

# How to facilitate a global open science early-career research community with local impact

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ARC Future Fellow 2018  
eLife Early Career Advisory Group  
Member



- Non-profit open access publisher supported by four large funders
- Led by scientists
- Publishes high quality science
- Innovation in open-source tool development
- Community Guided
- Self-evaluation and publishing experiments



# Peer Review: First results from a trial at eLife

New approach to peer review proves popular with authors, with very similar acceptance rates for male and female last authors, but with higher acceptance rates for late-career researchers compared to their early- and mid-career colleagues.

New Results

2 comments

## **Gender and international diversity improves equity in peer review**

 Dakota Murray, Kyle Siler, Vincent Larivière, Wei Mun Chan, Andrew M. Collings, Jennifer Raymond, Cassidy R Sugimoto

**doi:** <https://doi.org/10.1101/400515>

This article is a preprint and has not been peer-reviewed [what does this mean?].

# Early Career Advisory Group

- Represent early career voices within eLife e.g. editorial policies
- Direct feedback to the editorial board at annual meeting
- Develop new initiatives to shape current academic practices and publishing
- Leading eLife Community Ambassador program



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# eLife Community Ambassador program 2018

## Concept:

- Capture and channel the positive energy of ECRs
- Ambassadors...
  - Champion responsible behaviours in science
  - Create and deliver solutions to existing problems for ECRs
  - Accelerate positive change in scholarly culture

## Practical:

- Open call for everyone to participate
- Provide a forum for like-minded people to connect
- Let's do this and see what happens

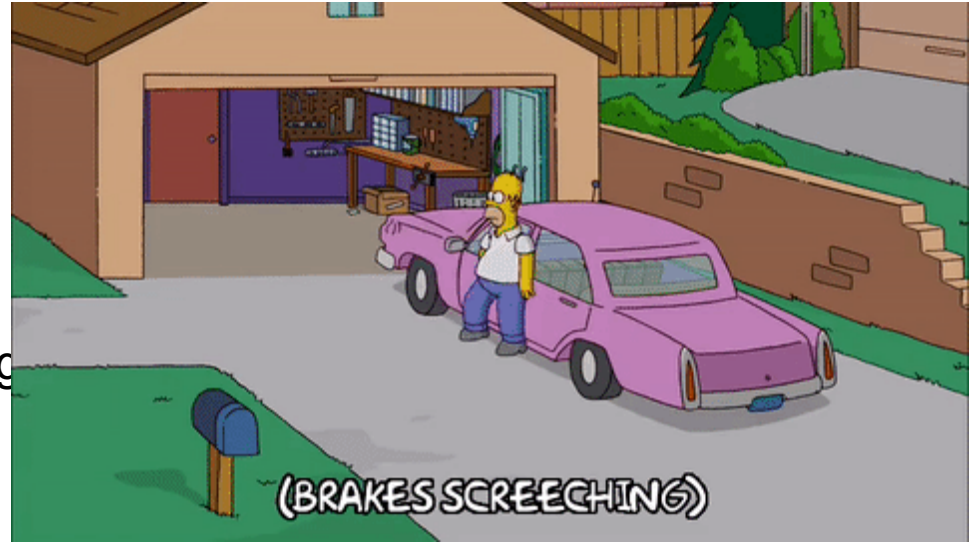


I mean I know it's a little crazy, but...

# eLife Community Ambassador program 2018

Numbers at the beginning:

- 204 Ambassadors
- 227 people on slack
- 40 public channels
- 123 people connected with the program three month (e.g. slack or calls)
- Free flow of ideas



# eLife Community Ambassador program 2018



# eLife Community Ambassador program 2018

Several subgroups on many topics:

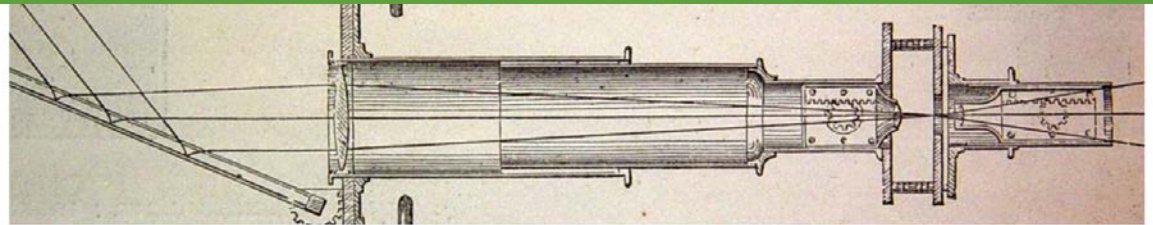
- Reproducibility
- ECR funding
- Diversity
- Preprints
- New PI survey
- Local subgroups
- Meta research
- ....

Loads of messaging within five months

Messages Sent

11,012

out of 10,000 messages



ecrLife

*Highlighting initiatives to improve the way science is performed and communicated*

eLife Ambassadors  
Careers  
Scicomm

Publishing  
Preprints  
Diversity

Contact



# eLife Community Ambassador program 2018



UCSF



Santiago de Chile

We support preprints...



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Rushita Bagchi

I am a Postdoctoral Fellow in the



Kenji Sugioka

I am a newly hired assistant professor



Sheila Teves

I am an Assistant Professor in the

Online

# eLife Community Ambassador program 2018

A central platform for early career researchers community

Contribute. Share. Engage.

Join the Community

Search for funding schemes and travel grants...



By early career researchers (ECRs) for ECRs to find and discuss funding opportunities, share experiences, mentor peers, and create impact through community engagement.

