POSTER ABSTRACTS

ECR Posters

1. Open-access compliance in government environmental science

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ECR | Metaresearch

Government-conducted research is a key part of the overall fight against climate change and environmental degradation. A recent article highlights its importance for studying long-term ecological changes consistently, versus the shorter-term grants which dominate academic science (Viblanc et al., 2026). Meanwhile, UNESCO's Recommendation on Open Science (2021) opens with acknowledging its importance for addressing environmental challenges. The Canadian federal government has gradually introduced open requirements for federally-funded research. In the Roadmap for Open Science (2020), the Chief Science Advisor mandated that science-based departments should make articles published by federal researchers 'open by default' by January 2022, and all science publications open by January 2023. Ripp et al. (2025) analyzed the departmental open-access action plans which resulted from that, and found significant variation between them. The United States government announced a similar requirement in 2022 for all research funded by its granting agencies, to be implemented at the latest by 2025. There does not yet appear to be a study measuring compliance with the Canadian government's mandate. Ripp & Haustein (2023) estimated openness before the mandate and found that Environment Canada was in the middle of the pack at approximately 60% open. This project will answer the following questions using bibliometric data from Web of Science, and Unpaywall. RQ1: How did the 2022 policy change affect the rate of open-access publishing by Canadian government scientists in the environmental field? Did it affect the overall volume of work published?
1: How does this compare to Canadian government science overall? 2: How does this compare to science published by government scientists in the United States and the European Union?
It will analyze data from the period 2015-2025, including four full years during which articles should have been published OA (2022-2025). Results will be available in summer 2026.

2. Patient Engagement in Canadian Randomized Controlled Trials: A Scoping Review

Motahareh Karimijashni, Aleisha Fernandes, Ramin Banimahdi, Asefeh Memarian, Elham Shakiba, Amanda Doherty-Kirby, Yan Défossés, Jacqueline van Ierssel, Annette Majnemer, Ada Tang, Maureen Smith, Cory E. Goldstein, Monica Taljaard, Dean Fergusson and Stuart G. Nicholls
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Background: Patient engagement—where patients, families, and/or caregivers collaborate in design and conduct of research—is central to Canada's Strategy for Patient Oriented Research and is recommended in many guidance documents for randomized controlled trials (RCTs). However, little is known about the prevalence and nature of patient engagement in RCTs conducted exclusively in Canada. Therefore, this study assessed how often patient engagement is reported in Canadian RCTs, which trial stages involve patient participation and assessed whether patient engagement has increased over time. Methods: We conducted a scoping review guided by Arksey and O'Malley's framework. RCTs registered between 2010 and 2022 in ClinicalTrials.gov and conducted exclusively in Canada were identified through a registry search. All age groups and trial phases were included. Descriptive statistics summarized engagement characteristics, and logistic regression was used to examine trends in prevalence of patient engagement over time. Results: We identified 2,318 published RCT

reports. Of these, 142 trials (6.1%) reported patient engagement. Reporting was highest in Prince Edward Island (20%) and lowest in Quebec (3.2%). Behavioral trials most frequently reported engagement (13.5%), whereas no engagement was reported in trials involving procedures, dietary supplements, vaccines, radiation, diagnostic tests, or genetic interventions. Patients were most commonly involved in designing intervention (60.5%), followed by formative research activities (19.7%). Logistic regression indicated a significant increase in reporting over time (OR = 1.14 per year, 95% CI 1.08–1.20; $p < 0.001$). Discussion: Reported patient engagement in Canadian RCTs remains low, with involvement most often limited to activities such as intervention design or dissemination. Until recently reporting guidelines for RCTs did not require documentation of patient engagement, which may have led to under-reporting. With 2025 SPIRIT and CONSORT updates now recommending the inclusion of patient engagement, future research should explore barriers to conducting and reporting engagement, particularly in areas where uptake remains limited.

3. A meta-research study examining replicability, transparency, and robustness in physiotherapy research

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Background: Applied sciences such as exercise science and sports medicine have raised concerns regarding replicability and the limited adoption of open science practices. Yet, closely related disciplines such as rehabilitation remain largely unexplored in this regard.Objective: To investigate the current state of research practices supporting replicability, transparency, and robustness in the physiotherapy literature.Method: A descriptive meta-research study of research practices in original articles published in official journals of national physiotherapy associations in Canada, USA, UK, and Australia between 2022 and 2024. We used seven indicators: replication attempts for replicability, registration, preprint, data sharing, and sample-size justification for transparency, and fragile p-values and p-value distributions for robustnessResults: A total of 465 original articles were analyzed. For replicability, no replication studies were identified. In terms of transparency, 28% of articles were preregistered, none were registered reports, and 12% provided open data. Sample size justification was reported in 37% of quantitative studies and 23% of qualitative studies. Hypotheses were supported in 83% of cases. Only 1% of manuscripts were available as preprints. Regarding robustness, 39% of the reported significant p-values fell within the fragile range ($.01 \leq p < .05$). A marked asymmetry in the number of p-values just above versus just below the significance threshold suggested publication bias.Conclusions: Our findings highlight important limitations in the replicability, transparency, and robustness of the physiotherapy literature, which may undermine confidence in the current evidence base. Delays in adopting best practices, including registered reports, sample size justification, publication of negative results, and data sharing, may increase bias and compromise physiotherapy research credibility.

4. Interview Methods in Romantic Relationship Maintenance Research: A Focused Mapping Review and Synthesis

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Romantic relationship maintenance is central to individual and relational well-being, yet qualitative research in this area remains methodologically fragmented. As qualitative approaches become increasingly accepted within psychology, greater attention to transparency and methodological rigor is needed to enhance credibility, reproducibility, and cumulative development of knowledge. This study aimed to map and synthesize methodological practices in dyadic interview-based qualitative research on romantic relationship maintenance. A focused mapping review and synthesis was conducted in two phases: (1) a focused systematic review of

dyadic interview-based qualitative studies on romantic relationship maintenance published and (2) backward and forward citation searching of included studies, and (4) reviewing all the publications of four romantic relationship journals: Journal of Social and Personal Relationships, Personal Relationships, Qualitative Research Reports in Communication, and Journal of Marriage and Family. This multi-stage search strategy was designed to provide a comprehensive and contemporary assessment of the field. Studies were examined for philosophical paradigms, methodological coherence, sample characteristics, data collection and analysis practices, and reporting transparency. Preliminary findings indicate that post-positivist and constructivist paradigms were most common. However, methodological inconsistencies were frequently observed, particularly in the application of grounded theory approaches. Reporting of participant characteristics was also inconsistent, particularly regarding race and gender diversity. Semi-structured, in-person interviews were the predominant method of data collection. Although many studies demonstrated moderate to high methodological quality, recurring limitations included inadequate reporting of researcher reflexivity, limited transparency regarding analytic decision-making, and insufficient description of strategies used to establish trustworthiness. Findings highlight the need for greater transparency, methodological coherence, and reporting rigor in qualitative relationship science. Strengthening reflexive practices and improving transparency in research design, conduct, and reporting may enhance the openness and cumulative value of qualitative evidence. The final synthesis will provide recommendations to support innovation and best practices in future qualitative research on romantic relationship maintenance.

5. How's it going? Barriers and facilitators of adopting Open Science in Neuroscience and Mental Health Research

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Objective: Adopting Open Science (OS) practices requires a thorough understanding of systemic barriers and facilitators. The study evaluated current perceptions of OS implementation in neuroscience and mental health research. The primary objective was to uncover key barriers and facilitators that will lead to the development of actionable strategies for successfully adopting OS practices. Methods: The study was conducted during an interactive working lunch at the 7th Annual Neuro Open Science in Action Symposium hosted by the Hotchkiss Brain Institute at the University of Calgary. Attendees participated in an exercise completing “Top 10” lists addressing cultural, institutional, and commercial interests. Scribes compiled responses, which were analyzed using the Theoretical Domains Framework (TDF). Qualitative data were mapped across TDF domains and categorized into Capability, Opportunity, and Motivation to classify responses as barriers, facilitators, or neutral. Results: Seventy-seven attendees participated in the session completing12 lists, with 175 unique responses. Responses mapped across 12/14 TDF domains, with "environmental context and resources" emerging as the most prominent (41%). Most responses were facilitators of OS (63%), followed by neutral (19%) and barriers (17%). Facilitators of OS related to building relationships with patient partners and community organizations, and increased research efficiency when data, code, and software are shared. Barriers to OS were related to lack of institutional support, which reduces capability, opportunity, and motivation to adopt OS practices. Conclusion: Engaging the research community in collaborative dialogue successfully identifies critical factors that influence OS adoption. To facilitate increased OS adoption, institutions must shift their focus away from traditional metrics to systems that explicitly reward OS practices, while reinforcing identified facilitators to ensure long term sustainability.

6. Reproducibility and Robustness by Method and Subfield

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ECR | Metaresearch

The use of causal identification methods has increased rapidly in recent years, leading to a believed credibility revolution. This paper documents reproducibility and robustness rates by method and subfield for a sample of 248 published studies, coordinating over one thousand researchers who performed over 15,000 reanalyses (robustness checks) and simultaneously assessing the consistency and reproducibility of published research. About 91% of teams reported the original papers to be computationally reproducible from the provided replication materials. Still, approximately 55% of teams identified some form of research inconsistency (i.e. coding errors, discrepancies). Our teams of researchers found about 70% of reanalyses remained statistically significant and having the same sign as the original paper. We further classified original papers' into: (1) their respective fields (JEL codes, etc.) and (2) their design-based research method (i.e. identification strategy). Results from experimental methods appear more robust relative to observational methods when comparing t-curves of the original papers' statistics to those of our teams of researchers' reanalyses. In a similar analysis of t-curves, development economics and labour economics appear to be more robust than economic history. Our results by field and method roughly align with the priors of 250 researchers which were solicited prior to our analysis.

7. Existing guidelines and training resources for creating Narrative CVs: a scoping review

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ECR | Metaresearch

Objective Narrative CVs (NCVs) are increasingly being adopted as part of responsible research assessment initiatives that seek to recognize diverse scholarly contributions beyond traditional quantitative metrics. As funding agencies, institutions, and research organizations implement NCVs, effective training is needed to support applicants and reviewers. This scoping review aimed to map and characterize existing NCV training resources. Methods We conducted a scoping review following the Arksey and O'Malley framework and reported findings according to PRISMA-ScR guidelines. Searches were conducted in MEDLINE, Embase, PsycINFO, ERIC, Web of Science, preprint servers and grey literature sources from 2010 to the present. English and French resources providing guidance on writing and/or evaluating NCVs were eligible. Data was extracted in duplicates and analyzed. Results 65 training resources met the inclusion criteria. Most originated from Canada (38.5%) and the United Kingdom (24.6%) and were produced by universities (32.6%), funders (29.1%), or government organizations (19.8%). Common formats included resource websites (24.3%), webinars (20.3%), and commentary articles (12.2%). Most resources targeted applicants (75.0%), while only 20.8% targeted reviewers. Frequently covered topics were structuring NCV sections, explaining the purpose of NCVs, and presenting non-traditional research contributions. However, reviewer guidance (3.8%) and addressing bias in narrative assessment (4.2%) were infrequently covered. Although most resources were freely accessible (92.3%), only a few had accessibility features (9.2%). Practical tools to support NCV writing and assessment were also inconsistently provided as nearly half of resources did not cite supporting evidence (46.2%), and only 21.5% reported any evaluation of effectiveness. Conclusion Current NCV training resources reflect growing interest in responsible research assessment. However, they largely focus on applicants, and gaps remain in reviewer-focused guidance, accessibility, practical tools, and the evaluation of training effectiveness. This can limit the ability of narrative CVs to achieve their intended goals of promoting equity and recognition of diverse research contributions.

8. Français

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ECR | Institution/Initiative

Les principes de science ouverte sont souvent présentés simplement comme des outils de démocratisation des savoirs. Pourtant, leur déploiement repose sur des infrastructures, standards et dispositifs de gouvernance qui participent également à redéfinir les rapports de pouvoir au sein du champ scientifique. L'objectif principal de cette communication est de proposer un cadre analytique original visant à répondre à la question suivante : comment les principes de science ouverte reconfigurent-ils les rapports de pouvoir dans la gouvernance des données de recherche ? Nous défendons la thèse selon laquelle les principes de science ouverte représentent plus que des dispositifs de diffusion du savoir, mais opèrent plutôt comme des arrangements sociotechniques et institutionnels qui redistribuent inégalement les capacités de production, de gestion et de circulation des données de recherche. Les travaux existants comme Star (1999), Whitley (2000) ou Leonelli (2019) tendent à isoler les dynamiques de redistribution en privilégiant les infrastructures, les hiérarchies scientifiques ou les mécanismes de gouvernance. Face à cet isolement, nous proposons une articulation théorique entre trois traditions rarement mobilisées conjointement : la sociologie du champ scientifique, les approches sociotechniques des infrastructures et la théorie des communs. Ces traditions encadrent les pratiques de production de données, elles-mêmes structurées par des dispositifs de gouvernance qui reproduisent les hiérarchies existantes. Nous suggérons que leur mise en relation permet de conceptualiser la gouvernance des données comme un objet analytique central où se concrétise les transformations et rapports de pouvoir. Cette articulation identifie trois formes interdépendantes de pouvoir (infrastructurel, institutionnel et symbolique) qui structurent les principes contemporains de science ouverte. En nous basant sur ce cadre, la communication invite ainsi de considérer la gouvernance des données de recherche ouverte comme un point de jonction entre logiques infrastructurelles, institutionnelles et symboliques, à travers lequel les principes de science ouverte reconfigurent les rapports de pouvoir.

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9. The Reviewer in the Machine: AI, Peer Review, and the Open Science Promise

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ECR | Metaresearch

Objective: Peer review is under pressure: reviewers are overworked, editors are stretched, and research volume keeps growing. Into this situation comes AI, often with the promise of helping: matching reviewers, screening manuscripts, flagging integrity issues, summarizing submissions, or supporting decisions. These uses may reduce some burden. But they also raise a basic open science question: if peer review should become more transparent, accountable, and open to scrutiny, what happens when part of that judgment is handled by systems we may not fully understand? Methods: This talk draws on my ongoing scoping review of AI in peer review and research evaluation, guided by JBI methodology and PRISMA-ScR reporting principles. I examine how AI is discussed and used in journal peer review, conference review, grant assessment, editorial workflows, and research integrity screening. I organize the literature around three questions: where is AI being used, what role is it playing, and how close is it to decisions about scholarly value? I also chart transparency, bias, accountability, reproducibility, and responsible research assessment. Results: Early screening suggests that much of the conversation remains focused on efficiency. AI is presented as a way to find reviewers faster, detect problems earlier, or help editors manage workloads. These concerns are real. Yet the literature gives less attention to harder questions: Can AI-supported judgments be challenged? Whose quality standards are built into these systems? Do these tools make peer review more open, or move opacity into a technical layer? Conclusion: AI-assisted peer review is becoming part of the machinery that filters, assesses, and values research. For open science, this is not a side issue. Faster review may help, but speed alone is a thin promise. The deeper

question is how these tools can be governed so they make scholarly judgment more accountable, rather than simply harder to see.

