



## Data Governance

### Runs April 3–30

Per the old adage, knowledge is power – and today’s knowledge is data. This forum focuses on data governance, a space that asks us to consider who controls our vast quantities of data, by what means, and with what repercussions. While many have discussed the commercial significance of data governance, we are only beginning to skim the surface of its social and political implications.

Through policies and procedures, organizations and individuals manage every element of data, from its accessibility and consistency to its integrity and security. Data governance is, by definition, supervisory. This forum thus asks participants who should govern data, to what extent, and how. How do data governance and socio-political factors shape one another? What are the ethical and legal implications of data governance? Other questions provoke participants to reflect upon the roles of rights and equity in data governance practices, and to consider how we might build ethical data cultures. The forum welcomes participants from a variety of disciplines, fields, and perspectives to discuss the capacities and limitations of data governance.

### About the Forum

The forum is limited to members of the Northwestern Buffett digital platform to ensure high-quality discussion. The Buffett platform grew out of Meridian 180 and is a multilingual forum with a global membership of 1000+ leaders in academia, government, and business. Its purpose is to generate ideas and guidance on important problems of our time. Collaborative work takes place in English, Japanese, Korean, and Chinese on a digital platform. All of the commentary is translated from its original language, so that the entire forum discussion is available in all four of these languages. At the end of the forum discussion, a general summary – again in all four languages – is made available.

### To Participate

Write to Northwestern Buffett Senior Program Coordinator Ariel Schwartz, [ariel.schwartz@northwestern.edu](mailto:ariel.schwartz@northwestern.edu), and she will add you to the platform.