



# Berkman

The Berkman Center for Internet & Society  
at Harvard University

# Legal Work in Privacy Tools

David O'Brien

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# overview

- team
- what is privacy?
- legal approaches to privacy
- law in the project
- goals for this summer

# team

- Prof. Urs Gasser (co-PI)
- David O'Brien
- Alexandra Wood
- Chris Bavitz (cyberlaw clinic)
- 2014 summer interns:
  - Jeremy Merkel
  - Anna Myers
  - Brett Weinstein
  - Bryan Lee (arriving next week)



Prof. Urs Gasser (co-PI)

# what is privacy?

“The claim of individuals, groups, or institutions, to determine for themselves when, how, and to what extent information about them is communicated to others.”

– Alan Westin

# what is it for?

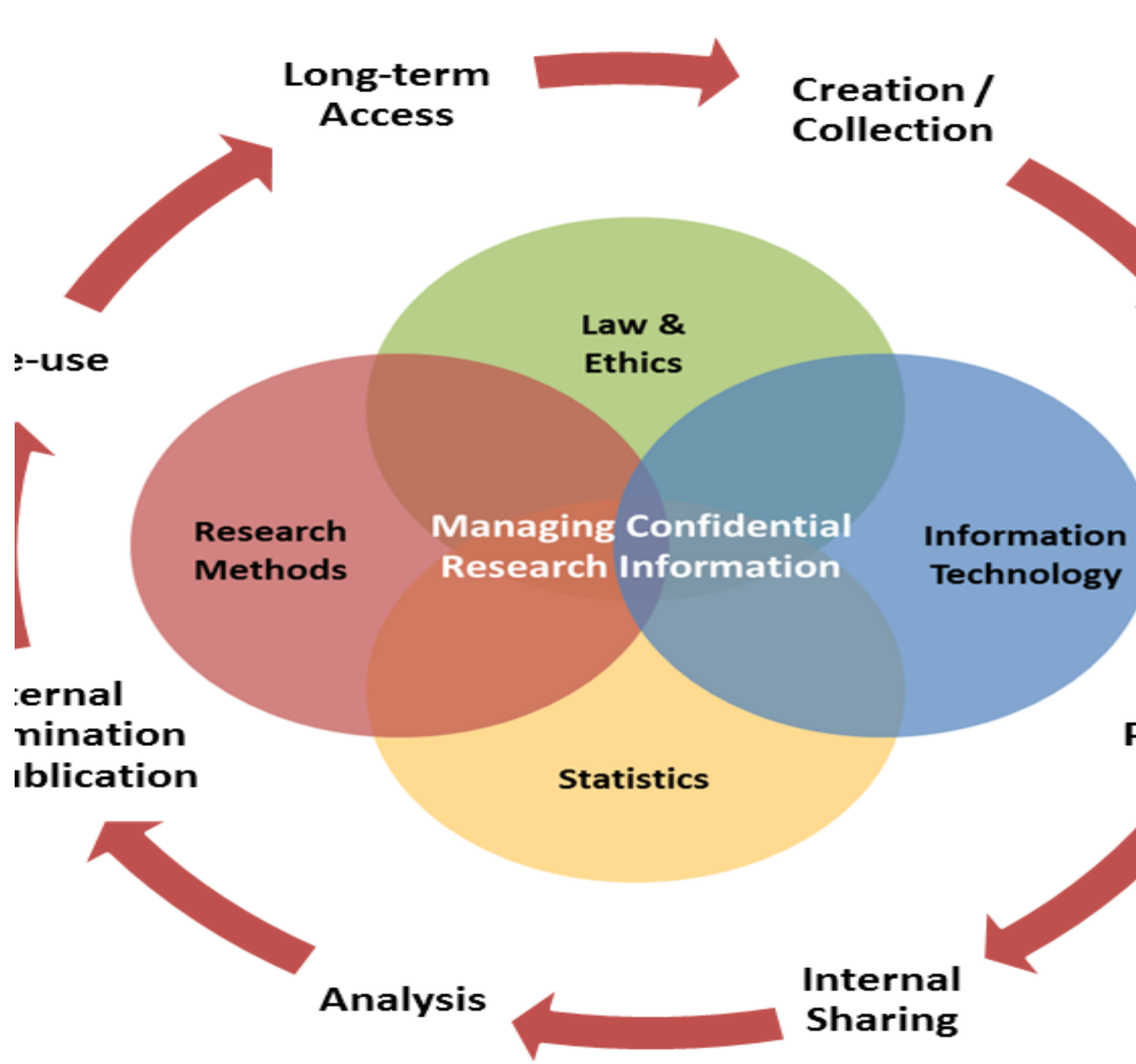
- a function of generally accepted social norms
- access to information about the self – gradients between *public* and *private*
- individuality, personhood, intimacy, dignity, reputation, and autonomy
- freedom to inquire
- enabler of creativity, counter-culture
- control over information; power

