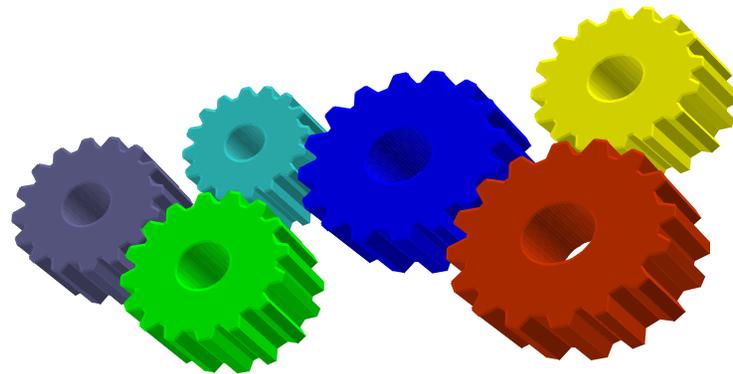


# Division of Biological Infrastructure [DBI]



*Empowering Biological Discovery*



# DBI

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Supports varied activities that provide the infrastructure for contemporary research in biology, including instrument-related activities, research resources, and training opportunities

*Statement for the Committee of Visitors 2007*



# Challenges to DBI

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- **COV (2006)**

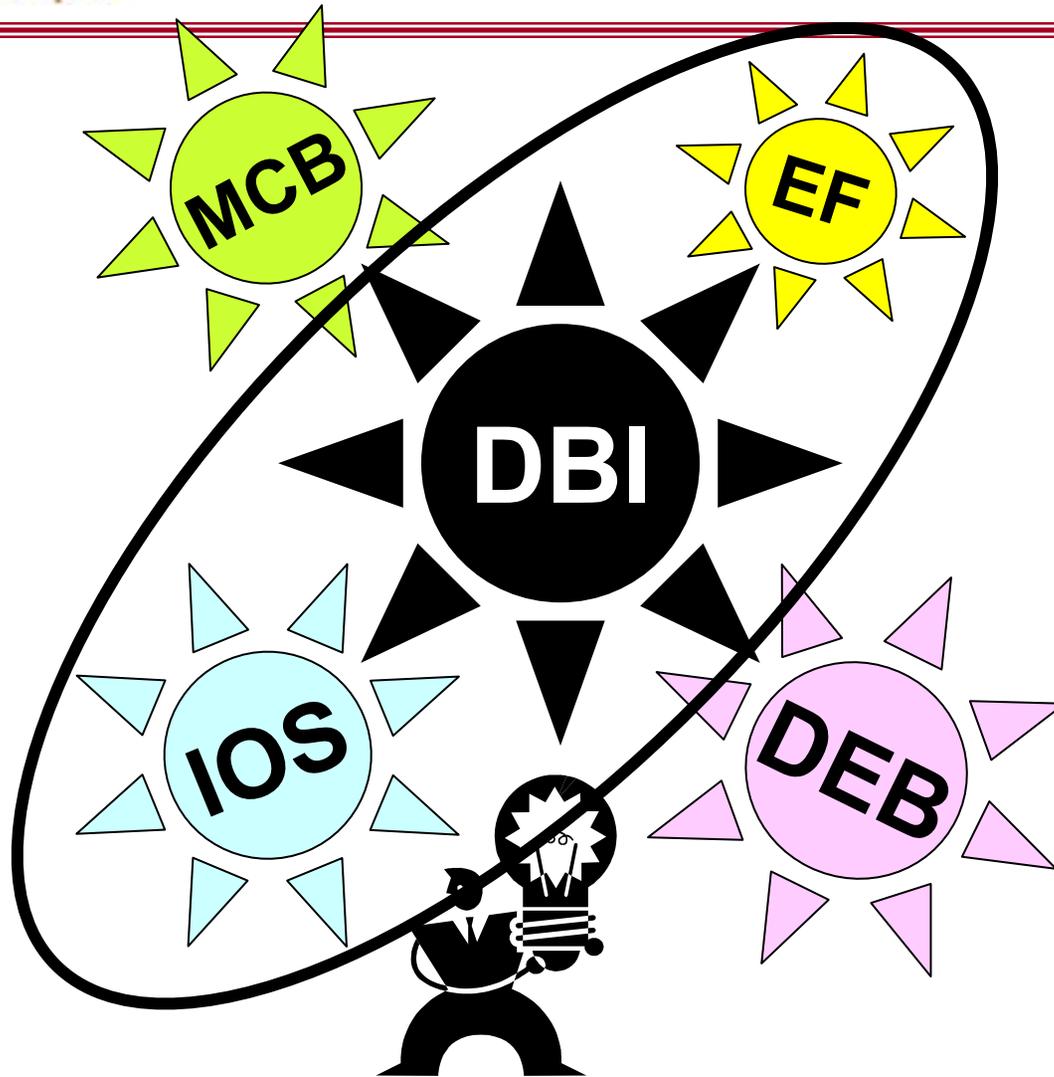
- There is a need to consider longer term support areas because we are not addressing issues or viewing all longer term support activities as a whole
- DBI is the most interdisciplinary of all divisions and we are not embracing our role throughout BIO