# eLife Community Ambassador program 2018

CORRESPONDENCE • 29 AUGUST 2018

## Preprints are good for science and good for the public

Sarvenaz Sarabipour 

Preprint

**NOT PEER-REVIEWED**

*"PeerJ Preprints"* is a venue for early communication or feedback before peer review. Data may be preliminary. Learn more about preprints or browse peer-reviewed articles instead.

View 61 tweets 

## Maintaining confidence in the reporting of scientific outputs

[Opinion article](#) [Science and Medical Education](#) [Science Policy](#)

Sarvenaz Sarabipour <sup>\*1</sup>, Erin M Wissink <sup>\*2</sup>, Steven J Burgess <sup>\*3</sup>, Zach Hensel <sup>4</sup>, Humberto Debat <sup>5</sup>, Edward Emmott <sup>6</sup>, Alper Akay <sup>7</sup>, Kadir Akdemir <sup>8</sup>, Benjamin Schwessinger <sup>9</sup>

August 8, 2018

 OPEN ACCESS

PERSPECTIVE

## On the value of preprints: An early career researcher perspective

Sarvenaz Sarabipour , Humberto J. Debat, Edward Emmott, Steven J. Burgess, Benjamin Schwessinger, Zach Hensel

Published: February 21, 2019 • <https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pbio.3000151>

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Preprint

**NOT PEER-REVIEWED**

*"PeerJ Preprints"* is a venue for early communication or feedback before peer review. Data may be preliminary. Learn more about preprints or browse peer-reviewed articles instead.

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## On the value of preprints: an early career researcher perspective

[Opinion article](#) [Science and Medical Education](#) [Science Policy](#)

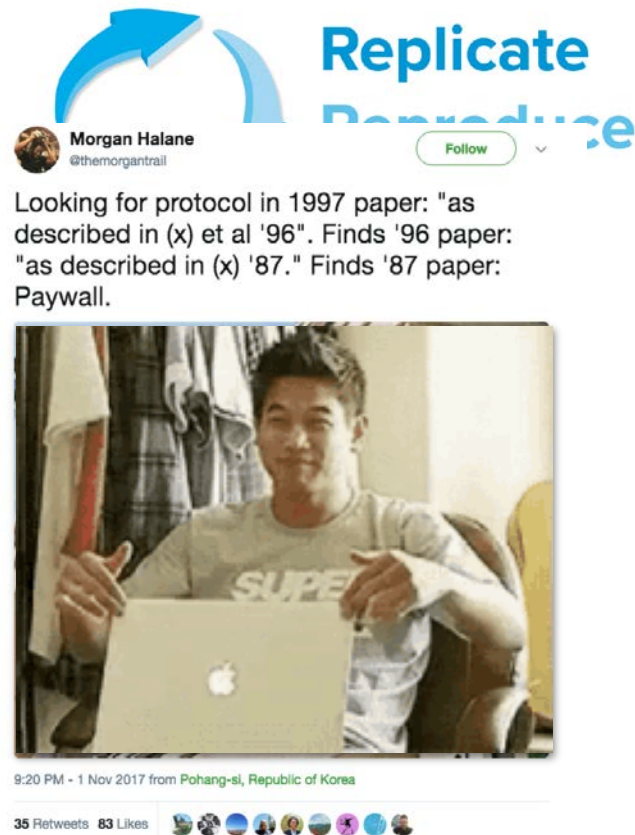
Sarvenaz Sarabipour <sup>1</sup>, Humberto J Debat <sup>2</sup>, Edward Emmott <sup>3</sup>, Steven Burgess <sup>4</sup>, Benjamin Schwessinger <sup>5</sup>, Zach Hensel <sup>6</sup>

December 1, 2018

# Reproducibility for Everyone

## Goals:

- Increase rigor, transparency, and reproducibility in life sciences
- Provide conceptual frameworks around rigor and reproducibility
- Train researchers in standards and new tools
- Collaboration led by scientists and supported by industry



# Reproducibility for Everyone



Replicate  
Reproduce  
Reuse

n

“We must abandon the idea  
that a passive apprenticeship  
system works”

Adam Finkel in Nature 19-02-2019



# Reproducibility for Everyone



Replicate  
Reproduce  
Reuse

**“Everyone says we are in a reproducibility crisis but not how you can tackle it personally [...] I liked the workshop because it provided specific ways to deal with the problem.”**

Workshop participant ASPB 2018



# Reproducibility for Everyone



## Achievements 2018:

- International group of ~20 scientist from academia and industry
- Development of workshop and poster material for conferences and local events
- Six workshops in 2018
- Successful funding from Mozilla



# Reproducibility for Everyone



**Replicate**  
**Reproduce**  
**Reuse**

Goals for 2019:

- More workshops at conferences e.g. KAUST, MPMI, ASM, and SFN
- More material e.g. posters, webinars, (plant science) teaching tool
- Extension of group
- More fundraising



eLIFE

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## Levelling Up: Reproducibility for Everyone

A project supported by eLife Ambassadors and a Mozilla Mini Grant is increasing its capacity to train researchers in reproducible research practices.



# eLife Community Ambassador program 2018

## Conclusions:

- 205 members (one dismissed)
- ~30K slack messages
- >40 calls
- ... too much happened to tell it all
- Much learning, connecting and belonging going on  
== community building
- Others are joining the “ambassador craze”



# eLife Community Ambassador program 2019

Next round:

- Starts April 2019
- Clear pathways of participation
- Clear expectation rubric for ambassadors
- Code of conduct
- Clear pathway of initiative building
- Training in
  - Sci-com
  - Leading initiatives
  - Reproducibility
  - Data visualization





Imagine a large pond that is completely empty except for 1 lily pad. The lily pad will grow exponentially and cover the entire pond in 3 years. In other words, after 1 month there will be 2 lily pads, after 2 months there will be 4, etc. The pond is fully covered in 36 months. When is it half covered?