# sources of governance

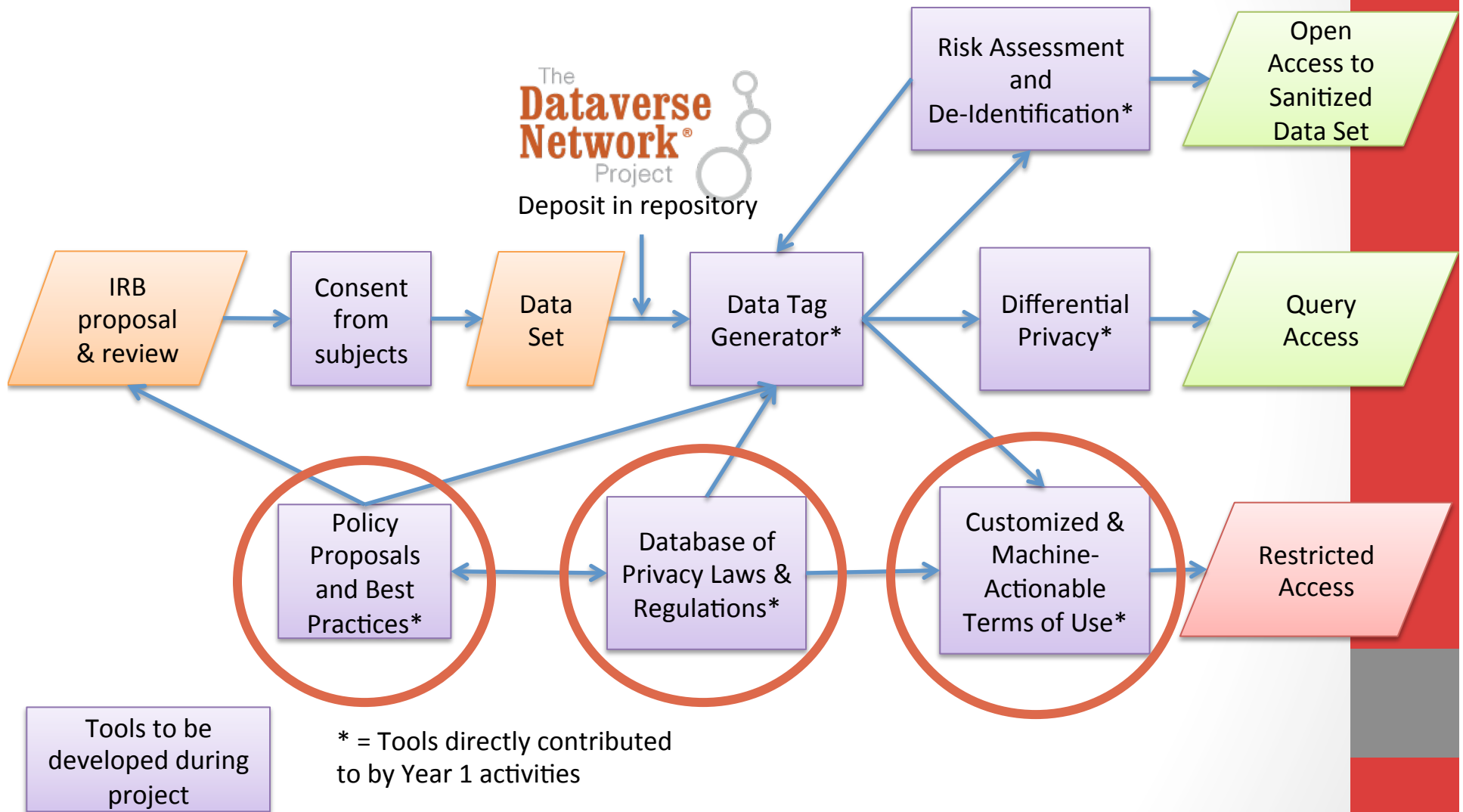
- constitutional Law (limits on government action)
  - fourth amendment
  - first amendment
- written law (statutes, regulations)
  - FERPA
  - HIPAA
  - common rule research regulations
  - various state laws
- common law (judicially developed)
  - judicial opinions, precedent of statutes
  - torts – civil injuries
  - contracts