- **BIO AD (2007)**

- What if there were no DBI?
- Do we need a separate infrastructure division in BIO?



# DBI is the hub of BIO

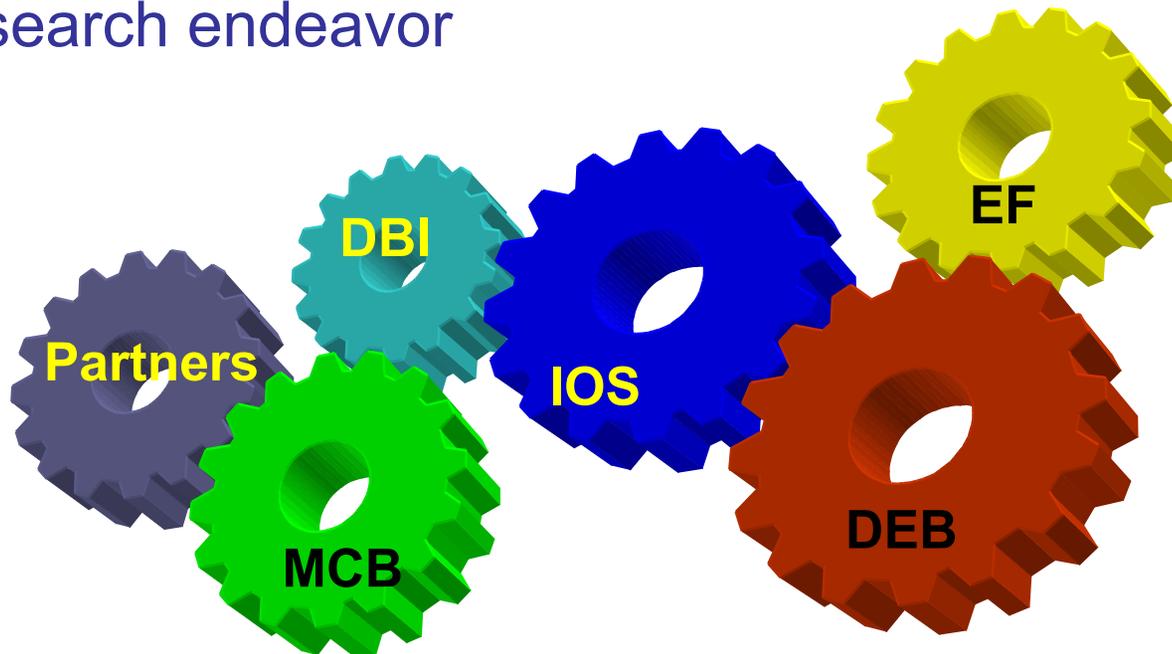


- Multiple interfaces
- Accommodates different connections
- Enables new connections
- Empowers researchers



# DBI

DBI empowers and enables  
the research endeavor



DBI leads in mentoring, informatics,  
Instrumentation and managing resources  
with community partners



# DBI's Role

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- To provide the resources that underpin other activities in BIO
- To oversee large infrastructure activities with stable management