10. L'évaluation réaliste comme outil d'évaluation en métascience

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This communication proposes a methodological contribution to meta-science, highlighting the limitations of existing evaluation frameworks for analyzing certain interventions. It justifies the adoption of realist evaluation as a relevant alternative, although it remains underutilized in this field. The project is part of a pilot research-intervention conducted with INRS, aimed at improving inter- and transdisciplinary research processes. Six INRS teams will benefit from support through workshops inspired by the Toolbox Dialogue Initiative (TDI). In this context, we pose the following question: how can we evaluate whether interventions produce the expected results? The analysis is structured in three parts. First, a review of evaluation frameworks in science, classified according to Gunthrie et al. (2013) into two groups: qualitative evaluations (formative, flexible, adapted to interdisciplinary contexts) and quantitative evaluations (scalable, comparable, longitudinal). Next, their limitations are exposed: qualitative approaches describe what happened, quantitative ones measure to what extent, but neither explains why, for whom, or under what circumstances. Finally, realist evaluation is presented as a solution. It is based on the identification of context-mechanism-outcome (CMO) configurations (Pawson & Tilley, 1997; Pawson, 2013), transforming the evaluation question: instead of "did the intervention work?", it asks "what works, for whom, and under what circumstances?" In conclusion, we argue that, although it has not been used systematically in meta-science studies, this approach has great potential for the field and for this research in particular, for the following reasons. First, inter/transdisciplinary interventions target heterogeneous units, incompatible with counterfactual methodologies. Second, the multiple case study design allows for comparison of CMO configurations across different contexts. Third, the objective of producing transferable knowledge about mechanisms that foster or inhibit collaboration requires an explanatory framework.

11. Mapping open science and building consensus: Rethinking knowledge mobilization with and for equity denied and deserving communities

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ECR | Metaresearch

Objectives: We will present how our project will advance open science through a research-on-research lens, examining how knowledge mobilization (K*; pronounced "K-Star") is defined and reported in global literature about community-driven research with equity-denied/deserving (ED/D) communities. Despite policy and mandates for K* and equity, ED/D communities remain underrepresented in shaping K* priorities, while research processes and outcomes are often inconsistently reported, difficult to access, and rarely evaluated. Methods: Our study is currently underway and integrated phases aligned with UNESCO's vision for open, inclusive, and equitable knowledge systems. First, we are developing a global, open-access Evidence Gap Map (EGM) that systematically captures and visualizes published research on community-driven K* across ED/D populations. Drawing on thousands of studies worldwide, the EGM maps K* approaches to outcomes, exposing strengths, silences, and reporting limitations in the literature. By making this evidence base transparent, searchable, and continuously updated, the EGM directly responds to open science priorities around accessibility, synthesis, and research integrity. Next, we will conduct a large-scale, purposefully inclusive Delphi process that brings together a diverse group of rights and interest holders—including ED/D community members, researchers, funders, and K* leaders across Canada (with parallel work in Australia). Through an

iterative process, interest and rights holders will co-develop a consensus statement on what ethical, effective, and community-driven K* should look like—and how it should be transparently supported, evaluated, and reported in funding and research systems. Finally, we will mobilize findings through open, accessible tools and targeted engagement with national stakeholders to support system-level change.
Results and Conclusion: By integrating global evidence synthesis alongside inclusive consensus-building within the Canadian context, our team is putting open science principles into practice. We will use our study to strengthen transparency, improve access to knowledge, and advance equity in who shapes and benefits from research.

12. COSREX: An AI-Powered Platform for Navigating Canadian Open Science Resources

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ECR | Other

Open Science initiatives, such as Open Access(OA) and Open Educational Resources (OERs), have transformed the way knowledge is created, shared, and accessed by promoting transparency, collaboration, and unrestricted access to research and educational resources. They contribute to the democratization of knowledge sharing and support the advancement of equitable and lifelong learning in line with the United Nations objective, particularly Sustainable Development Goal 4. Nevertheless, the increasing availability of openly available academic and educational resources does not automatically translate into effective learning outcomes. Learners often struggle to find relevant, trustworthy, structured materials that align with their individual learning needs. As the volume and diversity of open resources continue to grow, challenges related to information overload, resource quality and learning pathway navigation remain significant barriers to effective engagement with Open Science resources.
Recent advances in digital learning platforms and AI-driven technologies have reshaped the educational landscape. To address the challenge, this research investigates how artificial intelligence can facilitate personalized lifelong learning that helps learners discover, evaluate, and effectively leverage Open Science resources. We propose a conceptual framework that combines AI-driven personalization, quality evaluation mechanisms, and community-based knowledge sharing to support diverse learning pathways. The research explores how learners with different levels of expertise can benefit from adaptive access to open educational and scholarly content, from beginners seeking structured learning experiences to advanced learners conducting independent research. In addition, the study considers the role of community participation in enhancing knowledge exchange and supporting collaborative learning practices.
The expected contribution is a research-informed framework for integrating AI and Open Science resources to support personalized and effective lifelong learning. By addressing current barriers in open learning ecosystems, this work contributes to ongoing discussions on how Open Science can better support inclusive, equitable, and lifelong learning opportunities and move beyond knowledge accessibility toward meaningful educational impact.

13. Return on Investment of Canadian biomedical funders: A cross-sectional meta-research analysis

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OHRI

ECR | Metaresearch

Background: Canadian Research funders increasingly promote open science, transparency, and responsible research practices as part of the value they expect in return for their investments. Objective: This study aims to identify Canadian biomedical funders, characterize the funding- and transparency-related information reported

in biomedical articles published in 2025. Methods: We will conduct a cross-sectional, descriptive meta-research project. We will include peer-reviewed English- and French-language biomedical publications in 2025 and indexed in MEDLINE and Web of Science that explicitly report at least one Canadian funder. Article-level data will be extracted for funding-related variables (e.g., presence of a funding statement, funder name, funding program, open science and transparency indicators (e.g., sharing data, code, and/or materials sharing, open access publishing, prospective registration, reporting transparency, disclosure of interests and funding) and engagement and equity indicators (equity, diversity, inclusion, and accessibility (EDIA), and patient and public involvement). Analyses will be descriptive and will summarize funder characteristics, article-level open science, transparency, and EDIA practices. Results: Data extraction will be completed by September. Expected outputs include a summary list of Canadian funders identified from the research publications, their characteristics, the number of research articles published in 2025, and an infographic of the prevalence of responsible research practice in the biomedical literature in 2025. Conclusion: This study will report on how Canadian biomedical researchers are adopting responsible research practices and identify gaps in funder tracking and reporting.

14. The Big Team Science Experience Survey: First Findings

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Background and objective: Big Team Science (BTS) is a grassroots approach whereby researchers across countries, disciplines, and career stages pool resources to address pressing scientific questions, with the overarching goals of improving reproducibility and statistical inference. Central to this model is the adoption of open science practices throughout the research cycle, including study registration, open data, code and materials, preprints, and open access publishing. BTS has expanded considerably in recent years, with several prominent networks emerging particularly within the social and behavioral sciences, reflecting a broader cultural shift toward more transparent and collaborative research. Yet, metascientific understanding of the model has not kept pace with its growth, leaving fundamental questions about participants' experiences largely unanswered: Who participates in BTS, what do they gain, and what challenges do they face?
Methods: To address this gap, the SSHRC-funded CONNECT partnership developed the Big Team Science Experience Survey, an instrument designed to systematically capture the experiences and perceptions of researchers and trainees directly involved in BTS projects. The survey covers research practices and culture, individual-level benefits and drawbacks, overall evaluations of BTS, and areas for improvement, combining Likert scale, continuous, multiple-choice, and open-ended items. Following piloting to refine item accuracy and ensure target population relevance, the survey was administered across multiple BTS networks via non-probabilistic sampling.
Results: We received 212 complete responses and data analysis is currently underway. Results will be available and presented at the conference, offering foundational cross-network metascientific evidence on what it means to participate in BTS across its multiple dimensions.
Conclusion: Results are expected to shed light on both the promise and the challenges of large-scale scientific collaboration, with direct implications for how BTS initiatives are structured, supported, and funded, both in Canada and internationally.

Institution/Initiative Posters

15. Showcasing Your Research Data: Growing Collections in Canada's National Repository

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Institution/Initiative

The Federated Research Data Repository (FRDR) is Canada's bilingual national platform for publishing and preserving research data. Within FRDR, Collections enable research groups, labs, and institutions to organize related datasets under a shared identity — increasing discoverability, supporting funder and institutional reporting, and creating a recognizable presence for a community's research outputs within a national platform. Despite this value, uptake among eligible research groups was initially limited. This poster presents the FRDR Collections feature — what it is, why research groups, labs and PIs are creating them, and how a targeted outreach effort combining direct email campaigns and one-on-one consultations has driven significant growth in Collections since Fall 2024, including notable uptake among French-language research communities and researcher-led labs. Visitors will learn what a Collection is, how to request one, and what to expect from the experience. We will also preview the next phase of Collections development: richer engagement metrics through a Plotly-based interactive dashboard, designed to give Collection owners better visibility into their data's reach and support reporting to funders and institutions. This poster is designed as a starting point for conversation — whether you manage research data, support researchers as a librarian, or lead a research group with datasets ready to be organized and showcased.

16. SmartLab: Open and Affordable Infrastructure for Research Laboratories

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McGill

Institution/Initiative

Modern laboratories increasingly depend on digital tools, yet many continue to rely on fragmented workflows, outdated hardware and software infrastructure, and expensive commercial systems. Laboratory information is often scattered across challenging to access interfaces, spreadsheets, paper notes, and disconnected devices, making communication, monitoring, and coordination difficult. To address this, we developed SmartLab, a modular platform designed to prioritise efficiency, modernizing laboratory infrastructure using affordable hardware and self-hosted software. SmartLab combines environmental sensors, easy search tools, shared laboratory displays, and a centralized web interface to improve efficiency, communication, monitoring, and reproducibility across research environments. The first phase of the project focuses on three complementary modules: SmartSearch, SmartSensors, and SmartScreens. SmartSearch helps researchers discover and reuse clinical, biosample, imaging, and genetics resources through a unified searchable interface with powerful filters and resource-specific views, making research data easier to find and explore. This is in the process of being implemented on institutional servers. SmartSensors are affordable Wi-Fi devices that monitor laboratory conditions such as temperature and can automatically send alerts when values fall outside defined ranges. SmartSensors were specifically designed for laboratory environments, including deep-freeze monitoring down to −196 °C. SmartScreens are shared displays placed throughout labs that provide real-time laboratory information, including sensor alerts, schedules, announcements, etc. These displays improve communication and visibility across distributed laboratory teams. The system is built using open-source software and affordable hardware, allowing laboratories to deploy and adapt the system without proprietary infrastructure or recurring subscription fees. By emphasizing affordable components, self-hosting, and ease of deployment, SmartLab aims to make modern laboratory infrastructure more accessible to research groups with limited

technical or financial resources. By combining affordable hardware with self-hosted streamlined software, SmartLab aims to help research laboratories become more connected, collaborative, and accessible.

17. EEGNet Open Data and Analytics Hub for Open Science

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Institution/Initiative

Introduction The exponential growth of big data neuroscience has created urgent demand for integrated platforms facilitating data sharing and collaborative research. Electroencephalography (EEG) remains the most economically viable, non-invasive, and globally accessible neuroimaging technology, with pivotal potential for translational research from high-resource settings to low and middle-income countries (Mushtaq 2024). Community-driven standards such as EEG-BIDS and HED tags are fundamental to enabling open, reproducible science. To address these priorities, EEGNet.org launched an open platform (EEGNet.loris.ca) for building gold-standard annotated datasets for machine learning and early biomarker detection. Methods EEGNet integrates data and analytics through the open-source LORIS data management platform and CBRAIN high-performance computing portal (Das 2016), which supports over 2,000 users across 59 countries with 150+ analysis workflows (Fig.1). A stakeholder consultation in 2021–22 identified primary barriers in data sharing, analytics access, and standardization, directly informing platform development. Resulting enhancements included collaborative annotation controls, advanced metadata querying, BIDS conversion workflows, and standardized visualization tools. Analytics pipelines deployed include HarMNqEEG, PyLossless, BrainStorm, and qEEGt. Results Since launch, EEGNet has released over 1,500 recordings and 25,000 minutes of electrophysiology data from seven countries, serving 300+ new users across 90+ research groups in 33 countries (Fig.2). Ongoing extensions include open datasets from global consortia including #EEGManyLabs distributed through EEGNet and AI-driven analytics. EEGNet virtual notebooks support graduate training across multiple Canadian institutions. Conclusion EEGNet establishes new benchmarks for open EEG data sharing, visualization, and high-performance computing analysis globally. Unlike existing platforms such as OpenNeuro and NEMAR, EEGNet provides interactive online visualization enabling collaborative annotation directly on the web. Through partnerships with the Global Brain Consortium and the Canadian Open Neuroscience Platform, EEGNet democratizes neurophysiological research and accelerates biomarker discovery with implications for clinical diagnostics and precision medicine. References: EEGNet.org/publications.html

18. Re-imagining Institutional Repositories: Transforming UVicSpace into Linked Data

Caroline Winter

University of Victoria Libraries

Institution/Initiative

Institutional repositories (IRs) support open science in Canada by enabling green open access, improving research discoverability, and hosting theses and dissertations, grey literature, and other scholarly outputs. The Tri-Agency's draft revised Open Access Policy on Publications (2025) centres IRs as essential components of Canada's digital research infrastructure, and the steep rise in disruptive bot traffic to IRs across the country demonstrates how valuable their structured metadata is. As IR metadata is robust, most of it is siloed within the IR, and technical limitations can make basic tasks such as author name disambiguation challenging. Linked data offers a solution to these challenges and others, but it raises questions: what might a linked data model for an IR look like, and what would be involved in implementing it? This presentation explores the process of re-imagining and restructuring the University of Victoria's IR, UVicSpace, according to a linked data model. Like many IRs in Canada and worldwide, UVicSpace is built on DSpace, which introduced an optional feature called

Configurable Entities in 2023. Only a handful of Canadian IRs have enabled it to date, but Configurable Entities transforms how IR content is conceptualized and structured, shifting away from static, flat hierarchies of information toward a linked data model featuring dynamic, relational networks of researchers, works, projects, publications, and institutions. Discussing the opportunities and challenges presented by enabling Configurable Entities, alongside related integrations with ORCID and DataCite, as part of a software upgrade, this presentation demonstrates how re-imagining IRs using linked data can help advance open science in Canada by enabling researcher engagement and outreach, enhancing discoverability and access, and supporting greater research impact.