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# BCIS contributions



# BCIS goals

1. develop improved conceptions, definitions, and measures of privacy and data utility that bridge legal and technical approaches
2. develop finely-tailored suite of legal tools to complement new technical approaches to preserving privacy in the collection, storage, use, and sharing of sensitive human subject data

# current work – analyzing DUAs

Collecting and analyzing data use agreements, terms of service, and policies of data repositories, academic institutions, government agencies, and businesses to assess practices towards:

150+ DUAs collected and analyzed

- Data ownership
- Conditions on sharing, use
- Liability assignment
- Enforcement mechanisms
- Security and de-identification standards

**Impact:** Critical input for developing enhanced terms of service, DUAs, privacy tags, DUA generator, and other instruments. Helpful for understanding working definitions in practice

**Output:** Upcoming paper based on research

## **Single User Terms and Conditions**

1. an American Hospital Association company (LICENSOR) is the owner of the property (hereinafter "DATA") that is the subject of this Agreement. LICENSEE shall be the organization identified on the Data Order Agreement, or if no organization is identified, the individual identified on the Data Order Agreement. LICENSEE is granted a limited, non-exclusive, non-transferable license to use the DATA at the site to which the DATA were shipped, in accordance with the Terms and Conditions of this Agreement.
2. The Effective Date of this Agreement is the date of its execution by the LICENSEE. The Term of this Agreement shall be the twelve (12) month period commencing as of the Effective Date and terminating on the anniversary date of the Effective date. At least thirty (30) days prior to the end of the Initial Term or any renewal Term, LICENSOR shall send LICENSEE a renewal notice asking LICENSEE to choose: (a) renewal of the terms of this Agreement for an additional one (1) year Term or (b) termination of this Agreement. In the event LICENSEE fails to return the renewal option notice prior to the end of the Term, this Agreement shall automatically terminate. Upon termination of this Agreement LICENSEE shall promptly cease use of the DATA. LICENSEE's exercise of option (a) also serves to renew all other licenses of historical DATA previously acquired from the LICENSOR by the LICENSEE.
3. LICENSEE acknowledges that the DATA are the proprietary and confidential property of LICENSOR and constitute valuable trade secret information, and that LICENSEE acquires no right in the DATA



# current work – policy

Comments on **statutory and regulatory developments** related to information privacy

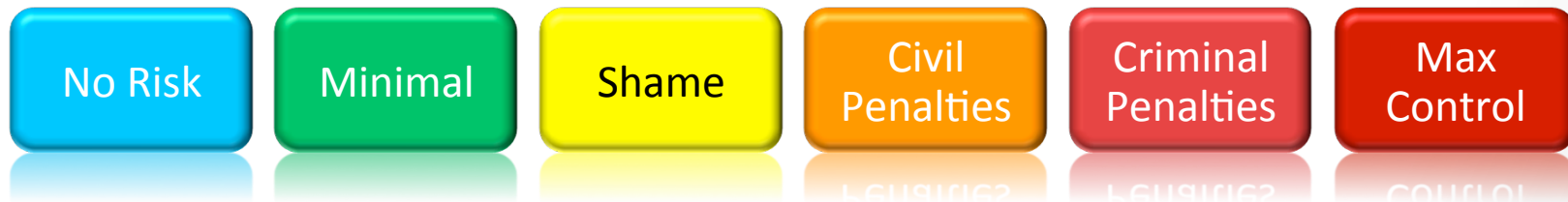
examples: OSHA and OSTP



# current work – data tags

Collaborating with IQSS/DPL and CRCS team members on the early stages of the data tags workstream

**Data Tags:** Tools to embed privacy characteristics into a dataset, and perhaps individual elements of data within the set, so they are persistent over the flow and lifecycle of that information.