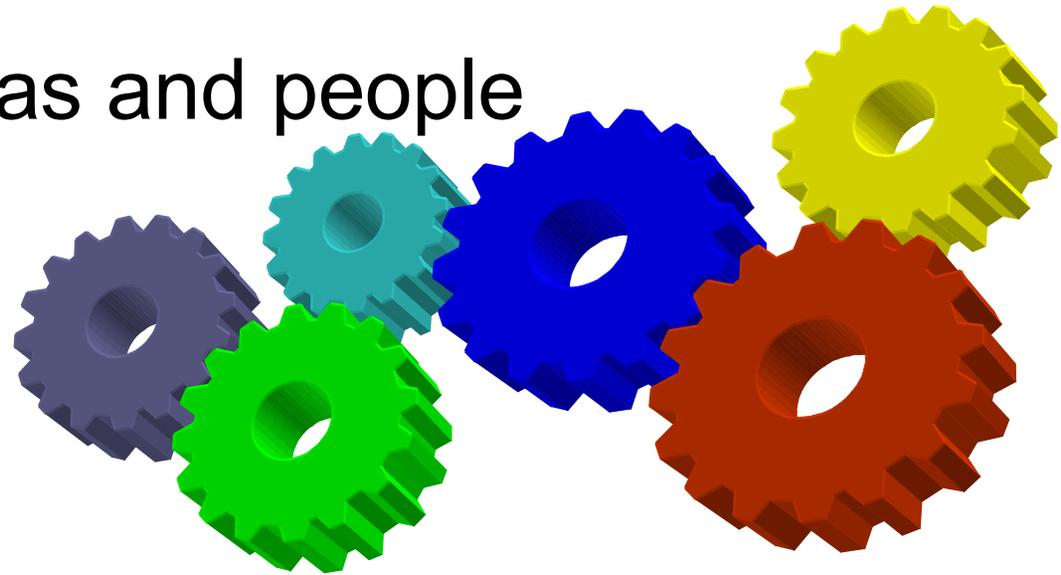
**TO EMPOWER BIOLOGICAL DISCOVERY  
AND PROVIDE STEWARDSHIP OF THE  
BASIC RESOURCES COMMON TO ALL OF  
BIOLOGY**



# Catalysis Activities in DBI

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- Incubating ideas
- Transforming resources
- Creating new infrastructure
- Developing areas and people

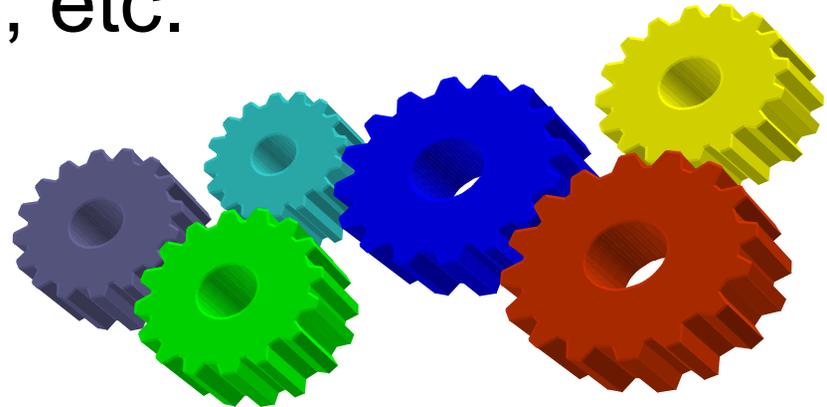




# Sustaining Activities

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- Disseminating resources to many
- Supporting resources to become self sustaining
- Providing resources for integrating researchers, students, etc.