Reference Government of Canada. (2015). Tri-Agency Open Access Policy on Publications. https://science.gc.ca/site/science/en/interagency-research-funding/policies-and-guidelines/open-access/tri-agency-open-access-policy-publications-2015

19. Guidance on Trustworthy Data Repository Characteristics for Canadian Research

Neha Milan/Lina Harper, Reyna Broadhurst, Natalie Williams, Billie Hu, Sean Tippett, Emilie Altman, Tanya Nguyen, Sam Read, Atreya Madrone, Eugene Chen, Pascal Calarco, Claire Herbert, Sarah McGill, Dany Savard, Minglu Wang, Ada Poon, Tara Stieglitz, Tania Tan, Kelsey Harkness, Lindsay Day and Chantel Ridsdale

World Data System

Institution/Initiative

The Data Repositories Expert Group (DREG) for the Digital Research Alliance of Canada assembled a working group to develop draft guidance on trustworthy data repository characteristics for Canada. This guidance is intended to inform researchers who are selecting data repositories in fulfillment of the data deposit requirement of the Tri-Agency Research Data Management Policy, anticipated to take effect in early 2027. The guidance aims to help translate policy expectations into practical repository selection and deposit decisions, while recognizing that trustworthy data sharing depends on more than simply making data available. This working group has been gaining collective momentum since the recruitment of diverse members nation-wide in early 2026. This draft guidance is the culmination of a landscape review and community consultations to identify the most important data repository characteristics. The rapid landscape review included journal publications, repository accreditation requirements, grey literature, journal and institutional data deposit guidance, Indigenous data governance strategies, blogs and more. For the community consultations, preliminary feedback was gained at Canadian research data community events. More comprehensive feedback was obtained via a webinar and follow-on bilingual survey to collect demographic and characteristics rankings. While the guidance aims to be fit-for-purpose in a Canadian research data context, insights from similar international activities informed our efforts. An overview of the project will be presented including its objective, methodology, results, and outcomes. The session will also invite community feedback on the draft guidance, with the aim of strengthening its relevance for researchers, repository operators, institutions, and service providers before the initial guidance is finalized and released.

20. Cross-team collaboration to teach Open Science to STEM graduate students

Lisa Shin, Peter Farrell and Leigh-Ann Butler

University of Ottawa

Institution/Initiative

In May of 2026, the STEM Publishing workshop at the University of Ottawa library was revamped. This change encompassed shifting the focus of the workshop to foster a culture of open science for students at the beginning of their scholarly careers. In partnership with the Scholarly Communications librarian and two Research Librarians (Engineering and Science), the presentation was built off existing materials, evolving into a hands-on

workshop with a participant handbook and activities to teach graduate students about open science and scholarly communication. Scholarly communications is becoming a mandatory skill for subject-specific librarians, within job descriptions and everyday work (Lange & Hansen, 2020). With increasing knowledge suggesting improved confidence and levels of support , partnerships across subject specialists and scholarly communication librarians can be the first step (Walker & Risen, 2026). By incorporating the expertise of scholarly communications librarians and tailoring to a subject-specific audience, students can get a glimpse into practices and trends within their disciplines while receiving engaging support. To avoid overwhelming students during a single session, certain materials from previous editions of the workshop were split off from the presentation into a physical and digital workbook that students could access during the session, and use as an ongoing reference guide. Broadly in four sections, the session aimed to introduce students to the scholarly landscape, help them create a journal shortlist, learn to evaluate a journal, and encourage critical discussion among peers. By providing students with space to reflect on disseminating their research projects at an early stage of the process, librarians and library staff can maximize their support by offering their expertise and promoting library services like scholarly communication, copyright, and research data management. This presentation/poster will focus on the importance of building knowledge around scholarly communication, even for subject specialist librarians, increasing possibilities for cross-departmental collaboration.

21. Mobiliser les connaissances dans une infrastructure de recherche numérique : le cas d'Érudit

Véronqiue Landry, Gwendal Henry

Érudit-Université de Montréal

Institution/Initiative

La mobilisation des connaissances façonnent la vision des relations entre la recherche universitaire et la société, ainsi que de la manière dont ces relations devraient être renforcées (MacDonald, 2026). Les discours et les politiques relatifs à la mobilisation des connaissances soulignent que la participation du public est nécessaire tout au long du cycle de vie de la recherche, jusqu'à la diffusion des résultats. Ce principe est notamment énoncé dans la Recommandation de l'UNESCO sur la science ouverte (UNESCO, 2021). Alors que les discussions sur la science ouverte prennent de l'ampleur au Canada (CRSH, 2023), Érudit souhaite réfléchir à ses pratiques de mobilisation des connaissances. Dans cette perspective, nous proposons une affiche présentant les résultats d'un projet de recherche documentant l'évolution des pratiques de mobilisation des connaissances chez Érudit. L'objectif est de mieux comprendre comment une infrastructure de recherche numérique peut agir pour mobiliser les connaissances lorsque celle-ci est envisagée comme un processus interactif de co-construction et d'utilisation de la recherche pour influencer les pratiques et les politiques, axé sur l'impact (CRSH, 2023).Menée au printemps 2026, l'étude repose sur des entrevues semi-dirigées réalisées auprès de neuf membres de l'organisation occupant des fonctions variées (édition numérique, direction, recherche, partenariats, technologie) ainsi que sur des échanges avec des praticien·ne·s en mobilisation des connaissances.Notre présentation sous forme d'affiche prendra la forme d'une cartographie conceptuelle des pratiques, des besoins et des zones d'innovation en mobilisation des connaissances. Les résultats mettent notamment en évidence l'évolution du rôle des infrastructures de recherche numériques, désormais appelées non seulement à diffuser les savoirs, mais aussi à accompagner leur appropriation et leur réutilisation par différentes communautés.Cette réflexion contribue à repositionner les infrastructures de recherche numériques comme des acteurs de l'écosystème de mobilisation des connaissances dans un contexte de science ouverte.

22. M4K Pharma: Building an Open Science Biotech Company

Peter Sampson, Maxwell Morgan, and Aled Edwards
M4K Pharma

Institution/Initiative

M4K Pharma is a virtual biotech company using an open science drug discovery model that relies on regulatory exclusivity, rather than patents, as its primary source of intellectual property protection and commercial value. In many jurisdictions, regulatory exclusivity can provide market protection comparable to patents while remaining compatible with open science principles. This approach has attracted support from governments, foundations, and philanthropic donors with different expectations for financial return than traditional investors. This is particularly relevant to neglected disease areas and market failure. By reducing dependence on investor-driven return requirements, the model aims to facilitate the development and commercialization of innovative medicines at more affordable prices, ensuring equitable access. Using this model, we focused on an underfunded rare disease with clear evidence of market failure. Diffuse intrinsic pontine glioma (DIPG) is a fatal childhood brain cancer with few treatment options and a median survival of less than one year. Approximately 25% of tumours harbor activating mutations in ALK2. Most DIPG clinical trials rely on adult cancer drugs that were not developed for children. To address this gap, we piloted a collaborative drug discovery program, openly sharing compound structures, experimental data, and project results while assembling a multidisciplinary team of academic and industry partners with expertise in drug discovery and development. This effort synthesized and profiled more than 800 ALK2 inhibitors, leading to the selection of a development candidate now in IND-enabling studies. Our drug, M4K2009, was designed specifically for children with DIPG to reach the brainstem and target ALK2-mutant tumours. If successful, M4K2009 could provide one of the first targeted therapies specifically developed for children with ALK2-mutant DIPG. More broadly, the program illustrates how open science can attract diverse funding sources, leverage cross-functional expertise, and advance a drug candidate toward clinical development without relying on patents.

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23. Concise guidelines and complementary checklists for improving research reliability and reproducibility

Jason Pither, Mathew Vis-Dunbar
University of British Columbia, Okanagan campus

Institution/Initiative

Among the myriad resources available to researchers to strengthen or evaluate the reliability and reproducibility of outputs, checklists have emerged as popular tools. These offer an accessible means to standardize reporting and evaluation, by asking binary or scaled questions about procedures within the research lifecycle. Checklists have been developed across a range of applications, generally tailored to specific disciplines and study designs, or research life cycle phases such as preregistration or archiving data and code. However, we note three shortfalls in the current landscape of checklists: a) to our knowledge, none are sufficiently discipline-agnostic (within the sciences); (b) none address the full research life cycle (including the step of evaluating existing research); and c) while they contribute to evaluating reporting, they fall short on supporting critical interpretation and helping the user understand the problem being addressed by the checkbox. Here we present a resource, entitled “Concise Guidelines for Producing Reliable, Reproducible Research”, that attempts to fill the gap between checklists and the well-developed literature that underpins what these checklists are attempting to address. Provided in multiple formats with CC BY-NC licensing, it can be tailored as desired. We anticipate the resource being especially useful for graduate students and early career researchers as it synthesizes common issues across the sciences and links out to core papers and resources through a shared public library. In conjunction with a companion R package “rrchecklist” that provides fillable checklists in HTML or PDF formats, we provide a proof-of-concept that merges the contextual resource with a checklist. Together, these resources can enhance the ability of researchers to apply a critical lens to their

interpretation of research outputs (their own and others), and to build literacy by linking to a library of foundational resources for deeper learning.

24. From Data to Discovery: Understanding Canada's Oceans

Mathilde Couturier, Juliette Ganne and Astrid Tempestini

OGSL

Institution/Initiative

Open access to data is a key driver of collaborative research, informed decision-making, and engagement with coastal communities. In this context, the St. Lawrence Global Observatory (SLGO), in collaboration with the Canadian Integrated Ocean Observing System (CIOOS), is developing tools that facilitate the discovery, integration, and visualization of marine and coastal data for a wide range of users. As the St. Lawrence Regional Association of CIOOS, SLGO helps bring together data from government, academic, and community organizations, making it more accessible, interoperable, and reusable. This collaboration is part of an open science approach aimed at facilitating knowledge sharing and the use of environmental data across Canada. This poster highlights CIOOS' tools and processes, namely our metadata entry tool and our data catalogue, which aggregates the data published by the three regional associations. It also presents our discovery tools that support the exploration and understanding of open data: the catalogue map, an interactive mapping interface and the data explorer, a tool that allows users to geolocate tabular data collection sites and coordinate multiple datasets. Finally, the poster showcases two of our visualization applications: Nautilo, an interactive navigation tool for the St. Lawrence and Gulf of St. Lawrence, and Ocean Acidification and Hypoxia (OAH), which enables users to explore trends and the current state of oxygen conditions in the Pacific Ocean. The poster also addresses challenges related to metadata standardization, the integration of heterogeneous data sources, and the development of tools that meet diverse user requirements. Drawing on the experience of the CIOOS network and SLGO, it illustrates how open science infrastructures strengthen collaboration across disciplines, institutions, and regions, while enhancing the accessibility and value of environmental data in Canada.

25. OA and AI: Open questions

Jennifer Zerkee, Alison Moore and Gracielle Higino

Simon Fraser University

Institution/Initiative

Along with general concern from authors and other creators about their work being ingested without permission to train AI models, scholarly authors have raised concerns about whether sharing their work openly makes it even easier for AI developers to access and use their outputs. These concerns encompass a range of topics including publisher practices around AI, author and user rights under copyright, Creative Commons licences and their applicability for limiting use of content, and attribution requirements. Fundamentally, authors are questioning whether sharing research products in the open will deviate the values of the open movement from democratization and community by instead strengthening, serving, and enabling extractive uses by a centralized power. Questions and concerns around OA publishing and AI remain largely unanswered as we wait for broader AI questions to play out in courts, legislatures, and the market – but scholars are looking for guidance on these topics now. How can we build trust within our communities as we navigate how we share research results? What's the impact of having our knowledge taken out of context? How can we push back on further exploitative practices derived from AI use? At Simon Fraser University we have been asking these questions and promoting these conversations. With this poster, we will invite conference participants to reflect on these questions and share what they are hearing in their contexts through participatory elements. We hope that this poster will help clarify some uncertainties and help participants think through their own responses to these questions and concerns at the intersection of AI and OA.

26. Stronger together: How the uOttawa library and STORK advance community-led open-science publishing

LeighAnn Butler, Yohann Cottin and Matthieu P. Boisgontier

University of Ottawa

Institution/Initiative

The academic publishing system is under strain, with issues around transparency and reproducibility alongside costly subscriptions and publishing fees that neither libraries nor authors can sustain (Butler & Boisgontier, 2026). In Fall 2025, the Society for Transparency, Openness, and Replication in Kinesiology (STORK), a society dedicated to advancing open science practices in human movement sciences, faced the possibility of losing funding to support the hosting costs of their three publishing initiatives using Public Knowledge Project's open infrastructure: SportRχiv (Open Preprint Systems; OPS), Communications in Kinesiology (Open Journal Systems; OJS), and Kinesiology Books (Open Monograph Press; OMP) (Boisgontier, 2026). The society turned to the University of Ottawa (uOttawa) Library for support. What followed was a collaboration involving STORK's editorial team, the uOttawa Library, and Scholars Portal. By the end of Fall 2025, STORK's journal had been successfully migrated, and new instances of OPS and OMP had been established to support the society's preprint and book publishing, making uOttawa the only institution in Canada currently running all three PKP instances: OJS, OPS, and OMP. This bilingual presentation reflects on what that process looked like in practice, explores the financial fragility underlying the diamond Open Access model, and makes the case that library partnerships do more than provide infrastructure or keep the lights on. In this case, the collaboration frees the STORK's editors to focus on their scholarly mission of rigour, openness, and reproducibility.

27. Understanding the Value Behind Open Access Publishing

Michael Donaldson

Canadian Science Publishing

Institution/Initiative

Introduction: Discussions about scholarly publishing often focus on costs, including subscriptions, article processing charges, and institutional investments, without fully considering value of the publishing activities these expenditures support. Relatively little information is publicly available about how publishing resources are allocated across the activities that support research dissemination. Understanding how publishing resources are utilized, and the value those investments create, can help inform discussions among researchers, institutions, funders, publishers, and policymakers about sustainability, funding models, and the future of scholarly communication. Methods: Using operational and financial data from Canadian Science Publishing, Canada's largest independent not-for-profit scientific journal publisher, we examined the activities involved in publishing research articles and mapped associated costs across key functions, including editorial support, peer review administration, research integrity, production, discoverability, accessibility, preservation, and dissemination. We also explored how these activities relate to Green Open Access workflows. Results: The analysis enabled publishing costs to be mapped across the full publishing workflow, from manuscript submission and peer review through production, dissemination, and preservation. Editorial support, peer review administration, research integrity, publishing technology, and production accounted for a substantial proportion of publishing costs. Many of these costs were associated with activities that occur before publication and repository deposit in Green Open Access workflows. Discussion: The findings highlight the range of activities that contribute to the quality, visibility, and long-term availability of research, and the resources required to support them. These activities play an important role in supporting research integrity, discoverability, accessibility, and preservation. Greater transparency around publishing costs and the services they support can contribute to more informed discussions about open access, publishing sustainability, and the role of Canadian not-for-profit journals in the research ecosystem.