# current work – data tags

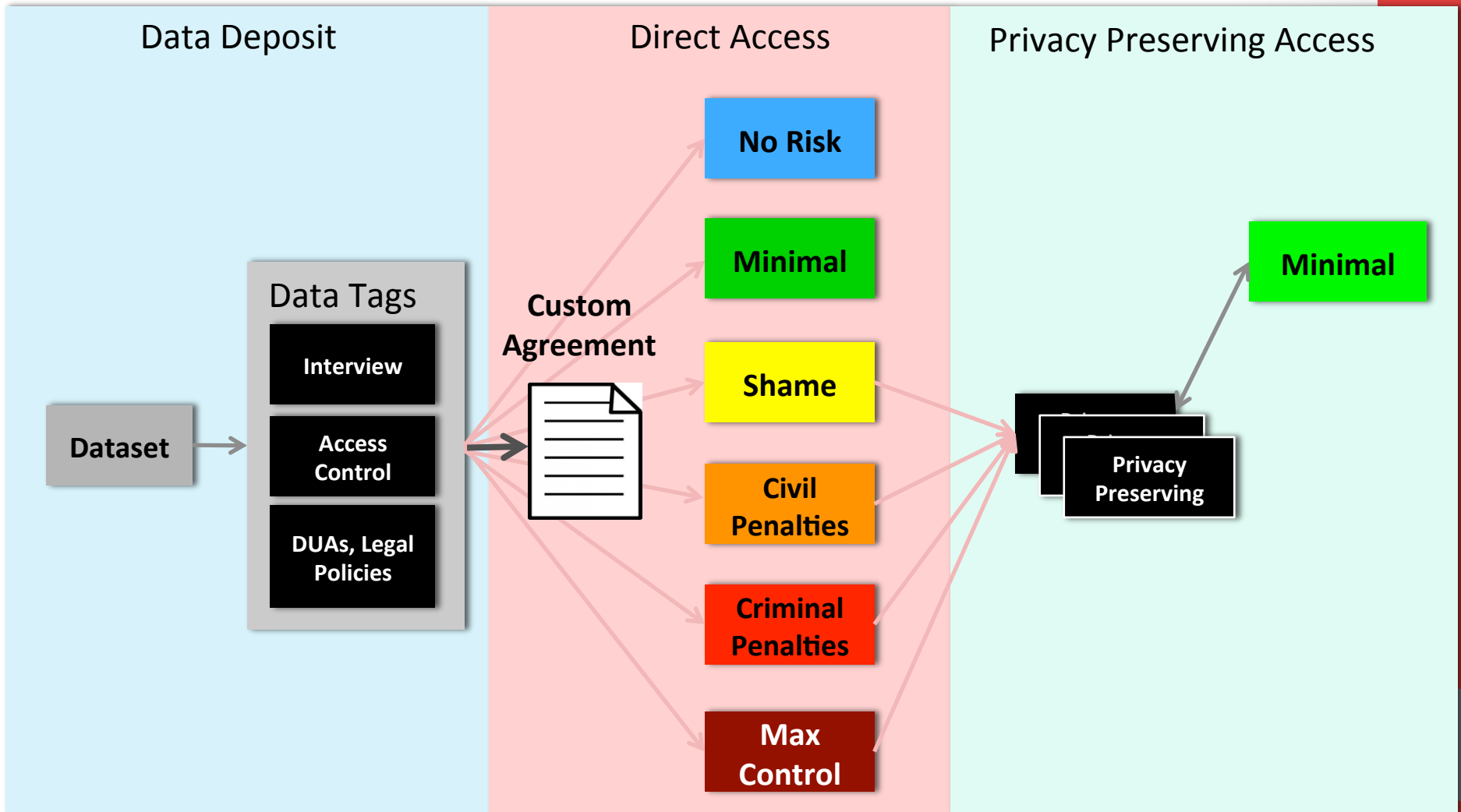
**Interview wizard:** question tool for assessing tags prior to data deposit