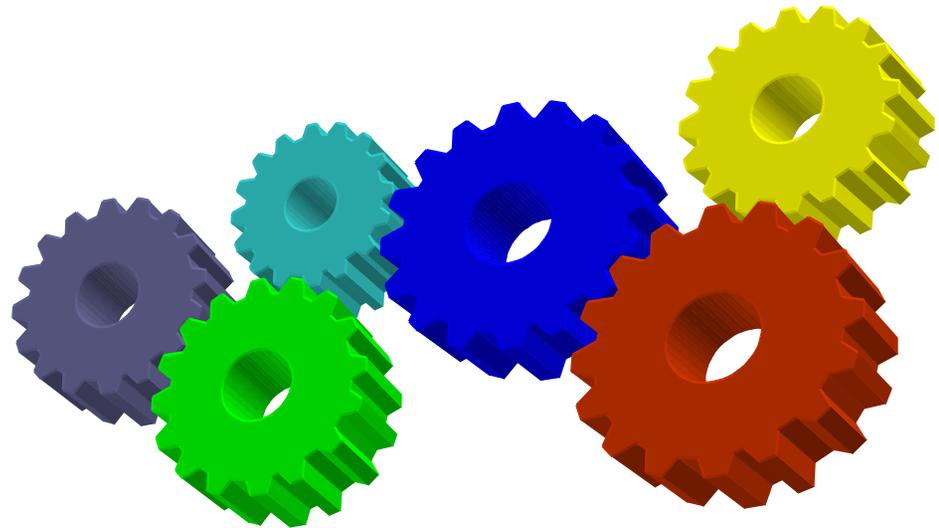




# Networking Activities

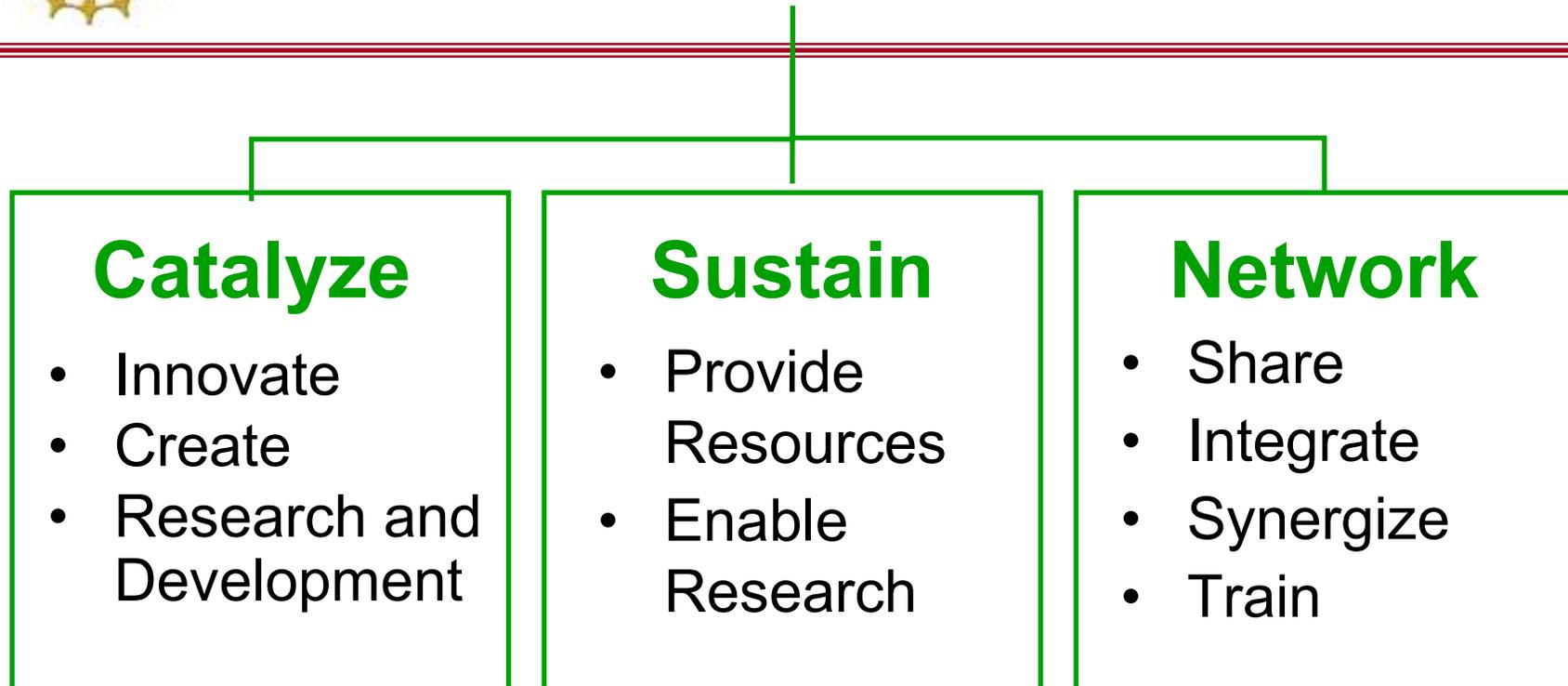
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- Connecting researchers
- Educating students
- Linking common resources





