

Data Governance (DG)
Data Stewardship
Council (DSC)

A collaborative foundation for how we align, steward, and strengthen shared CU data.



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Goal: Create a shared understanding of how we work together to build trusted, usable CU data.

CU's Data Governance Mission

Data Governance at CU builds trust by making **data practices transparent**, **protects the university** through strong **security and compliance**, and **helps people work together** and **innovate** by providing **reliable, well-managed data** for **better decisions and future technologies**.



Increase Transparency

- Improve trust and transparency through consistent governance roles & processes
- Protect CU's reputation and credibility through increased data security
- Increase compliance with security, privacy and regulatory standards



Enhance Collaboration

- Enhance decision making efficiency through seamless information sharing
- Increase efficiency and collaboration through inter-campus and domain workflows
- Increase alignment to CU-wide goals through access to accurate, governed data



Catalyze Innovation

- Catalyze readiness for digital transformation
- Accelerate the pace of innovation and research through traceable data insights
- Deepen business intelligence through access to integrated, CU-wide data

Data Stewardship

Data stewardship is how data governance becomes practical, collaborative, and sustainable.

Data stewardship:

- Makes data governance **real and usable**
- Focuses on **accountability** for shared data
- Enables **collaboration** across campuses
- Establishes **shared definitions**
- Promotes **clear, documented decisions**

Why it matters:

- Data Stewardship **reduces confusion and builds trust** in CU data over time.

Why This Matters to CU

- Trusted institutional decision-making
- Scalable analytics and AI readiness
- Cross-campus collaboration
- Operational resilience
- Protecting institutional credibility

What the Data Stewardship Council Is — and Is Not

Why the Council Exists

- Brings campuses together to create shared clarity, trust, and consistency around CU's shared data.
- Supports confident use of data across:
 - Reporting
 - Operations
 - Compliance
 - Decision-making
- The DSC ensures shared data is:
 - Accurate
 - Consistent
 - Secure
 - Trusted

The DSC Is NOT:

- A ticket queue or support desk
- A technical operations team
- A compliance policing group
- A major ongoing time burden

The DSC IS:

- A collaborative decision-alignment group
- A forum for shared understanding
- A practical governance foundation
- A way to reduce ambiguity over time

DSC Scope of Responsibility

The DSC focuses on data that:



- Is used by more than one campus
- Needs **shared definitions or decisions**
- Supports **enterprise** reporting, analytics, or compliance



Out of scope:

- **Single-campus** data or issues
- **Local** operational decisions

How the Council Operates

Data Stewards (Decision-maker)

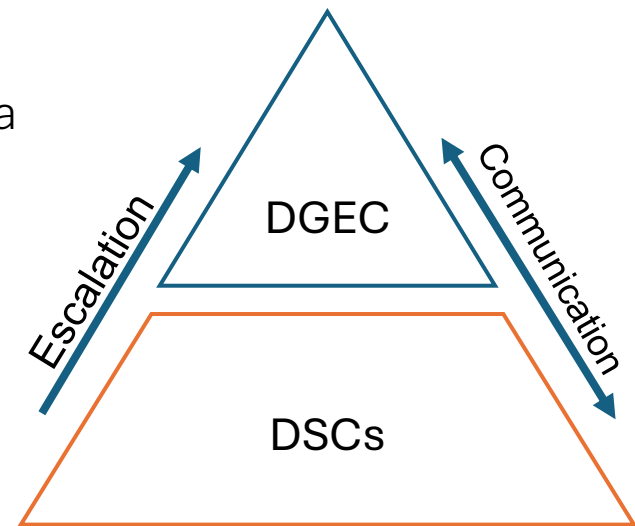
- One per campus
- Represent *business* meaning & use of data
- Appointed by Campus **Data Trustees**

Data Custodians (Supporting)

- One per campus
- Provide technical & system context
- Nominated by Campus **DG Executives**

Decision Model

- The DSC creates **shared alignment for data** that impacts the broader university community.
- The DSC **aims for collaborative consensus**, with unresolved issues escalated through the DGEC when needed.



How You Contribute & Why It Matters

How you contribute to the council:

- ✓ Represent **your campus perspective**
- ✓ Contribute & approve **shared definitions**
- ✓ Ask **clarifying questions**
- ✓ Help **identify the right SMEs**
- ✓ Support **transparent decisions**

This is a **collaborative effort** – no one person is expected to have every answer.