28. Recognizing Open Scholarship in Academic Evaluation

Rachel Harris

Concordia University

Institution/Initiative

Open Scholarship practices, including open-access publishing, data sharing, and the development of open educational resources, are increasingly embedded in the academic everyday. Yet despite this growing adoption, contributions are not consistently recognized within formal evaluation systems such as promotion, tenure, or merit-based compensation. This gap creates a misalignment between institutional values that endorse openness and the reward mechanisms that shape academic behaviour. For example, a researcher may develop an open textbook and share their datasets without including these activities in their dossier. To develop strategies, we must first recognize persistent barriers. These may include the ongoing privileging of journal impact factor as a marker of quality alongside incentive issues, as evidenced by the absence of open scholarship in tenure and promotion processes and in hiring. Additional factors may include disciplinary distinctions in engaging with open scholarship practices, such as those between the fine arts and the social sciences, as well as uncertainties around publisher policies and funder mandates. Two first steps include 1) training sessions on how to integrate open scholarship within existing incentive structures; 2) conversations within evaluation committees. After identifying the barriers and publicly available strategies in a cross-Canadian university context, part two situates a potential solution plan: an adaptation of the DOERS Tenure and Promotion Matrix, drawn from the open education movement and applied more broadly to open scholarship. The matrix offers potential examples of quantitative and qualitative data that could inform open scholarship in evaluation. As training material is but part of a wider strategy, remaining questions may include how best to integrate the proposed solutions into existing evaluation processes, how to account for disciplinary nuances, and what roles professors, librarians, administrators, and external bodies can play. Ultimately, the aim is to foster a collaborative exchange that advances recognition of open scholarship in academic reward systems.

29. Opening the Book: Scaling Library Support for Open Access Monographs

Elizabeth Kalbfleisch

Canadian Association of Research Libraries

Institution/Initiative

While journals remain the focal point of the open access movement, in Canada new activity at university presses, a revamped federal funding program, international initiatives, and partnerships with academic libraries are quietly shifting the ground for scholarly books. In recognition of this growth—and to ensure that library investments strengthen the Canadian publishing ecosystem— the Canadian Association of Research Libraries (CARL) recently launched its own pilot program in support of open access monograph publishing. The CARL Fund for Advancing Open Access Book Publishing, introduced in spring 2026, is a two-year pilot created in consultation with the Association of Canadian University Presses (ACUP). Its goal is to offset the costs of publishing scholarly books by Canadian researchers in immediate open access. Nineteen academic libraries contributed a total of $152,000, which will be distributed over two years to selected titles from Canadian university presses. The program's design emphasizes broad participation, and a scalable, collaborative approach to supporting open access publishing. With the first year's funds now awarded, this presentation will reflect on the program's early outcomes and discuss opportunities to refine and strengthen the model as it enters its second year.

30. ARCHIMEDES Data Governance Framework

Marc Antonino Albert
University of Ottawa Heart Institute

Institution/Initiative

Introduction Canada does not currently have a unified national platform for sharing and reusing health research data. ARCHIMEDES (Advanced Research Collaboration for Health Integration, MEDical Exploration, and data Synthesis) – led by the University of Ottawa Heart Institute (UOHI), the University of Ottawa, and McGill University – addresses this gap by providing a multi-modal data platform, enabling researchers to store, manage, share, and access structured health-related research data. ARCHIMEDES supports a wide range of data types (clinical, imaging, omics data, etc.) and provides a High-Performance Computing (HPC) environment for data analysis.
Data Governance Framework There are three access tiers for ARCHIMEDES: 1. Controlled Access, where data are exclusively available to Principal Investigators (PIs) (and their team) for an approved research purpose; 2. Registered Access where data are available to PIs (and their team) who are members of a trusted partner group; and 3. Open Access, where data are openly available to anyone. Currently, only pre-clinical (i.e., non-human) data are available via Open Access.
Researchers contributing data must have institutional and legal permissions to share human data in one of two categories: coded data – replaces direct identifiers with unique codes, and de-identified data – removes or transforms all direct and most indirect identifiers. ARCHIMEDES supports responsible data sharing through consent templates, de-identification guidance, and secure data management tools. A Data Access Compliance Office (DACO) evaluates data contribution and incoming data access requests to ensure compliance with conditions of contribution or access respectively, thereby enabling ARCHIMEDES to perform the centralized governance of multimodal data of disparate provenance- a Canadian, and global, first.
Conclusion ARCHIMEDES is a national resource for the Canadian health research community, enabling the secure sharing, access, and reuse of health research data. By supporting collaboration and responsible data use, it advances research and improves health outcomes across Canada.

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31. Deriving Information From Digitized Maps To Enhance Historical Geographic Data Sources

Sarah Reeser
Scholars Portal, Ontario Council of University Libraries

Institution/Initiative

Scholars GeoPortal hosts a collection of over 15,000 1:50k scale historical Canadian National Topographic System (NTS) maps (https://geo.scholarsportal.info/#r/details/_uri@=2573888891&_add:true_nozoom:true). Nearly 6,000 of these maps are currently accessible, with the rest being loaded as part of the redevelopment of the GeoPortal platform. These maps are rich sources of data, including essential metadata (print year, edition, etc.), toponyms, and feature labels that describe natural and constructed attributes. Enhancing search and discoverability of these maps has been a core objective of the GeoPortal redevelopment, and this has been accomplished by approaching the digitized maps as sources from which further data can be extracted. A workflow combining GIS-derived spatial data, AI-driven OCR and data parsing, and human-in-the-loop validation was developed to extract essential metadata from map surrounds, check it against existing metadata, and flag discrepancies for human review. Additionally, a deep learning workflow is in development to extract feature labels from map surfaces. This workflow finetunes open-source computer vision models to meet the complexities of historical maps. A subset of results from the map surround workflow demonstrated that 88% of maps had correct existing metadata and raised the remaining 12% for review. This saved hundreds of staff hours by focusing human validation where it was most needed. Early results of the feature label extraction show promise for associating natural and constructed features with individual maps, opening them up to greater search possibilities and transforming them into additional location-based vector data. The use of

reusable workflows supports the application of these approaches to additional map collections in the future. These workflows provide a roadmap for using open-source and industry-standard software to distill digitized historical maps into text and vector data. These new data items produce enhanced metadata and location-linked feature data, enriching the landscape of geographic material available to researchers from many disciplines.

32. Supporting open scholarship and shifting culture at Thesis Writing Retreats in an academic library

Julie Jones, Jennifer Zerkee and Ali Moore

Simon Fraser University

Institution/Initiative

Simon Fraser University Library's Research Commons has facilitated forty-one Thesis Writing Retreats (initially known as Thesis Boot Camp) since 2013. These three-day, in-person writing intensives are a collaborative effort between Research Commons librarians and Graduate Writing Services and are an innovative and impactful approach to supporting graduate students from across disciplines in thesis-writing, and, more broadly, to graduate student education. The retreats also provide time and space to experience action-oriented open scholarship learning and culture-building. Over the course of three days, through facilitated discussions and knowledge creation activities, inclusive teaching practices, non-technologically mediated connection, structured time, and social spaces, a Thesis Writing Retreat opens up the process of creating scholarship and makes it something deeply social. One outcome of this is that students experience an alternative and prosocial academic culture—one that is aligned with, and that enacts the values of open scholarship. As of 2025, we deepened and made our support for open scholarship learning and experiences more overt at Thesis Writing Retreat by adding action-oriented open scholarship support and learning. To do this, we added consultations for students with a Digital Scholarship Librarian who is an expert in open scholarship behaviors, practices, and systems, as well as general information about open scholarship within the retreat curriculum. This additional component complemented support for copyright and research data management that was already a part of the event. This practice-focused talk will detail our approaches, motivations, and share outcomes and potential future explorations.

33. Advancing Brain-Heart Research Through Open Science

Edward Xu

University of Ottawa Heart Institute

Institution/Initiative

The Brain-Heart Interconnectome (BHI) Research Program is a $109-million Canada First Research Excellence Fund initiative designed to transform the prevention and treatment of brain-heart interconnected conditions. As part of BHI's cross-cutting research themes, the Open Science Crosscutter supports the integration of transparent, accessible, rigorous, and responsible research practices across the program. The Open Science Crosscutter focuses on six core practices across the research lifecycle: protocol registration, data management plans, data deposit, reporting guidelines, preprints, and open-access publishing. To support implementation, the Crosscutter has developed practical resources, including the BHI Open Science Handbooks, pre-populated data management plan templates, the BHI Open Science Project Progress Checklist, and the BHI Open Science Roadmap Master Template. These resources are complemented by individualized consultations on data management plans, study registration, repositories, and open-access publishing. The Crosscutter has also delivered a program of seminars, webinars, and workshops addressing research data management, Tri-Agency open science policies, intellectual property, biomedical data sharing and de-identification, medical imaging de-identification, and computational reproducibility. Additional initiatives include the BHI Open Science Award, which recognizes exemplary commitment to open science among BHI-funded teams, and upcoming capacity-building events such as the Open Science Bootcamp for Health Research. Through these coordinated activities,

the BHI Open Science Crosscutter aims to build capacity, reduce barriers, and provide practical infrastructure for embedding open science into brain-heart research. This work offers a model for implementing open science within a large, interdisciplinary biomedical research program while supporting transparency, reproducibility, accessibility, and trust in research.

34. From compliance to catalyst: protocol preregistration delivers rigor and impact

Robert Hilliker

Springer Nature

Institution/Initiative

In response to mounting evidence that Canadian clinical trials were lagging in pre-registration, systematic auditing, and post-study publication of results, Health Canada has implemented the International Council for Harmonization's Good Clinical Practice (ICH E6(R3)). While the wider adoption of the GCP framework appears to have driven increased compliance with clinical trial registration mandates, questions remain as to the larger impact on the rigor and reproducibility of the trial results, especially as publication of the results continues to lag behind the increase in trial registration. Simply put, policy is not enough: researchers need to understand how pre-registration is an important first step in ensuring the integrity of their study and putting it on a path to publication so that it can contribute to the body of scientific knowledge (and help funders avoid research waste when null results from prior research are unavailable). This poster will showcase how platforms like protocols.io offer a robust, transparent toolkit to enable multi-site collaboration, strict version control, and audit trails for regulatory inspection—steps that have been correlated with reduced bias. It will also examine how the "protocol-first" model of publication can further contribute to bias reduction by realigning incentives among stakeholders, highlighting the importance of reframing clinical trial pre-registration from a compliance requirement to a critical element of rigorous, trustworthy science.

35. Montreal-Paris Neurobank: A CARE-inspired and Internationally FAIR Resource for Multimodal High-Field Neuroimaging Research

Najmeh Khalili-Mahani, Alexandre Pastor, Maxime Mulder, Marc Lalancette, Ilana Leppert, Rida Abu-Haidar, Natacha Beck, Serge Boroday, Jonah Miller-Smith, Noemie Gagnon, Raul Rodriguez, Jasmina Wallace, Stephane Lehericy, and Julien Doyon

McConnell Brain Imaging Centre, The Neuro, McGill University; Institut du Cerveau (Paris Brain Institute), Sorbonne University

Institution/Initiative

The Montreal–Paris Neurobank (MPN) is a multinational open-science initiative led by the McConnell Brain Imaging Centre (The Neuro; McGill University) in partnership with the Institut du Cerveau (Paris Brain Institute; Sorbonne University).

MPN is an evolving ecosystem for the generation, curation, and dissemination of high-quality 7T MRI, MEG, PET, and behavioural datasets from healthy participants aged 8–85 years. The resulting biobank is hosted in the C-BIG Repository and leverages CBRAIN to maximize transparency, reproducibility, and interoperability across analytical pipelines.

Two complementary frameworks—the FAIR (Findable, Accessible, Interoperable, and Reusable) Principles and the CARE (Collective Benefit, Authority to Control, Responsibility, and Ethics) Principles—influence MPN's approach to data stewardship. FAIR informs the technical and organizational architecture through which MPN data are generated, curated, documented, and prepared for reuse. Acquisition protocols, behavioural instruments, metadata structures, data-management procedures, and computational workflows are designed to promote interoperability, transparency, and reproducibility.

Although MPN is not an Indigenous research project, its stewardship model draws on relevant dimensions of CARE to emphasize collective benefit, responsibility, ethical stewardship, and community interests. Governance

mechanisms incorporate community-engagement practices that promote inclusivity and diversity across research and metaresearch traditions within an open-science culture.
We will present our experience recruiting and retaining more than 200 volunteers, together with MPN's metadata standards, standardized acquisition protocols, data-management practices, and computational workflows. We will highlight the scientific, technical, ethical, and governance challenges of building and sustaining an international open-science framework for multimodal neuroimaging data, and discuss lessons that may inform similar cross-jurisdictional open-science initiatives.

36. Exploring global trends in open science practice with the PLOS Open Science Indicators dashboard prototype

Iain Hrynaszkiewicz and Devin Soper, Lauren Cadwallader and Cameron Neylon
PLOS

Institution/Initiative

Objective
PLOS Open Science Indicators (OSI) is a large public dataset produced in collaboration with DataSeer that measures five open science practices across the literature: data sharing, code sharing, preprint posting, study registration, and protocol sharing. The PLOS OSI dashboard prototype has been created as a more accessible format to explore the OSI data, with the aim of increasing use of the data by funders, institutions, policymakers, and researchers.
Methods
The dashboard prototype was created in Looker Studio, a product from Google that can create visualization of datasets that are hosted in Google Big Query (GBQ) or in Google Sheets. Before release, three iterations of the dashboard were tested with users representing multiple stakeholder groups. The PLOS OSI dataset was enriched with information on research organization, research fields, author country, and research funders from the OpenAlex database.
Results
The dashboard prototype presents an analysis of the PLOS OSI dataset covering the time period 2018 to 2024. This includes all research articles published in PLOS journals in this time (approximately 134,000 articles), plus a comparator set of non-PLOS content from PubMed Central (approximately 27,000 articles). The data for the entire corpus show how rates of research data sharing in repositories reached 30% of publications in 2024 and code sharing 16% of publications. Twenty-one percent of published articles in 2024 had an associated preprint, 10% shared a detailed protocol, and 7% were preregistered.
Conclusion
The dashboard is a contribution to the growing open science monitoring community and the data and code needed to reproduce the dashboard are openly available. While the dashboard only presents data from an analysis of a small proportion of the literature overall, it demonstrates that monitoring of these open science practices is possible at scale.

