



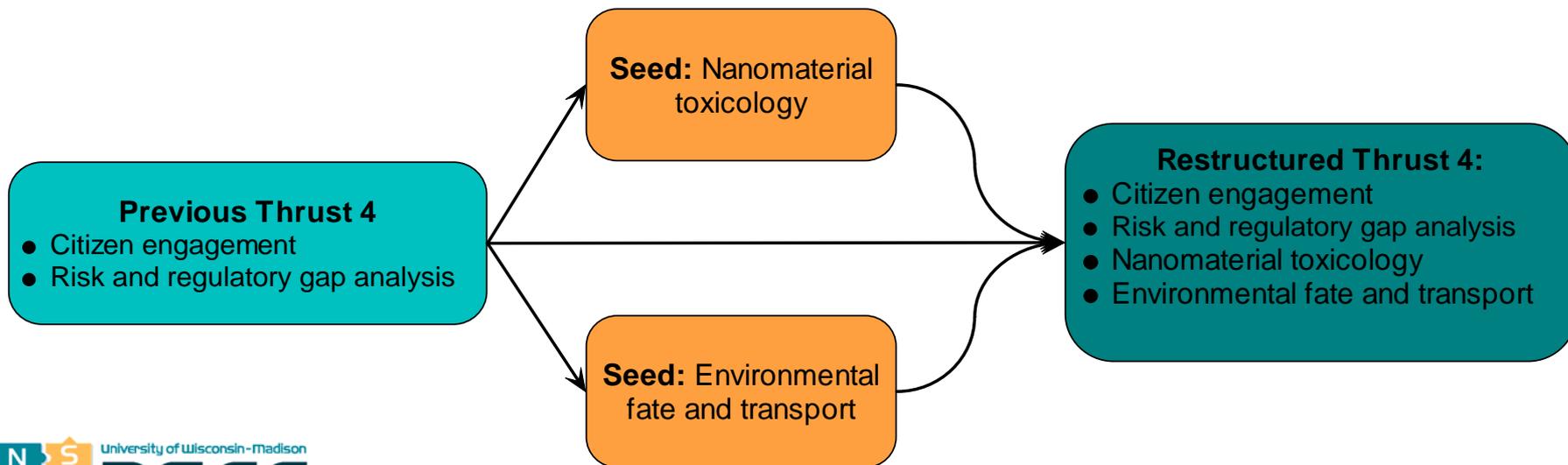
Thrust 4: Social and Environmental Impacts of Engineered Nanomaterials

**Joel A. Pedersen and Maria Powell
Thrust 4 Co-leaders**

NSEC Thrust 4: Social and Environmental Impacts of Engineered Nanomaterials

Reconstitution of Thrust 4:

- Previous Thrust 4 leader departed to join ASU Center for Nanotechnology in Society
- Restructured Thrust 4 in Sept. 2006, to capitalize on new opportunities and leverage seed projects:



Overview: Social and Environmental Impacts of Engineered Nanomaterials

Goal: Address societal concerns about environmental health and safety aspects of nanotechnology via a multidisciplinary approach including:

citizen engagement and government collaboration

delineation of key risk assessment and regulatory gaps

studies of nanoparticle transport and fate in the environment

investigation of nanoparticle toxicity

Thematic Areas

- Social risk dialogues
 - Develop effective mechanisms for citizens to engage with scientists and policymakers
- Risk assessment and regulatory gap analysis
 - Delineate key risk assessment and regulatory data gaps and the factors shaping them
- Nanomaterial toxicology
 - Develop low-cost, medium-throughput toxicity assay
 - Understand the influence of nanoparticle characteristics on their toxicity
- Environmental fate and transport of nanomaterials
 - Assess the environmental and biological stability of nanoparticles
 - Understand nanomaterial transport in the environment

