Embedding Open Science Into the Research Culture

Summary of Webinar

The webinar presented by Dr Gabriel Pelletier, Open Science Alliance Officer at the Tanenbaum Open Science Institute (TOSI) at The Neuro, outlined how Open Science is becoming part of institutional research culture.

The session covered tools and programs developed at The Neuro to support the move toward Open Science. It highlighted national efforts to create a network of Open Research Institutes.

Presenter

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Key Themes from the Webinar

1. TOSI's Mission and Foundations

TOSI supports Open Science at The Neuro by:

- Establishing best practices, programs, and infrastructure
- Encouraging other neuroscience institutes to adopt OS
- Promoting early and open sharing of research outputs
- Developing open partnerships and open IP models
- Supporting researcher and participant autonomy and privacy

2. Open Science as Culture Change

Shifting institutional culture toward Open science requires:

- Infrastructure for sharing data, code, and outputs (e.g., Dataverse, Zenodo, GitHub, preprint servers, OpenNeuro, OSF)
- Training, support staff, guides, and OS office hours
- Community initiatives such as the Open Science Grassroots Committee and TOSI Trainee Council
- Events like the annual Open Science in Action Symposium
- Programs such as the Open Scientist in Residence

3. Incentives and Research Assessment Reform

The Neuro introduced incentives to support OS practices:

- Annual Open Science Grants ($20–50K per project)
- Open Access APC offset program ($1,500 per lab per year)
- Internal awards recognizing Open Science contributions

Research assessment reforms include:

- Removing journal tier and impact factor metrics
- Recognizing a broader range of research outputs
- Prioritizing transparency and openness

4. Measuring and Tracking Open Science

Open science dashboard was developed with the Curtin Open Knowledge Initiative (COKI) and the Metaresearch & Open Science Program at the University of Ottawa Heart Institute (Kelly Cobey).

These tools help with:

- Monitoring research sharing practices
- Evaluating OS adoption across institutes

5. Building a Network to Open neuroscience

A Support and Partnership Framework to help research institutes adopt and sustain Open Science practices was developed:

Seed Project

- A multi-institute collaborative project that builds on existing strengths
- Expands OS capabilities and demonstrates value

Buy-in Project

- A 1-year or longer process
- Assesses Open Science needs, strengths, and barriers
- Secures community buy-in and identifies diverse perspectives
- Establishes specific TOSI-compatible Open Science Guiding Principles
- Develops an OS implementation plan

Long-term Support

- Provides sustained financial support for OS implementation
- Integrates into a national OS network

Foster culture change toward Open Science by viewing the community not as a step in the process, but as an essential structure that surrounds and supports the transition

Acknowledgements