- Developing draft questions based on laws and common DUA terms

**DUA generator:** tool for generating customized legal code tailored for each dataset ingested

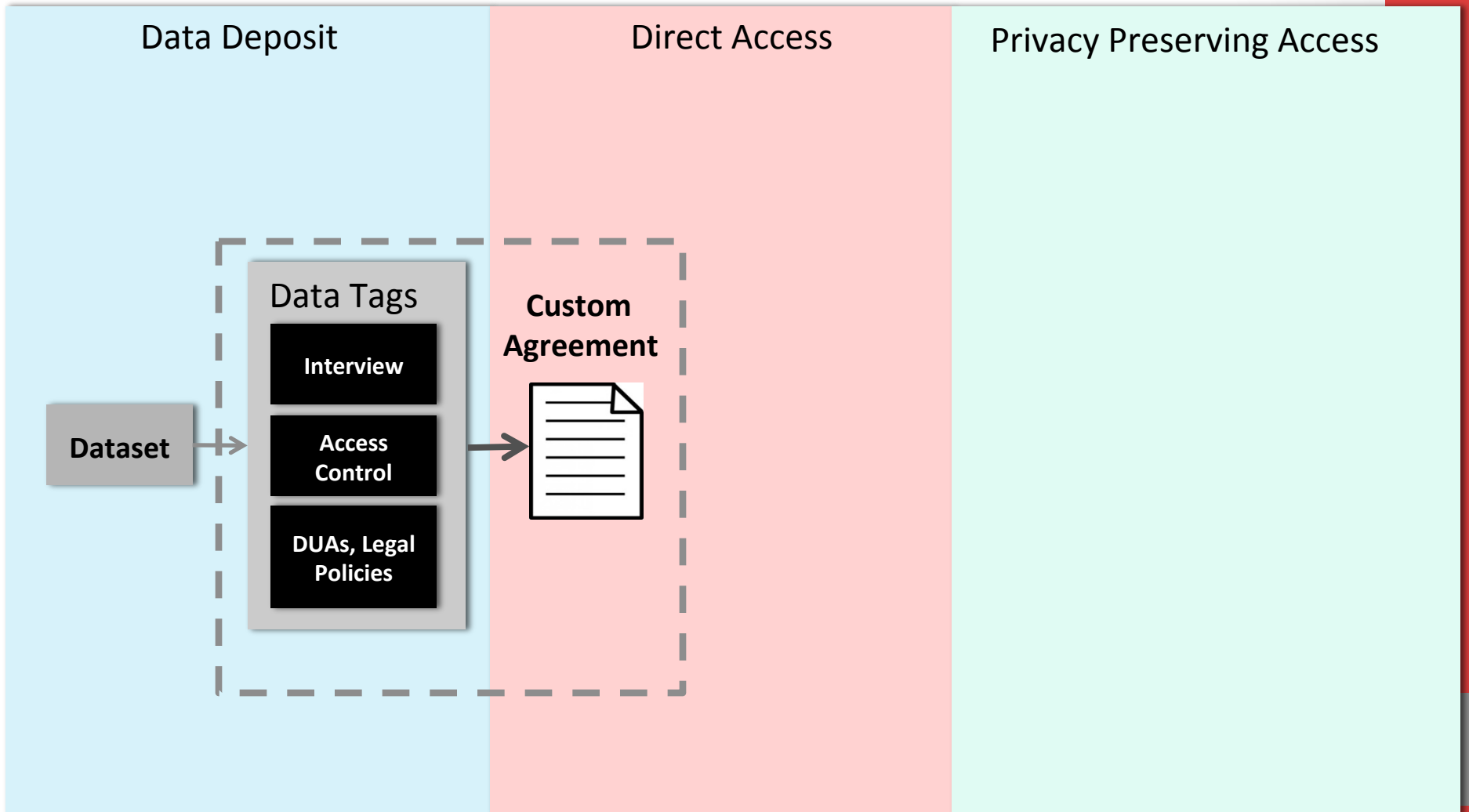
- Developing modularized contract provisions based on tags and researcher needs