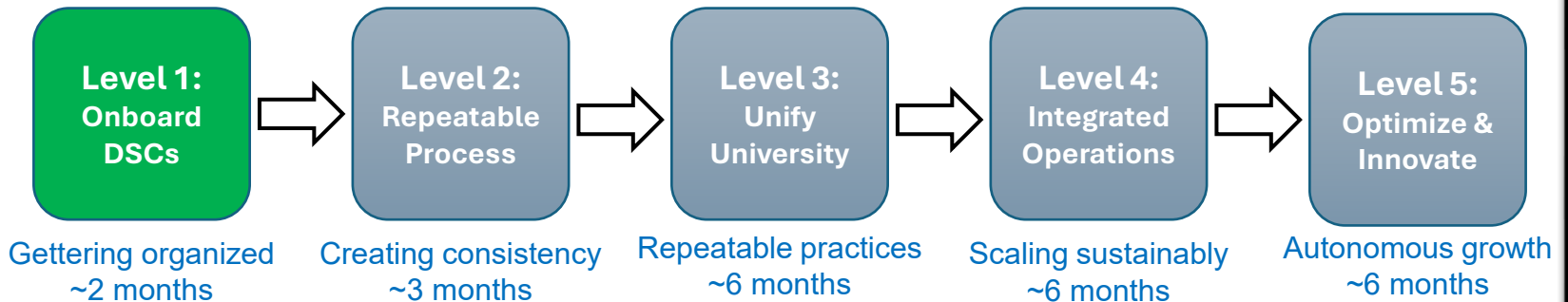
Why your participation matters:

- ✓ You help **reduce conflicting reporting** across campuses
- ✓ You **improve trust in decisions** made from data
- ✓ You help **preserve institutional knowledge**
- ✓ You make future **projects easier and less reactive**
- ✓ You **influence** how CU defines and uses critical data

Ultimately, you are **responsible for making the domain's data understandable and trustworthy**

Enablement Roadmap

This roadmap provides a phased path for how your council grows overtime.



How DG becomes Operational

- Start with **foundational decisions**
- **Build shared understanding** and definitions
- **Expand documentation** and metadata
- Mature workflows and consistency over time
- **Focus on sustainability, not perfection**
- Embed DG into **existing workflows**
- **Enable domain-led decision making**

A Practical, Phased Approach

The roadmap provides manageable, incremental steps—not a one-time transformation effort.

Key Principles:

- Start small, scale over time
- Build within your current environment
- Prioritize momentum and clarity over perfection

Level 1 Focus (Today):

- Stand up your governance foundation
- Establish roles and structure
- Begin documenting what matters most

 ***Progress is measured in clarity and adoption—not completeness***

How Data Governance Becomes Actionable

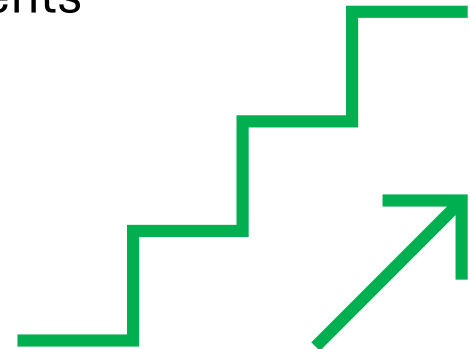
Small Steps → Sustainable Change

We break data governance into **bite-sized, actionable steps**:

1. Identify key roles (stewards, custodians)
2. Define a small set of critical data elements
3. Align on shared definitions
4. Document core data assets
5. Establish simple approval workflows

Why this works:

- Fits into existing workload
- Avoids disruption to operations
- Builds momentum through early wins



What Success Looks Like

- Data Stewardship **Council is active** and meeting
- Roles and responsibilities are **clearly defined**
- **Initial glossary** and definitions are **agreed upon**
- Key data **assets are identified** and documented

But more importantly:

- People know **who to go to for answers**
- Data decisions are **clear and consistent**
- Workflows are **less ambiguous**



👉 Success means shared understanding, consistency, and momentum

Why This Matters to Your Team

Value to You

This approach is designed to:

- ✓ **Empower your domain** to manage its own data effectively
- ✓ **Increase trust** in data products and reporting
- ✓ **Reduce friction** in data-related work
- ✓ **Improve visibility** into data origins and downstream impacts
- ✓ **Centralize knowledge** and reduce silos
- ✓ **Simplify onboarding and transitions**

The Long-Term Vision

Building a Sustainable Data Foundation

- Over time, this approach enables:
 - A shared understanding of data across the university
 - Consistent, scalable data practices
 - Easier cross-domain collaboration
 - Reduced dependency on tribal knowledge
 - Stronger, more reliable data-driven decisions
- End state:
 - Data Governance is no longer an initiative —it is part of your domain's infrastructure



Tools & Support

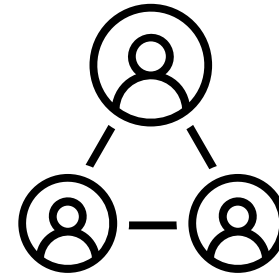
You're Not Alone

Data Trustees

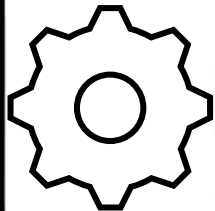
- Provide authority & direction

Data Governance Enablement (DGE) Team

- Training, guidance, & templates
- Meeting facilitation support
- Hands-on help



Collibra



- CU's centralized data catalog
- Terms, definitions, approvals, workflows, lineage
- **Level 1 use of Collibra:** Review, approve, and reference shared definitions

(You are not expected to build everything yourself.)

Thank you

Thank you for supporting data as a strategic CU asset.