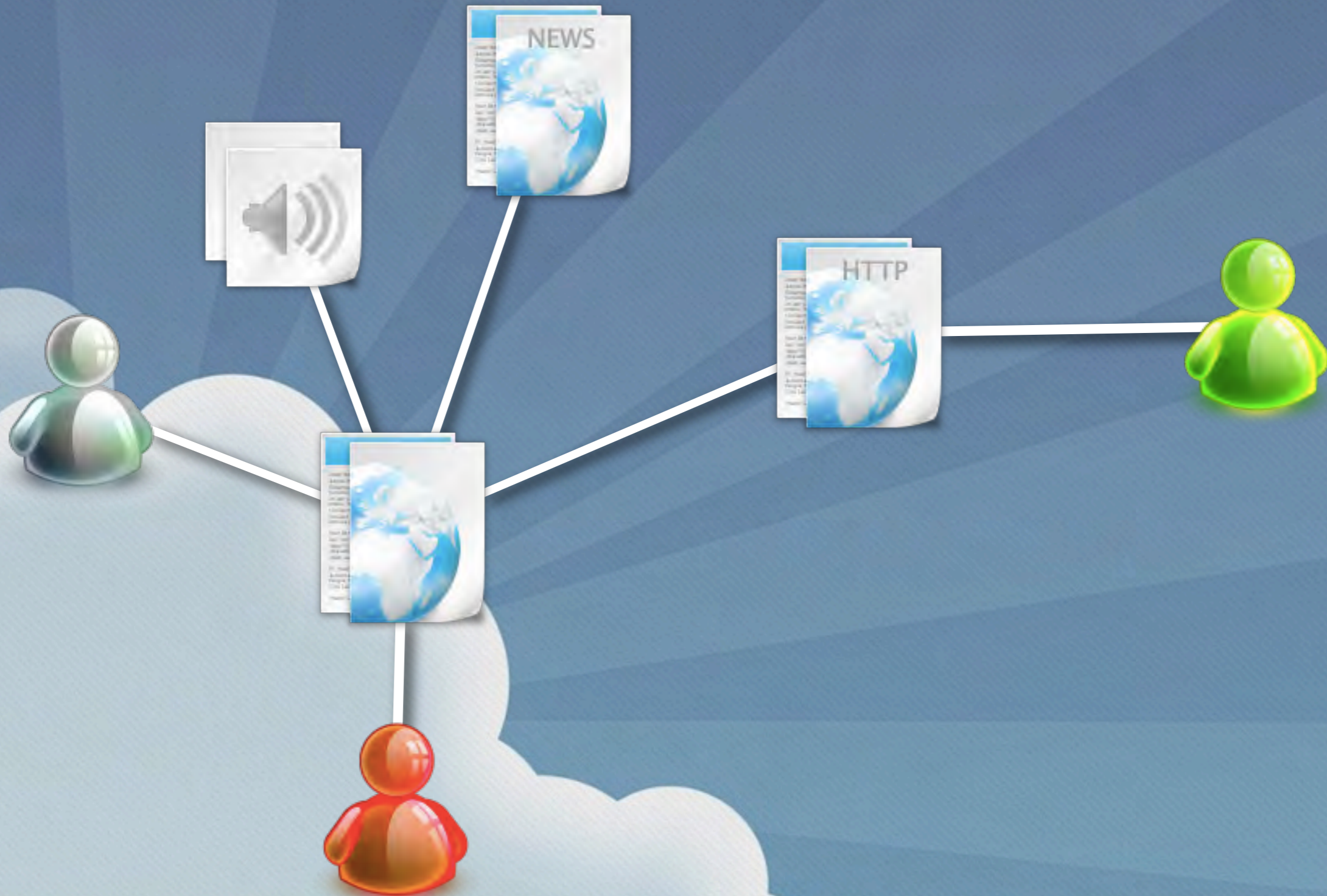
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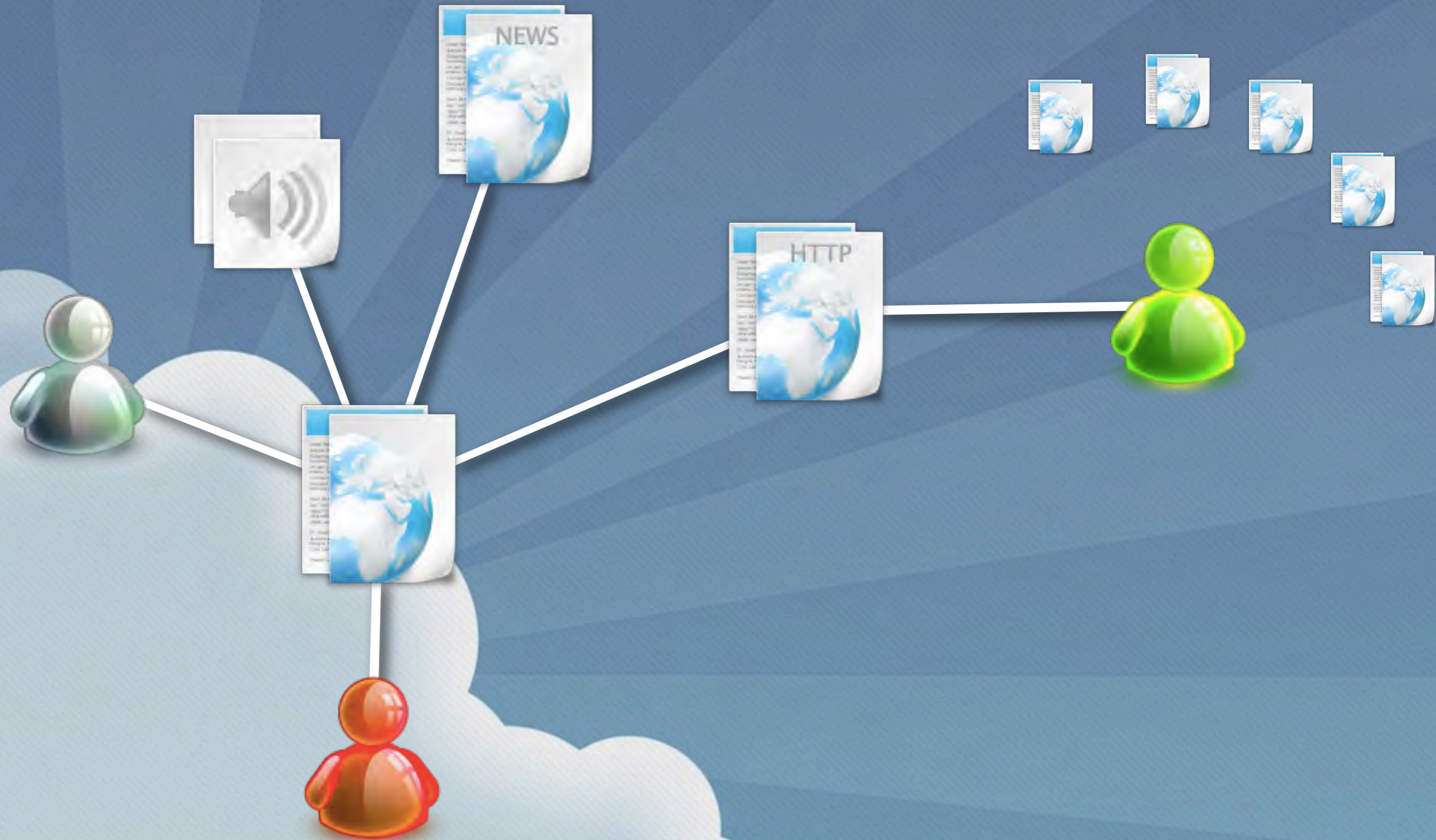
# An Example



# An Example



# An Example







# So This is the Answer Fenske's Question

- This does NOT Discount the Utility and Power of Place or Materials, it Simply puts them in the Proper Perspective of Tool
- Facilitating Knowledge Creation then Leads to the Answer for Arms' Question...

# Arms' Thought Experiment

- What is the Fundamental and Recognizable Contribution of Library Science in the Academy
- Cohesive Set of Skills and Concepts, that through Action, Fuse the Intellectual Work of the Academy to Improve the University and Society

Now is the Time

The image features a blue background with a white, fluffy cloud in the bottom-left corner. From behind the cloud, a series of white rays emanate, creating a sunburst effect that fills the upper and right portions of the frame. The text "Now is the Time" is centered in the upper half of the image in a white, sans-serif font.

# Now is the Time

- Never Let a Crisis go to Waste

# Now is the Time

- Never Let a Crisis go to Waste
- Become a CIO: Chief ***Integration*** Officer
- a chief integration officer that weaves together the myriad threads of research into a new fabric of understanding

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