Metaresearch Posters

37. 810102555 Enjeux et Perspectives de la Science Ouverte pour le Développement de la Recherche en RDC

Guy Bumoko, Ngeleka, Pierre Bukasa and Leon Ndumba

Ministère de l'enseignement Supérieur, Universitaire, Recherche Scientifique et Innovations

Metaresearch

La science ouverte (SO) s'impose mondialement comme un paradigme essentiel pour démocratiser l'accès aux connaissances scientifiques. En République Démocratique du Congo (RDC), malgré un potentiel intellectuel élevé et les données de recherche dans divers domaines (minier, biodiversité, santé…), la visibilité de la production scientifique locale reste limitée (moins de 10 revues scientifiques indexées basées en RDC) par des contraintes structurelles (<15% d'établissements avec internet à haut débit) et budgétaires (budget recherche scientifique < 0,5% du PIB). Cet article présente l'état de lieux, les opportunités et les défis à l'implémentation de la SO en RDC. À travers une méthodologie basée sur une revue documentaire et une analyse des pratiques institutionnelles, l'étude met en évidence la faible adoption du libre accès (Open Access) et le manque d'infrastructures numériques dédiées à la gestion des données de recherche (principes FAIR). Cependant, des initiatives sont prises par le Ministère dans une dynamique vers la transition rapide de la science ouverte notamment par la signature de l'arrêté portant la création de la Commission Nationale Science Ouverte-RDC (CNSO-RDC, organe de pilotage et redynamisation de la SO), plusieurs années après la recommadation de l'UNESCO et tout récemment par l'adoption par l'assemblée Nationale de la loi sur la Recherche Scientifique marquant la volonté politique de faire de la SO un levier majeur pour renforcer l'intégrité scientifique, favoriser la collaboration internationale et accroître l'impact social des travaux congolais. L'étude propose, en guise de conclusion, la mise en oeuvre de la politique nationale de SO et l'application de la feuille route validée dans ses axes de renforcement des capacités, d'appui en cyberinfrastructures, de la valorisation des savoirs locaux, afin de favoriser une justice cognitive indispensable au développement durable du pays.

38. Reporting of patient engagement within ClinicalTrials.gov registrations for RCTs conducted exclusively in Canada

Aleisha Fernandes, Ifraah Nur, Thomas Davidson, Motahareh Karimijashni, Michael Goldfarb, Tim Ramsay, Dean Fergusson and Stuart Nicholls

Ottawa Hospital Research Institute

Metaresearch

Objective: Reporting of patient engagement (PE) in clinical trial registries has not been evaluated. This study aimed to: (1) assess prevalence of PE and priority setting exercises (PSE) in ClinicalTrials.gov entries of RCTs conducted exclusively in Canada; (2) compare entries with corresponding publications; and (3) identify where PE information is located within entries and the activities reported. Methods: A matched case control sub-study of a cohort of 6,248 Canadian RCTs registered between 2010 and 2022 on ClinicalTrials.gov was conducted. Entries identified to have publications reporting PE (C1) were matched by year to randomly selected studies that had publications that did not report PE (C2) and RCTs without any publication (C3). Two reviewers independently extracted information from ClinicalTrials.gov entries for: reference to PSE and PE, registry entry fields where PE appeared, and PE activities. Results: After post-hoc eligibility adjustments, final numbers for the cohorts were: 142 (C1), 126 (C2) and 134 (C3). Among entries for C1, PE was reported in 15.2% (n=61) and PSE in 2.2% (n=9) of all entries with the majority occurring in C1 (n=54) and a few in C3 (n=5). No PE or PSE were mentioned in C2. The most common sections where PE was mentioned for both C1 and C3 were: "Study Overview: Detailed Summary" (n=27 and n=5) and "Study Overview: Brief Summary" (n=24 and n=6). The most common PE activities reported for C1 and C3 were intervention-related activities (n=43 and n=7) and formative work (n=13 and n=2). Conclusion: For trials with publications, ClinicalTrials.gov entries did not provide any

additional information on PE and PSE. However, for trials with no publications, ClinicalTrials.gov provided some additional benefit. Overall, these findings suggest that ClinicalTrials.gov has limited added value as a supplementary data source for identifying PE in clinical trials and highlighted ongoing gaps in standardized reporting in registries.

39. Advancing Open Science in the Humanities and Social Sciences: Computational and Open-Source Solutions at Calcul Québec

Lina Harper
McGill

Metaresearch

This presentation explores how Calcul Québec supports open science in the humanities and social sciences (HSS) through tailored computational and open-source software services. We highlight infrastructure, tools, and training that enable HSS researchers to adopt reproducible and scalable workflows, including environments for text analysis, data science, and collaborative development. Through case studies, we illustrate how these services reduce technical barriers and align with open science principles of transparency, accessibility, and sustainability. We also discuss challenges such as varying computational expertise and data sensitivity. This work contributes to a growing national conversation on how research computing organizations can support open science in underrepresented academic fields of study.

40. Clinical, Biological, Imaging and Genetic Repository (C-BIG): An Integrated Approach to Biobanking in the Context of Open Science

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Background: The Montreal Neurological Institute's Clinical, Biological, Imaging and Genetic (CBIG) collection and patient registry has recruited more than 4000 participants across Canada with neurological conditions as well as healthy controls since 2016. Using the web based LORIS open source database, the open biobank integrates patient and sample data to help scientists around the world to run cutting-edge research projects within an Open Science framework, to advance the understanding of neurological diseases and discover new therapeutic ways to help fight neurological disorders. Objectives/Methods: The main objective is to collect de-identified biological material as well as clinical, imaging and genetic information from patients and controls to enable innovative research projects that will advance the understanding of neurological diseases and human health under the Open Science principles. Results: So far, C-BIG has collaborated with more than 100 academic and industrial partners. Each partner has to give a summary data report on the use of samples within an adjustable period of time if no publication has arisen. The Neuro's C-BIG repository is using an open version of LORIS (Open Portal) for data access, including a Data Query Tool for scientists. Three different levels of access are available: Open, Registered and Controlled. Discussion/Conclusion: The C-BIG Repository hopes to improve and facilitate the material and data collection and sharing under the Open Science principles. The long-term goal is to reinforce the recruitment of participants across the world, by integrating the most information possible of these participants in the multimodal database to have a broader picture of neurological disorders, and accelerating research.

41. Open Data and Qualitative Health Research: A Scoping Review of Data Sharing Practices, Opportunities, and Challenges

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Metaresearch

1. Objective Open science initiatives increasingly promote data sharing to enhance transparency, reproducibility, and research efficiency. While open data practices are well established in many quantitative disciplines, their application to qualitative health research remains complex. This scoping review aimed to map the existing literature on open data in qualitative health research and identify current practices, opportunities, challenges, ethical considerations, and recommendations for facilitating secondary qualitative data analysis. 2. Methods A scoping review was conducted following the Joanna Briggs Institute (JBI) methodology and reported using PRISMA-ScR guidelines. A comprehensive search strategy was developed and implemented across databases including CINAHL, MEDLINE, Scopus, Web of Science, and PsycINFO. Peer-reviewed and grey literature examining open data, data sharing, data repositories, secondary analysis, and qualitative health research were eligible for inclusion. Two reviewers independently screened studies and extracted data using a standardized extraction form. Findings were synthesized descriptively and thematically. 3. Results The review identified a growing body of literature examining the intersection of open science and qualitative health research. Key themes included approaches to data anonymization and de-identification, informed consent for future data sharing, governance and repository infrastructure, ethical and legal considerations, researcher and participant perspectives, and opportunities for secondary qualitative data analysis. The literature highlighted ongoing tensions between promoting data accessibility and protecting participant confidentiality, particularly when rich contextual data are involved. Recommendations emphasized the importance of robust consent processes, data stewardship frameworks, and context-sensitive approaches to data sharing. 4. Conclusion The findings demonstrate increasing interest in advancing open data practices within qualitative health research while recognizing the unique ethical and methodological challenges associated with sharing qualitative datasets. This review provides an overview of current evidence, identifies gaps in knowledge, and offers considerations for researchers, institutions, ethics boards, and policymakers seeking to support responsible qualitative data sharing and reuse within open science initiatives.

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42. Available upon request? Enhancing data discovery and access to Canadian research

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Metaresearch

Objective The influx of data sharing expectations from publishers and funders has led to significant developments in Canadian open data sharing practices. Data platforms such as Borealis, the Federated Research Data Repository, and ARCHIMEDES provide infrastructure and support for Canadian researchers to manage, share, and access data. While open data sharing has increased significantly because of these platforms, data that cannot be shared openly often remains difficult to find and access. These challenges are compounded when publications indicate data are "available upon request" without describing how access can be requested or obtained. Prior research highlights that “available upon request” statements in publications do not facilitate discovery or access to these data. To gain an understanding of the decision-making, workflows, challenges, and supports used by researchers who indicate their data is “available upon request”, this project surveyed Canadian researchers who included these statements in their publications. Methods Using the PubMed Central Open Access Subset dataset, we developed a search algorithm to identify Canadian researchers who indicated in their publications that their data are “available upon request” (including variations of this phrasing) between 2016 and March 11, 2026. Canadian corresponding authors with publications that fit these criteria were sent a survey that asked about their experience making their data “available upon request” including their decision-

making processes, data request procedures, and evaluation criteria (where applicable) for granting access to data. Results Data collection is in process and will terminate on September 15, 2026. Preliminary results will be shared at the conference. Conclusion The goal of this project is to learn from the Canadian research community about restricted data access and provide recommendations to institutions, researchers, funders, publishers and other stakeholders to improve practices and infrastructure for restricted data discoverability and accessibility.

43. Collaboratively Customizing the Alliance Simplified Template: Process, Outcomes, and Recommendations

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Metaresearch

The Tri-Agency Research Data Management (RDM) Policy was released in 2021, ushering in funder requirements that continue to significantly reshape Canadian research practice. The policy has spurred the publication of guidance and resources that help researchers meet the policy's data management plan (DMP) requirement. Researchers must now include DMPs in their grant applications to certain Tri-Agency funding opportunities. The Data Management Planning Expert Group (DMPEG) has responded to this requirement by providing guidance and resources that support researchers in developing strong DMPs and research institutions in facilitating their development. DMPEG is part of the Digital Research Alliance of Canada, and its responsibilities include designing content for DMP Assistant, the Alliance's online data management planning tool. In February 2026, DMPEG began a project to assist research institutions with customizing the Alliance Simplified Template (Funding Application Stage) in DMP Assistant. DMPEG created this DMP template to help researchers across disciplines meet the DMP requirements of funders, including the Tri-Agency, while preparing grant applications. By customizing the template, DMP Assistant administrators can incorporate guidance tailored to the DMP requirements of specific funders and integrate local guidance that strengthens DMPs submitted to funders. This presentation will provide an overview of DMPEG's template customization project, which will end in late 2026. The project has three phases: (a) surveying DMP Assistant administrators about customization of the simplified template, (b) working with a cohort of these administrators to develop customized versions of the template, and (c) collaborating with the cohort on outreach sessions to promote these versions. The overview will address the template and its policy context, the process and outcomes of the project, the significance of customizing the template for institutional RDM support in Canada, and recommendations for RDM professionals wanting to customize the template for their research institution.

44. From Open Data to Open Computation: Reproducible Analysis Workflows as Core Open Science Infrastructure

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Metaresearch

Objective: Open science is increasingly defined not only by open access publications and FAIR data sharing, but by whether the analysis methods, computational environments, scientific application parameters, workflow settings, and provenance records behind research outputs can be made machine-actionable to enable transparent reuse, auditing, and reproducible analysis. This abstract examines CBRAIN as a practical model for open computation, enabling analysis at scale for open data that is "as open as possible, as closed as necessary" across the research lifecycle. Methods: We draw on operational experience with CBRAIN, an open-source web platform developed and operated by the McGill Centre for Integrative Neuroscience for distributed research computing. The analysis considers how CBRAIN acts as a model for the connection of curated data, containerized tools, workflow descriptions, high-performance and cloud resources, governance aware access

controls, and end-to-end data provenance in a trusted research environment. Results: CBRAIN-enabled workflows have supported reproducible analysis in multimodal health research including population neuroimaging, electrophysiology, genetics, and high-resolution brain mapping. This breadth of application is reflected in major national and international initiatives that use CBRAIN-enabled analysis capabilities, including the Canadian Open Neuroscience Platform, EEGNet, BigBrain/HIBALL, the Clinical Biological Imaging and Genetic Repository, and ARCHIMEDES. Across these contexts, CBRAIN reduces the need for researchers to manage complex computing systems while preserving the information needed to rerun, audit, adapt, and share analyses. Its model links data discovery, governed access, secure computation, reusable workflow execution, and both data and tool provenance, enabling containerized applications to operate across distributed infrastructure while respecting data access conditions. Conclusion: Reproducible science is not only an analysis step. It is a connected lifecycle from data capture and curation through processing, publication, preservation, and reuse. CBRAIN demonstrates how open compute environments can operationalize transparent, auditable, and responsible reuse across the full spectrum of open science data.

45. Implementing Open science practices in ultrafast non-linear spectroscopy

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Université de Montréal

Metaresearch

Motivated by improved reproducibility, impact and accessibility of scientific results, open science is still an emerging paradigm in material sciences. In this presentation, we will present the operational procedures and challenges faced in implementing open science in ultrafast non-linear spectroscopy research, that is, a branch of material science aimed at probing quantum dynamics of light-induced excited states. We will discuss the added benefits of a transition to an open scientific paradigm on individual and collective scientific practices within the immediate ecosystem of the research group. In 2024, the Canada Excellence Research Chair in Light-Matter Interactions produced a Data Management Plan. This Data Management Plan is publicly available, and details how are the data organized, stored and backed up. Here open science goes beyond publicly sharing data presented in publications. First, it includes the sustained curation of vast amounts of unpublished data and metadata. Second, making the data accessible requires tools like open source hardware and software some of which needed to be developed internally. Two years later, the team is undergoing an evaluation of efforts: what are the highlights and the challenges in implementing these rigorous practices. This evaluation effort is conducted by two team members of complementary expertise. Felix Thouin is Principal research scientist of the research group, expert in ultrafast optics, solid state physics and photonics with experience academic institutions, large companies and startups. Mirjam Fines-Neuschild is Principal Coordinator for Equity, Diversity and Inclusion, their interdisciplinary research background includes physics, communications studies and science and technology studies. In conclusion, this presentation will detail a case study example of transition into the open science paradigm through its substantial changes in workflow and scientific culture.