# DBI's Activities



These three activities all differ in management, award mechanism, oversight, and connectivity



# Activity Differences

	Catalyze	Sustain	Network
Management	Traditional Review	Long-term portfolio analysis	Co-review
Awards	Individual Grants	Cooperative Agreements	Grants, often co-funded
Oversight	Annual Reports	Frequent reports and site visits	Annual Reports
Connections	Single PI & collaborative awards	Cross division & directorate	Communities & virtual organizations



# Infrastructure Cycle

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# New Activities in DBI

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- **programs envisioned in cycle context**
  - ABI and IDBR for catalytic activities
  - BRC and FSML to network
  - BREAD (Basic Research to Enable Agricultural Development): partnership with the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation (\$26 M) transdisciplinary and may include EVERY directorate
  - Postdoctoral Fellowships – Biology at the Interfaces

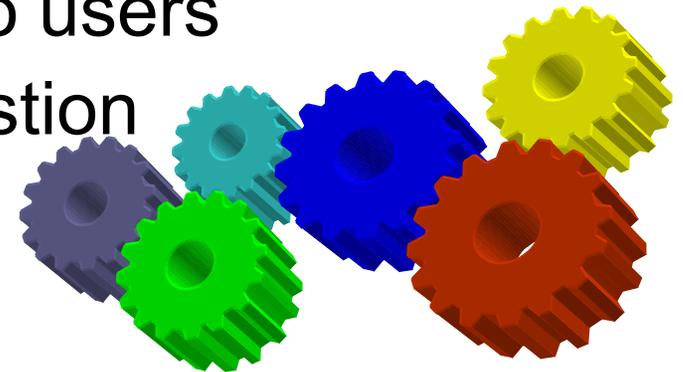




# New Activities in DBI

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- **New possibilities**
  - FEON (Federated Environmental Observatories Network) – common cybertools across agencies and NSF
  - Instrument Development linking to ENG (program director who is engineer) supplements?
  - Extension awards (ABI and IDBR)
  - bring developed projects to users
  - Solicitation based on a question

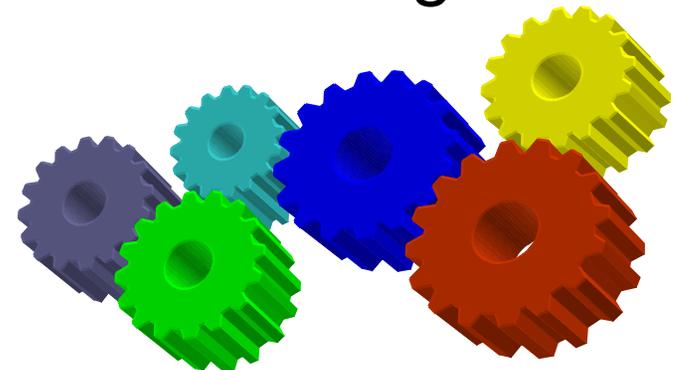




# New Activities in DBI

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- **Use new ways to communicate**
  - WIKI sites
  - Facebook
  - Twitter
- **Include all BIO in decisions**
  - DBI DD and DDD meet with Divisions 2X/yr
  - “Doughnuts with DBI” – informal exchange
  - Brown bag discussions for new solicitations





# Biological Infrastructure

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How do we indicate that we are not static and do we need a new name to convey the new dynamic activities?