# current work – data tags



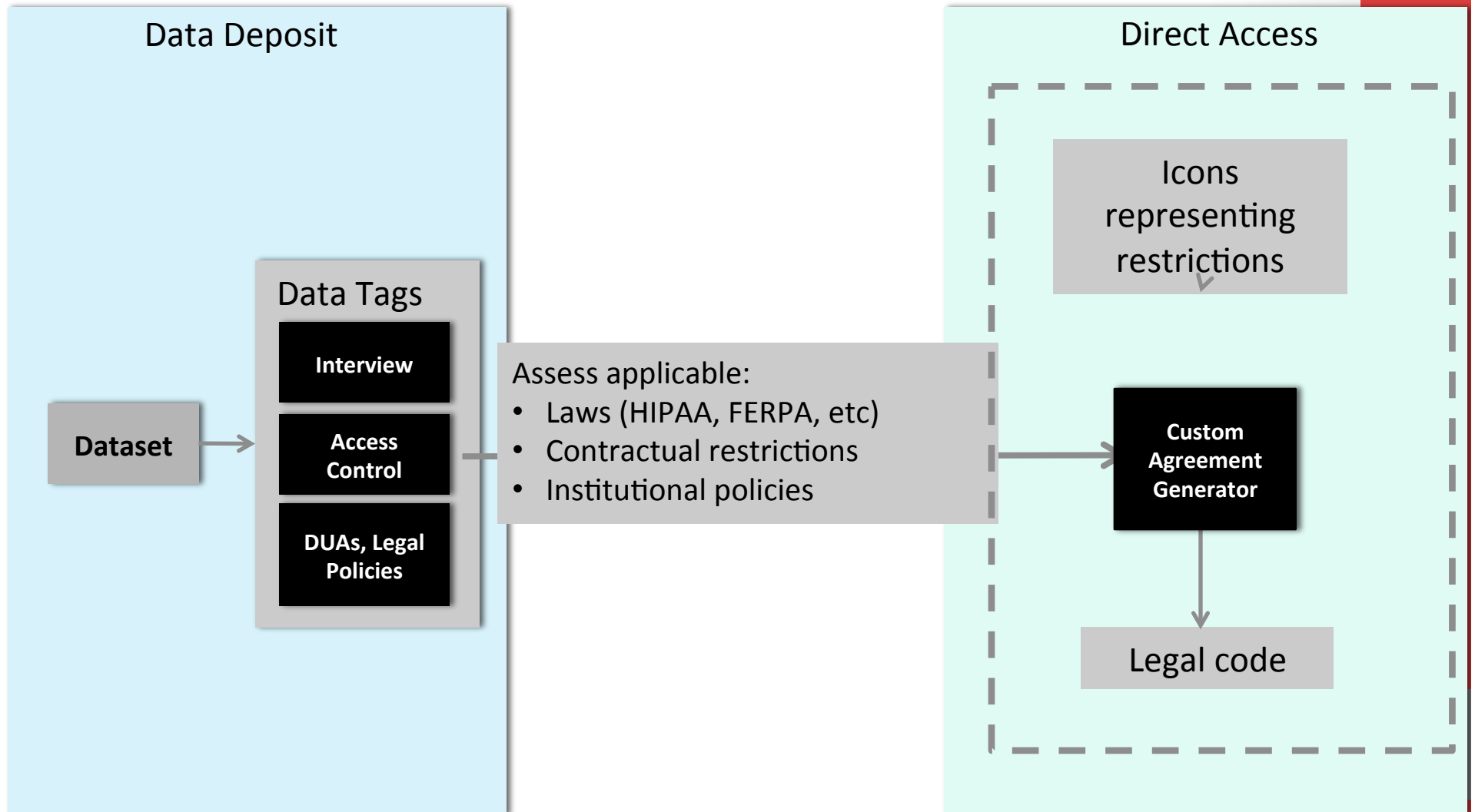
Data Deposit, transfer, storage and access through the **Dataverse Network**

# current work – data tags



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# current work – data tags



Data Deposit, transfer, storage and access through the **Dataverse Network**

# goals for the summer

- Data Tags prototype
- Draft modular license agreement
- Foundational research on privacy definitions and frameworks

# data tags prototype

- **Objective:** To develop a prototype of Data Tags that is ready for testing by users
- Creating an **annotated questionnaire** covering three categories of datasets:
  - Datasets containing **medical records**
  - Datasets containing **education records**
  - Datasets with preexisting **data use agreements**
- Beginning work on datasets containing **government records**

# draft modular license agreement

- **Objective:** To develop a first draft of the modular license agreement
- Creating an agreement **template** based on the Dataverse 4.0 data use terms
- Drafting **modules** of terms for the following categories:
  - Medical records
  - Education records
  - Government records
  - Data use agreements

# foundational research on privacy definitions and frameworks

- **Objective:** To begin mapping definitions, frameworks for, and approaches to privacy across disciplines
- Drafting a series of memos and briefing documents on
  - Privacy definitions from **statutes, regulations, and case law**
  - Privacy definitions from **other disciplines**