46. I could do that: Price, cost, and values in academic publishing

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NOSM University

Metaresearch

I. Objective To explore the concepts of price, cost, and values in academic publishing through an art encounter. II. Methods Acting in the role of expert editor, I will review and select an appropriate CC BY 4.0-licensed article from a prestige journal. The journal article will be manipulated with image editing software to transform it into a grey scale dot matrix suitable for screen printing. After drafting an artistic rendition of the article, it will undergo non-anonymous peer review. After I respond to peer review comments and incorporate feedback appropriately, multiple screen prints will be produced as part of the proofing process. From these copies a final

version of record will be selected. It will be licensed under a CC BY 4.0 license. III. Results The artistic rendition of the article will be displayed in the poster space as an art piece. It will include and explanatory placard with a full citation to the original article. It will be marked for sale at the list price APC for the journal at the time the article was published (anticipated to be a minimum of $6000). A transparent justification for this price and how I allot the funds based on my costs will be available. Free photocopies of the art piece will also be available, along with a link to digitized version. IV. Conclusion Publishing costs money. Nevertheless, price and cost are tied as much to our underlying values as they are to economics. Art offers a liminal space to explore our values and better understand what we're willing to pay, for what, and why.

47. Metascience on Knowledge Sharing, Translation, and Accountability in Research (KSTAR) in Tri-Agency Funded Projects

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Metaresearch

Objectives: Our ongoing study advances knowledge about knowledge mobilization (K*, pronounced "K-Star") by explicitly positioning itself as research on research within community-campus partnerships involving equity-denied/deserving (ED/D) communities. Despite strong funding mandates for K* and ED/D inclusion, researchers, institutions, and funders collectively often constrain how K* is conceptualized, implemented, and assessed. As a result, ED/D community members rarely shape K* priorities before grant submission, and the impacts of K* on communities remain underexamined and underreported. Our team is addressing these gaps by investigating how K* functions across Tri-Agency–funded research and how it can more meaningfully benefit ED/D communities. Methods: Guided by relational accountability and commitments to epistemic justice, we use an explanatory sequential mixed methods design to examine who participates in K*, how community priorities drive it, and what constitutes impactful outcomes. We are currently analyzing a comprehensive national dataset of CIHR, SSHRC, and NSERC-funded projects (2019–2024), alongside a Canada-wide survey of principal investigators and in-depth interviews with researchers and ED/D community partners. Our analyses combine statistical techniques with thematic analysis to identify patterns, indicators of success, and often-unspoken dynamics, including tensions, inequities, and relational challenges. Results: Preliminary analyses point to promising practices and persistent barriers in K*. A key innovation of this project is an open-access comic strip anthology that will help mobilize our findings in accessible, engaging, and culturally resonant ways. In our presentation, we will share a selection of comic strips created to date, illustrating real-world K* dynamics. Conclusion: Through this research-on-research approach, we aim to strengthen K* practice, enhance accountability to ED/D communities, and inform funders and researchers on how to design and support research that leads to meaningful, equitable impact.

48. From Controlled to Registered Access: Opening the COMPASS-ND Dementia Cohort to the Broader International Research Community

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CCNA

Metaresearch

I. Objective The Comprehensive Assessment of Neurodegeneration and Dementia (COMPASS-ND), the signature observational cohort study of the Canadian Consortium on Neurodegeneration in Aging (CCNA), is one of the most deeply-phenotyped longitudinal dementia datasets worldwide, with extensive clinical, neuropsychological,

psychosocial, imaging, biomarker, and genetic data collected from over 1,200 participants. To accelerate research on dementia and encourage collaboration and innovation, COMPASS-ND has shifted its data release mechanism from a fully controlled-access model to a registered-access model. II. Methods Implementation has involved three parallel tracks: (1) Prospective informed consent pathway. Consent form language, terms of use, and data access agreements were aligned to define registered-access sharing for prospective data collection. (2) Retrospective ethics approval pathway. As the original consent forms did not anticipate this access model, waivers of informed consent were sought from 11 pan-Canadian Research Ethics Boards to allow for registered-access data release of retrospective data without necessitating participant re-contact. (3) Technical configuration. LORIS, the open-source neuroinformatics platform hosting COMPASS-ND data, has been extended to support the registered-access workflow. Data de-identification involved curation at a granular level and evaluation of data linkages. III. Results Waiver submissions have proven an effective pathway to ethics board approval. Data governance processes, procedures, and contractual agreements are in development for registered access. The LORIS registered-access database is in beta release and is undergoing testing. Preliminary lessons emerged around multi-site REB coordination timelines and the scale of work needed to retrofit legacy consent frameworks. IV. Conclusion Registered access is a viable path to maximizing the research value of data while minimizing risks to participant privacy. COMPASS-ND's transition offers a reusable model on different fronts, both technical and ethical, for other Canadian studies seeking to broaden responsible data sharing.

49. Is fraud corrupting research in the social sciences?

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Metaresearch

Introduction: Problematic studies, including retracted publications, may undermine the reliability of systematic reviews and influence conclusions that inform policy and practice. While prior work has examined the influence of problematic studies in biomedical evidence synthesis, little research has explored their impact in the social sciences. This study examines how retractions are indexed across social science databases, assesses the coverage of retractions in the Retraction Watch database, and explores the prevalence of problematic studies in Campbell Collaboration reviews and implications for evidence synthesis. Methods: We identified the databases most frequently searched in Campbell Collaboration systematic reviews and examined how retractions are indexed and reported within these databases, including Academic Search Complete, APA PsycInfo, Scopus, Business Source Premier, and CINAHL. We developed optimized search strategies to identify retractions and exported the resulting records. We downloaded the Retraction Watch database and cross-checked it against these retractions. To compare coverage, we compared DOIs with Retraction Watch and applied an optimized searching tool to match titles between datasets. We then downloaded all 9,517 included studies of Campbell reviews (up to March 2023) and searched for retracted studies using both Retraction Watch and the collected database retraction lists. Results: So far, we assessed 3,706 references in Academic Search Complete and 2,195 references in PsycINFO. Among potential retractions identified in Academic Search Complete, 60% were not present in Retraction Watch. In PsycINFO, 15% of potential retractions were not present in Retraction Watch. No retracted studies have been identified among the 2,573 included studies in Campbell Education reviews yet. Analyses of other Campbell categories and databases are ongoing. Conclusion: This study provides a framework for assessing how retractions are indexed and detected across databases and Campbell reviews. Preliminary findings suggest insufficient coverage of retractions in the social sciences; continued work will expand to additional review categories and databases.

50. Do ecotoxicology journals communicate transparency and open science practices through author guidelines?

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Metaresearch

Objective Given the policy relevance of ecotoxicology research, ensuring transparency is critical for maintaining the credibility of the evidence base. Scientific journals play a key role in shaping research practices through their author guidelines. However, little is known about how ecotoxicology journals communicate expectations related to transparency and Open Science. We systematically assessed journal policies regarding preregistration, data and code sharing, author contributions, preprints, artificial intelligence (AI) use, and disclosure of funding and conflicts of interest. Methods We identified ecotoxicology-focused journals through bibliographic sources and targeted searches. Using a preregistered protocol and standardized extraction framework, two reviewers independently extracted information from publicly available author guidelines. We assessed whether transparency-related practices were mentioned, the strength of expectations (mandatory, encouraged, or unclear), and whether compliance verification was described. Results Among 19 ecotoxicology journals, data availability statements (90%) and data sharing requirements (84%) were the most commonly communicated transparency practices. However, only 32% of journals explicitly required data sharing, with a further 13% requiring it only under specific circumstances. Code availability statements (63%) and code sharing requirements (53%) were less common, and mandatory code sharing occurred in only four journals. Most journals communicated expectations regarding transparent author contributions (90%), funding disclosures (90%), AI use disclosures (79%), conflict of interest disclosures (74%), and ethics approval statements (74%). Preprints were mentioned by 68% of journals, all of which permitted preprint posting. Study preregistration was considered by only 32% of journals and was largely limited to clinical trials. None of the journals accept the Transparency and Openness Promotion Guidelines 2025 verification study types (Replication Studies, Registered Reports, Multiverse or Many-Analyst Studies). Across all transparency domains, verification of compliance was uncommon. Conclusion Greater clarity in recommendations, stronger implementation mechanisms, and closer alignment with Open Science and TOP2025 recommendations may strengthen transparency, reproducibility, and trust in ecotoxicology research.

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51. What Counts? Rethinking Faculty Evaluation in the Age of Open Scholarship

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Scholarly communication practices in higher education are undergoing significant transformation due to digital technologies, open scholarship movements, and shifting policy and funding mandates. Despite these changes, faculty evaluation systems—particularly tenure and promotion—often lag behind, privileging traditional outputs and metrics that do not fully capture evolving scholarly practices. This paper presents findings from a multi-phase mixed methods study investigating faculty scholarly communication and publishing practices at a major research university in Western Canada. Guided by a phenomenographic framework, the study employed an explanatory sequential design comprising an online faculty survey (n = 156), in-person semi-structured interviews (n = 16), and qualitative content analysis of institutional, faculty, and departmental tenure and promotion documents. The analysis reveals six interrelated themes: access to scholarly resources and tools; adoption of open intentions and initiatives; use of social media and scholarly networks; transparency and accountability of institutional policies; diversification of research and teaching outputs; and criteria for faculty evaluation. Findings indicate strong philosophical support among faculty for open access, open data, and community-engaged scholarship, alongside widespread use of digital platforms for dissemination and collaboration. However, faculty experience persistent tensions between open scholarly practices and entrenched evaluation criteria emphasizing high-impact journals and traditional metrics. While institutional

strategic documents articulate inclusive and expansive definitions of scholarship, these commitments are inconsistently reflected in faculty and departmental evaluation policies, creating misalignment between values and reward structures. The paper contributes empirical evidence of this disconnect and offers practical recommendations for reform, including increased transparency of evaluation documents, broader definitions of scholarship and impact, and the adoption of values-based, flexible assessment frameworks. These findings are relevant to scholars, librarians, and university administrators seeking to align faculty evaluation systems with contemporary scholarly practices, merit goals, and the public mission of higher education.

52. Évaluer les dispositifs de facilitation scientifique : une contribution en méta-recherche à la science d'équipe

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Metaresearch

Objectifs Les collaborations inter/transdisciplinaires sont aujourd'hui fortement encouragées pour répondre à des problèmes scientifiques et sociaux complexes. Pourtant, les dispositifs censés soutenir ces formes de collaboration demeurent encore peu étudiés comme objets de méta-recherche : on sait relativement peu comment ils sont implantés, par quels mécanismes ils agissent, dans quels contextes ils fonctionnent et selon quelles conditions leurs effets peuvent être transférés. Cette communication propose d'analyser la Toolbox Dialogue Initiative (TDI), une intervention philosophique de facilitation scientifique. La TDI vise à améliorer la collaboration en rendant explicites les présupposés épistémiques, méthodologiques, ontologiques et axiologiques des membres d'une équipe. Plutôt que d'évaluer seulement si l'intervention « fonctionne », l'objectif de recherche est de comprendre comment et pourquoi elle contribue, ou non, aux dynamiques d'intégration socio-cognitive visées dans une équipe de recherche. Méthode L'étude repose sur un cas exploratoire mené au sein d'une équipe de recherche en santé, combiné à une évaluation de processus. Le protocole multiméthode comprenait des observations participantes, un questionnaire-instrument adapté, un atelier de dialogue philosophique, un questionnaire de rétroaction et des entretiens semi-dirigés. L'analyse a porté sur l'implantation de l'intervention, les mécanismes activés, les facteurs contextuels et les effets produits sur la collaboration. Résultats Les résultats montrent que la TDI a permis de rendre visibles des divergences conceptuelles implicites, d'améliorer la compréhension mutuelle et de renforcer temporairement la cohésion du groupe. Toutefois, l'intégration cognitive est demeurée partielle et l'intégration sociale transitoire. L'intervention a surtout joué un rôle diagnostique, en révélant des tensions socio-cognitives sans suffire à les transformer durablement. Conclusion Cette étude contribue à la méta-recherche en proposant un cadre pour évaluer les interventions qui soutiennent les pratiques scientifiques collectives. Elle invite à documenter, comparer et professionnaliser les dispositifs de facilitation afin de mieux comprendre les conditions concrètes de production des connaissances en contexte inter/transdisciplinaire.

53. The ARCHIMEDES Data Ingestion Pipelines: A Scalable Framework for Bringing Multimodal Health Research Data Into a Centralised Data Platform

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Metaresearch

Objective: ARCHIMEDES (Advanced Research Collaboration for Health Integration, MEDical Exploration, and data Synthesis) is a platform that enables researchers to store, manage, share, and access highly structured health-related research data. It also provides a High-Performance Computing (HPC) environment through which users can analyze ARCHIMEDES data. Bringing multimodal data from diverse studies into a common platform is a significant technical challenge and a key barrier to reproducible open science. The ARCHIMEDES Data Ingestion Pipelines address this challenge through automated workflows that standardize data integration,

enabling rapid, scalable, and reproducible ingestion of heterogeneous datasets. Methods: The ARCHIMEDES Data Ingestion Pipelines are deployed alongside source data and connect to the platform through standard REST APIs. The pipelines support multimodal data, including clinical and behavioural datasets, BIDS-formatted MRI and EEG data, and DICOM imaging data. Study-specific ingestion requirements are defined through a configuration file, enabling new projects and data types to be onboarded without custom code. To support reproducibility and reliability, the pipelines provide a dry-run validation mode, incremental data processing, detailed logging, and status notifications. The pipelines also integrate the EviData tool to evaluate tabular data for re-identification risk before ingestion, complementing the data-governance framework that enables responsible data sharing Results: The pipelines have successfully ingested mock data from the Cardio-Neuro-Mind Data Platform (CNMDP) at The Royal, demonstrating an end-to-end multimodal ingestion workflow into ARCHIMEDES. It demonstrates the feasibility of replacing custom, study-specific ingestion workflows with a single standardized, configurable process that can be reused across studies and data modalities. Additional datasets are progressing through approval processes. Conclusion: This end-to-end ingestion demonstrates the potential of the ARCHIMEDES Data Ingestion Pipelines to streamline dataset onboarding, promote reproducibility, and accelerate data integration. By reducing technical barriers to data sharing and reusing, the pipelines increase the impact of health research data and support open, collaborative science.

54. OPEN SCIENCE AND THE DRC'S INTEGRATION INTO THE GLOBAL OPEN SCIENCE ECOSYSTEM: Challenges and Prospects for Open Science and Cognitive Justice

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Open science (OS) is emerging globally as an essential paradigm for democratizing access to scientific knowledge. In the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), despite cutting-edge scientific potential and research data in various fields (mining, biodiversity, etc.), the visibility of scientific output and local publishing remain limited due to structural constraints (limited cyber infrastructure) and budgetary constraints (lack of a budget line for Diamond Open Access), as well as the lack of a critical mass capable of implementing the FAIR principles in Congolese universities and research institutions.From the perspective of the International Scientific Council (ICS); “[…] as a global public good, science is a source of beneficial and applicable knowledge that is freely available and accessible worldwide, and whose use by some does not prevent or hinder its use by others.” (Boulton, 2021). […] Despite several decades of regulatory progress regarding open access to data, the few existing statistics show low rates of deposit and dissemination.” (BORGMAN, C.L., 2020). What about the DRC and what can be done to boost Open Science with a view to building a national ecosystem integrated into the International Open Data Network?In light of the “DRC Scientific Research Policy Document” (2021) and through content analysis, it is necessary to highlight the priority strategies and actions related to Open Science. In our approach, we propose in a poster the “National Strategic Plan for Open Science” for opening up science in a forward-looking approach. This concerns the challenges and prospects for integrating the DRC into the global Open Science ecosystem.

55. “I’m really surprised how often I have to deal with gender-based discrimination and disparity in academia”. Women researchers’ experiences when applying for health research funding in Canada: A qualitative study

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Metaresearch

Objective Female researchers in the STEMM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics and Medicine) fields request fewer research grant dollars, and receive fewer and smaller awards than their male counterparts, which may negatively affect women’s scientific productivity. Our objective was to explore (a) women’s perceptions of gender differences, and (b) the decisions women made about their grant budget request, when applying for health research funding in Canada. Methods This qualitative descriptive study was conducted and reported following the Consolidated Criteria for Reporting Qualitative Research (COREQ) guideline. Participants provided verbal consent for audio recording and reporting of quotes. Women who had submitted at least one application to the Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR) Project Grant Competition as the Nominated Principal Applicant (NPA) were recruited. In-depth, semi-structured interviews (30-60 minutes duration) were conducted via Zoom videoconferencing software by a woman health researcher between April and August 2024. We used maximum variation sampling to capture diversity in career stage, research pillar (biomedical, clinical, health services, population health), geographic location and research institution. The analysis followed a reflexive thematic analysis approach with a constructivist epistemology. Results Twenty-one participants (nine early-career researchers) were interviewed. The overarching storyline of the interviews was of women shrinking to fit into an academic system that was not serving them well. The storyline presented three dominant themes: (1) smaller research projects with leaner budgets, (2) ambition tempered to adhere to gender norms, and (3) doing more with less. Conclusion Women researchers in Canada consistently described experiencing gender bias when applying for CIHR Project grants. Participants described reacting by trimming their budget request; walking a tightrope of competing tensions in gender roles, work demands and workplace dynamics; and of ‘hacking the system’ to navigate institutional barriers to submitting the grant application they felt best reflected their work.

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56. Closing the Gap: Using the PKP Beacon to Achieve Full Indexing of Open Access Journals in OpenAlex

Juan Pablo Alperin, Diego Chavarro and Saurabh Khanna

Public Knowledge Project

Metaresearch

Context: OJS functions as scholarly infrastructure, providing a common platform to over 60,000 active journals in 136 countries, most of them diamond open access and based in the Global South. Yet only 71% of OJS journals had at least one article indexed in OpenAlex, a number that declines for more recent content. Objectives: This project uses data gathered by the Public Knowledge Project (PKP), makers of OJS, through its Beacon feature to enable indexing of OJS journals in OpenAlex with the goal of introducing how full indexing was achieved, an analysis of what scholarship is being added, and what it means for that scholarship to now be available for research assessment. Methods: PKP tracks OJS installations through the Beacon and uses an API built into OJS to harvest article metadata across all active journals. This structured metadata is made directly available to OpenAlex, bypassing the DOI requirement that has been the primary barrier to indexing for resource-limited journals. In collaboration with OpenAlex, this data has been indexed, merged, and enriched with OpenAlex metadata, including institutional identifiers. Results: The poster presents what is being added to the scholarly record: the geographic distribution of newly indexed journals, the languages they publish in, the topics they cover, and the institutional affiliations of researchers who will be counted in research assessment exercises for the first time. Adding OJS journals to global analyses of science reveals multiple international and local collaboration patterns often missed by traditional analysis. Conclusion: When publishing and indexing

infrastructure are both open, they can be deliberately coordinated to correct structural exclusions. However, while more inclusive indexing is necessary, it alone is not sufficient for more equitable assessment. This project demonstrates that open infrastructure can be used not just to disseminate research, but to reshape who gets recognized for producing it.

57. A Living Dataset: Metadata Update Patterns in the Crossref Open Corpus

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Crossref

Metaresearch

Objective Crossref is a not-for-profit membership organization that processes and stores rich metadata records for scholarly outputs on behalf of tens of thousands of publishers, libraries, societies, funders, repositories, and institutions worldwide. The metadata deposited by these members—DOIs, authors, affiliations, funding, licenses, abstracts, citations, and more—is freely available through Crossref's public APIs and data dumps, making it one of the richest open datasets available for metascience. The data does not remain static after deposit; members are encouraged to continuously make updates to their records, to correct mistakes and fill gaps. Combined with the global push to adopt persistent identifiers (PIDs) such as DOIs—see, for example, Canada's National PID Strategy—these continual improvements reap broad societal benefits in the form of a robust, accurate, discoverable ecosystem of scholarly production. This study looks at Crossref's historical data to examine the frequency and nature of these metadata updates across members. Methods We analyze a series of historical snapshots of the Crossref public data corpus, spanning 2018-2026. By comparing successive snapshots at the record level, we identify updates to individual metadata fields—such as reference lists, funders, publication dates, and resource URLs. We also include features of the records and their updates, including update type (additions/deletions/edits), work types, and members. Results Preliminary findings indicate that 87-95% of DOI records in Crossref are updated at least once after their initial deposit. Among the most commonly updated metadata fields are: references, URL link, license, author, and publication date. Conclusion Results show that Crossref is a highly active curated open data resource. Metadata deposits are continually building on the dataset, in the form of both new scholarly works and updates to existing records. Understanding update patterns has practical implications for metascience researchers: it reveals when and how metadata can improve over time, and where gaps may persist.

58. Campbell systematic reviews journal progress on open science practices

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Metaresearch

Background: Campbell systematic reviews is an open access journal that publishes evidence synthesis in the social sectors. It adopted a policy of expecting data sharing in 2021 and added a required statement in the submission process in 2024. Objective: The aim of this work is to identify the extent to which Campbell Collaboration evidence synthesis has adopted open science practices of sharing datasets and code, according to the FAIR principles and how this has been done since an assessment last year published in June 2025. Methods: We assessed the data availability statements of all Campbell systematic reviews and evidence and gap maps published in the last year (Jun 1 2025 to Jun 1 2026). We assessed what types of data were shared and how. Results: For papers published in 2024 and 2025, 70% (62 out of 88 articles) had a data availability statement. Of these, only 7% (6 out of 88) shared data in a public repository. We will describe the results of this assessment for the 53 evidence syntheses published in the last year. Conclusion: We will discuss the implications for journal editors in adopting and evaluating open science practices.

59. From Policy to Practice:: Borealis as Shared Repository Infrastructure for Research Data Deposit

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Queen's University / Borealis

Metaresearch

Title: From Policy to Practice: Borealis as Shared Repository Infrastructure for Research Data Deposit Objective: As the Canadian research community prepares for the phased implementation of the Tri-Agency Research Data Management Policy's data deposit requirement, researchers, libraries, and institutional support staff are seeking practical pathways for depositing, describing, preserving, and sharing research data. This presentation examines how national repository infrastructure can support policy implementation while advancing responsible open science and reproducible research. Approach: Using Borealis, the Canadian research Dataverse Repository, as a case example, the presentation will discuss how a bilingual, multidisciplinary repository service supports research data deposit across diverse institutional and disciplinary contexts. Rather than focusing only on platform functionality, the presentation will frame Borealis as part of the broader open science support ecosystem, connecting repository technology, institutional services, researcher workflows, and community governance. While complementary to emerging national guidance on trustworthy repository characteristics, this presentation focuses on the operational perspective: how a shared repository service translates policy expectations into practical deposit, discovery, access, and stewardship workflows. Key discussion points: The presentation will highlight how repository services can support data deposit and reuse through persistent identifiers, metadata, dataset citation, versioning, access controls, institutional collections, documentation practices, and preservation-oriented workflows. It will also address responsible data sharing, recognizing that data deposit does not always mean fully open access. Privacy, sensitive data, Indigenous data considerations, licensing, disciplinary norms, and institutional support all shape how research data should be deposited and made available. Conclusion: Borealis demonstrates how shared repository infrastructure can help bridge the gap between policy expectations and research practice. By supporting FAIR-aligned workflows, reproducibility, responsible access, and long-term stewardship, repository services can help institutions and researchers navigate Canada's evolving data deposit landscape.

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60. Bridging the Gap in Open Science Education: A Community-Curated Resource Map for Neuroscience Trainees

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Metaresearch

Open Science (OS) practices are essential for research quality and transparency, and are increasingly encouraged and mandated by institutions and funders. Yet OS resources and training remain fragmented, making it difficult to meet targeted learning objectives and for research trainees to organize self-learning. Though online resources are abundant, their quality is variable, their alignment with specific educational outcomes often unclear, and their profusion difficult to navigate. To bridge this gap, a working group within the Tanenbaum Open Science Institute (TOSI) Alliance developed a structured framework to map existing educational resources to core learning objectives for a target audience of graduate students in brain-related research. The group comprises OS experts and coordinators of Canadian neuroscience and mental health research institutes committed to OS principles. From January to May 2026, the group defined learning objectives via bi-monthly meetings and asynchronous collaboration. This effort resulted in eight broad categories, ranging from foundational knowledge and reproducible workflows to data management, open publishing, and community engagement. Granular learning objectives were defined within each category using Bloom's Taxonomy (Bloom et al., 1956). Members then conducted an environmental scan to systematically map open-access, online resources to these objectives, with each entry undergoing dual-member quality review to ensure

relevance and rigor. Herein we present this comprehensive objectives-to-resource mapping document that highlights both well-covered OS practices and educational gaps. To ensure long-term community utility, this living document will be hosted on the Open Science Framework (OSF). The working group will now engage the global neuroscience and OS communities to refine the objectives and contribute new materials to fill existing gaps. This curated framework will strengthen national and international OS training capacity by providing a robust foundation for (inter-)institutional curriculum design and fostering national collaboration on OS education.

61. Data Deposit in Practice

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Borealis/Scholars Poral/ OCUL

Metaresearch

As Canadian institutions prepare for the phased implementation of the Tri-Agency Research Data Management Policy's data deposit requirement, researchers and institutional support staff need practical guidance for navigating data deposit decisions. While repository infrastructure provides the technical foundation for deposit, successful implementation also depends on clear support workflows that help researchers understand what to prepare, what decisions to make, and where to seek institutional guidance. This poster maps common researcher-facing questions that arise during the data deposit process and connects them to corresponding support workflows. These questions include: Where should I deposit my data? What metadata is required? Should my files be open or restricted? What licence should I apply? How should I document my files for reuse? How do I cite or update a dataset? How can I connect a dataset to a publication or data availability statement? Using Borealis, the Canadian Dataverse Repository, as an illustrative case, the poster will show how repository features such as institutional collections, persistent identifiers, metadata fields, file-level access controls, dataset versioning, licences, and documentation practices can be translated into researcher guidance. The focus is not on presenting Borealis as a platform, but on showing how libraries and research support staff can turn repository capabilities into practical advice, decision points, and reusable support materials. The poster will invite discussion on where researchers most need guidance, how institutional support workflows can be made clearer, and what bilingual or discipline-sensitive resources would help researchers and support staff navigate Canada's evolving data deposit landscape.

62. Canadian Patient Perspectives on Health Data Sharing and Tools to Support Informed Consent

Jessica Edmonds, Anna Catharina Vieira Armond, Adrian Thorogood, Alexander Bernier, Alison Orth, Bartha Maria Knoppers, Cory E. Goldstein, David Moher, Davina Banner, Dawn P. Richards, Dean Fergusson, Dylan Roskams-Edris, Janina Ramos, Jean Lucien Rouleau, Laurie Proulx, Mamoune Alamoune, Marc A. Albert, Marc Bains, Mary Jane Dykeman, Mike Yeates, Osmo Ramakko, Patrick Bermudez, Jodi D. Edwards, and Kelly D. Cobey
UOHI

Metaresearch

Background: Open science aims to improve transparency, reproducibility, and use of data. While many patients support sharing health data for research, concerns remain regarding privacy, trust, and how data-sharing information is communicated. In addition, informed consent documents are often lengthy and difficult to understand, potentially limiting informed decisions about data sharing. Greater understanding of patient and caregiver perspectives on health data sharing, along with evaluation of the clarity, understanding, and delivery of data-sharing consent templates, is needed to improve decision-making and support ethical data-sharing practices. Objectives: The first aim is to examine Canadian patient and caregiver perspectives on sharing clinical and research data, including willingness to share data, perceived risks and benefits, and preferences regarding

consent and governance. The second aim is to evaluate the clarity and understanding of data-sharing consent templates and explore whether presenting the templates in different formats impacts clarity and understanding. Methods: The first aim, a national bilingual survey of Canadian patients and caregivers will be conducted to examine perspectives on sharing clinical and research data, trust in organizations accessing data, perceived risks and benefits, and consent preferences. The second aim, a mixed-methods design will be used to evaluate participants' understanding of data-sharing consent materials. At an in-person event, participants will review data sharing consent templates presented in 3 different formats: written consent only, discussion with a researcher, and a video describing the template. Participants will then complete surveys assessing their understanding and clarity. Focus groups will explore participant experiences and perspectives on data sharing and informed consent. Results: Expected outcomes include identifying factors influencing willingness to share health data, acceptable conditions for data access and reuse, and improve data-sharing consent templates. Conclusions: Findings will inform evidence-based consent materials, support ethical and data-sharing practices, and help participants make informed decisions about future use of health data.

63. Institutional RDM and Open Science Readiness in Canada: From Baseline to Mandate

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Metaresearch

Objective This study establishes a historical baseline of Canadian institutional Research Data Management (RDM) capacity. Through meta-research tracking, we evaluate how resource and structural gaps identified in our 2019 pre-national-policy survey align with institutional Open Science and Data Sharing readiness in our 2025 follow-up survey, which also provides a snapshot of institutional readiness for compliance with forthcoming research data deposit requirements under national Open Science mandates. Methods We mapped historical metrics on organizational structures, staffing, budgets, and technical infrastructure from the 2019 Institutional RDM Capacity Survey (77 responding research institutions) against comparable metrics from the Institutional RDM Capacity Survey conducted in Fall 2025 (55 responding research institutions). This comparative framework enables longitudinal assessment of institutional change in RDM capacity and Open Science readiness across the Canadian research ecosystem. Results Findings demonstrate a clear transition in the Canadian institutional research data ecosystem from a state of strategic absence in 2019 to policy-driven operationalization in 2025. This transition is examined across four key dimensions:
Financial SustainabilityTransition from temporary, project-based funding toward permanent institutional budget allocations for RDM and data stewardship. Workforce ProfessionalizationAn evolution from acute staffing shortages and fragmented roles toward structured, specialized institutional RDM staffing models and emerging professional pathways. Equitable Infrastructure AccessA narrowing of the national divide, with increased alignment in technical and infrastructural capacity between smaller institutions and major research universities for data management across disciplines. Full-Spectrum Data Lifecycle SupportExpanded institutional support across the research data lifecycle, including data management planning, active storage and access, as well as dissemination and long-term preservation.
ConclusionComparing baseline constraints with 2025 conditions highlights both areas of progress driven by national policy interventions and persistent structural inequities within Canada's evolving Open Science and RDM landscape.

64. What can Open Science learn from Open Education?

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Metaresearch

In this conceptual offering, the presenter will explore how Open Science and Open Education share similar goals related to equity, accessibility, transparency, collaboration and the importance of sharing as a key human value. Although open educational resources (OER) are frequently conflated with open education, it involves more than OER creation. Open education involves participatory and open pedagogical practices (Hegarty, 2015). Open education is also more than providing access and includes engaged participation, community-centred approaches, equity and inclusion as core principles, licensing literacy (e.g. Creative Commons and Traditional Knowledge Labels)(Cronin, 2017). Infrastructure is viewed not only as technological but also human-centric. Knowledge and its co-creation are iterative and dynamic over time, and the local context provides a scaffold to broader contexts. Ethical sharing and understanding when and how to share has been part of open education as it has matured. To address the above question, the SPARC Europe position paper, The Case for Connecting the Opens (2025) offers this graphic. Figure 1 – The Opens "The Opens" image by Robert van der Vooren is licensed under CC BY 4.0. Along with open access publishing, open science, and open education may inform each other and further the commons, broadly writ. Rather than remaining in silos, the movement toward understanding and supporting common "open" goals has arrived.

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65. Equal partners in open scholarship: Streamlining the SFU Library digital project intake process

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Metaresearch

SFU Library has long been a strong supporter of "open," as demonstrated by the multiple forms of open initiatives highlighted in our strategic plans over the years, such as open education, open scholarship, and open access. These initiatives grew and matured separately, leading to a proliferation of similar-sounding but discrete processes for supporting and collaborating with researchers. While within the library we knew that "digital humanities," "digital scholarship," "digital publishing," and "scholarly digitization" were all distinct open scholarship approaches, these distinctions were not clear to our partners. And, to compound the confusion for our partners, digital projects often draw on resources or expertise across library units—such as technical development to IP management to digitization to assessment and financial management—while also requiring a variety of disciplinary approaches that may not align with those of the researcher. In an effort to improve navigation, collaboration, and communication across the Library and with our partners, in 2024 we began investigating approaches to break down silos and streamline the process for submission and review of digital project proposals. Consequently, we recognized that in streamlining administrative processes, we were also opening up ways to support open scholarship across the disciplines. In this paper, we will present our revised and streamlined digital project intake process, highlighting how this user-centred approach to developing open scholarship provides researchers a clearer understanding of the library supports available, and a more seamless experience in working across library units.

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66. Recognition for Open Scholarship and Knowledge Mobilization in CVs and Tenure and Promotion Documents

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Metaresearch

Objective: Knowledge mobilization (KM) is increasingly considered an integral part of the research process, shifting funding institutions and universities' considerations in the tenure and promotion process toward including KM outputs. Despite this, there remains little clarity around how these activities should be reported in a researcher's curriculum vitae (CV) and few universities have established guidelines for assessing or recognizing KM activities, creating uncertainty around the value of KM activities for researchers. Methods: This scoping review maps existing literature on the reporting and evaluation of KM activities in academic CVs. Following the Arksey and O'Malley framework, we searched Web of Science, Scopus, Academic Search Complete, Education Source, ERIC, and Google Scholar for studies published between 2012 and 2025. Thirty-five articles met the inclusion criteria. Data were extracted and thematically analyzed to identify key themes related to the recognition, support, and challenges of KM activities. Results: This scoping review identified three major themes from the literature capturing the current landscape of KMb within academic assessment: Recognizing knowledge mobilization in CVs; Policies, systems and supports; and System in flux. Conclusions: We found that researchers want a wider range of activities (e.g., open scholarship, digital scholarship, podcasting, social media) recognized in evaluation for tenure and promotion. Researchers are increasingly moving away from the traditional list-style CV and moving toward narrative CVs, submitting letters from collaborators and partners, and art-based dossiers. Although scholars are finding ways to report knowledge mobilization activities in their T&P documents, reviewers remain unsure about how to assess them, particularly when there are not agreed upon indicators. Meaningful change will require concerted efforts across and between institutional policies, support structures, and academic cultural practices to foster a more inclusive and impactful academic environment that values the translation of knowledge into practice.

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67. Dragon Kill Points: applying a transparent working template to relieve authorship stress

April Robin Martinig, Spenser L. P. Burk, Szymon M. Drobniak, Isabella Perry, Kyle Morrison, Megan Petersohn, Patrice Pottier, Shinichi Nakagawa, Pietro Pollo, Lorenzo Ricolfi, Coralie Williams, Ayumi Mizuno, Aimee Chhen, Jesse Tam, Yefeng Yang, Julia de Jong, Alberto Ceccacci, Sandra Cuadros, and Malgorzata Lagisz

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Metaresearch

The concept of authorship, while straightforward in theory, proves to be remarkably complex in practice. While existing frameworks provide a foundation for classifying and ranking authorship roles, conflicts still arise when contributions are ambiguous or poorly documented. To address these issues, we propose Dragon Kill Points, adapted from multiplayer gaming, which tracks individual contributions to projects throughout their lifecycle. Dragon Kill Points is built around five key principles: granularity, responsibility, equity, autonomy, and transparency (GREAT). Granularity ensures detailed documentation of tasks, preventing underrepresentation of individual contributions. Responsibility is maintained by setting clear authorship criteria from the outset, allowing contributors to know how their work will be recognised. Equity ensures authorship rules apply to every team member, flattening hierarchies and highlighting ghost or gift authorship. Autonomy allows contributors to challenge or change their authorship position based on their contributions as the project progresses. Finally, transparency fosters trust by continuously sharing contribution records with the entire team. Through Dragon Kill Points, researchers can reduce conflicts, create more inclusive authorship practices, and acknowledge the true value of middle authorship positions. This system offers a flexible, scalable approach

to managing authorship across various contexts, providing a solution to the complex challenges of collaboration.

68. Perspectives of Researchers, Clinicians, and Members of the Public on the Publication Facts Label: A Focus Group Study

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Metaresearch

Researchers, clinicians, and members of the public face challenges locating and interpreting information needed to assess trustworthiness of scholarly publications and journals. The Publication Facts Label (PFL) was developed to address this gap. It presents key publication information in a standardized and intuitive format intended to support these assessments. To explore perceptions of the PFL, 23 members of the public and 18 researchers/clinicians participated in focus group sessions to provide feedback on the label. The focus groups discussed the label's clarity, usability, and perceived usefulness. Overall, participants strongly supported the PFL. Participants valued the idea of having key publication information presented in a convenient and consistent format across articles/journals. They felt this information could help them to assess the trustworthiness of online articles and journals. Participants also described the design as intuitive and familiar, in part because of its resemblance to the Nutrition Facts label. Participants highlighted the need for the label to be easy to understand and visible. While most understood the label's broad purpose, many were unfamiliar with specific PFL elements and were unsure how to interpret the information presented. Participants also noted that the label's impact would depend on widespread adoption across scholarly journals and increased public awareness of the label. The focus groups provided practical feedback for refining the PFL. Participants supported maintaining the label's core design and purpose while improving its usability. Suggested refinements included simplifying headings, adding brief hover-over explanations, developing clearer interpretation guidance, and improving the label's visibility on article landing pages.

69. Evaluating Transdisciplinary Involvement in Developing a Policy-Oriented Model

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Metaresearch

Background: Computer models can inform public policy, but require modellers to make value-laden decisions, like which policies or interventions to compare, what outcomes to evaluate, and how to define and address equity. Such significant choices are often made by technical experts, with limited or no direct involvement of decision-makers or people directly affected by policies.
Objective: Evaluate the effects of transdisciplinary involvement (TI) in developing a policy-oriented model.
Methods: We are using the Values in Modelling (VIM) framework to structure TI in developing the Lifetime Exposures and Asthma outcomes Projection–Smoking Cessation (LEAP-SC) model. Our 10-member Advisory Group (AG) includes clinicians, policy-makers, research funding representatives, and people with lived experience of asthma, smoking, and/or parenting children at risk of smoke exposure. Over a two-year development period, AG members participate in deliberations on "Open" and "Closed" modelling decisions. Meeting recordings, post-meeting debriefs, and qualitative interviews are used to examine the effects and perceived value of TI following the VIM framework.
Interim Results: In Meeting 1, AG members deliberated four "Open" decisions: 1) population: children only versus children and adults; 2) acceptability of model focus on pregnancy and analysis by socioeconomic status (SES); 3) smoking cessation (SC) strategies for comparison; 4) outcomes: child only versus child and family caregiver. Deliberations supported a child-focused first modelling phase, with adults deferred, but not excluded,

given evidentiary limitations. The AG approved SES analysis alongside structural, non-stigmatizing framing; members suggested terminology changes and flagged potential confounding by air pollution. They endorsed pharmacotherapy plus behavioural counselling as the primary comparison, recommending against vaping and in favour of further considering peer-led and other interventions. Perspectives on including family caregiver outcomes differed, informing a secondary analysis plan. Future meetings will apply later steps of the VIM framework, including transparent communication and AG review of “Closed” modelling decisions.

70. Academic Freedom and the Pursuit of Understanding

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Metaresearch

The unique function of academic institutions should be to promote and support truth-seeking inquiry. Academic freedom is essential to this function because it allows inquiry to begin with intellectual curiosity and be guided by evidence. However, this article casts serious doubt on whether academic freedom is sufficient to protect such inquiry. The ways stakeholders evaluate academic work can gradually shape the fields scholars value and the material they encourage their students to engage with. Frequently, professional advancement relies heavily on achievements that are easy to quantify. As a result, emerging scholars may not favour pursuits more aligned with their own passion and expertise and may be motivated by fashionable trends. Research that involves uncertainty (i.e., a risk of failure) can therefore become less attractive. A similar trend can occur in the context of teaching when concern about evaluation encourages instructors to avoid challenging subject matter or reduce academic demands. Drawing on Jaspers, Bergmann, Slaughter and Leslie, and debates on research assessment, the article argues that institutional influence is unavoidable and can be productive. The concern is that how scholars are evaluated leaves them less room to take intellectual risks. Sustaining the university’s mission therefore requires systems that recognize achievement without directing inquiry toward only what can be readily measured.

71. La diffusion au Canada du modèle du conseiller scientifique en chef

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Metaresearch

En 2017, le Canada s’est doté d’un poste de conseiller scientifique en chef, auquel fut nommé Mona Nemer. Son mandat est double. D’une part, elle conseille le cabinet et premier ministre sur les politiques publiques impliquant la science, l’état de la science fédérale et l’utilisation des preuves au sein du gouvernement – elle donne et coordonne les conseils scientifiques. D’autre part, son mandat fait d’elle une championne de la science ouverte par sa fonction de « donner son avis sur l’élaboration et la mise en œuvre de lignes directrices visant à ce que les travaux scientifiques du gouvernement soient entièrement accessibles au public et à ce que les scientifiques fédéraux puissent librement parler de leurs travaux ».
À l’international, l’existence du modèle du conseiller scientifique en chef précède sa création au Canada en 2017. D’où vient donc l’idée de créer un tel poste ? Nos travaux reconstruisent les processus sociopolitiques ayant menés à la diffusion de ce modèle au Canada. Notre analyse s’appuie sur des entrevues et un corpus de sources médiatiques, de rapports gouvernementaux et de débats parlementaires pour identifier les acteurs et les idées impliquées dans l’introduction du modèle dans l’espace politique canadien et reconstruire l’histoire des réformes ayant créé le poste.
Nos résultats démontrent que la création du poste en 2017 fut le produit d’une mobilisation coordonnée de la communauté scientifique et des partis d’opposition au gouvernement de l’époque. La définition du mandat fut significativement influencée par des acteurs internationaux, notamment d’autres conseillers scientifiques en chef, constituant un « collège invisible » capable de faire pression sur le processus d’élaboration des politiques

publiques. Nous concluons que les résultats de la méta-recherche sur les politiques scientifiques et les mécanismes de conseil scientifique ont joué un rôle limité dans les processus sociopolitiques de diffusion du modèle au Canada.

Other Posters

72. Promoting Free and Open Source Software in Social Sciences and Humanities

Sophie Bretagnolle and Aurélien Perronneau
UQAM - Calcul Québec

Other

Proprietary software are increasingly used in Humanities and Social Sciences (HSS) (Schindler et al., 2020). These software can be used for general purpose (e.g. Windows) but also as specialized tools. For research project relying on qualitative analysis, proprietary specialized software such as Nvivo, MAXQDA or ATLAS.ti are widely adopted by the HSS community (see for instance Romaniuk et al., 2025; Silva et al., 2025). However, these software presents important drawbacks, including restricted access to previous works and hindered collaboration due to licensing issues. Moreover, the increasing adoption of these software, coupled with the rising incorporation of artificial intelligence models as integrated features, has amplified existing concerns regarding data ownership, privacy, and accountability (Khanal et al., 2025). In contrast, free and open source software (FOSS) are more cost-effective, can facilitate collaborations outside academia and are transparent about data use. However, despite its benefits, FOSS seems to remain underutilized in HSS, particularly among researchers employing qualitative approaches. This presentation aims to shed light on the difficulties faced by professionals supporting HSS researchers who attempt to adopt FOSS. Through a case study of a research project on textual analysis and professional experience, we will identify key interrogations that need to be addressed for meaningful adoption of FOSS. We will also highlight the specific needs of a "fuzzy" research cycle needed in inductive qualitative approaches (Semantic MediaWiki, 2017). Then, we will argue that professionals face a significant challenge in implementing FOSS effectively with specialized software, as they may require a basic understanding of research methodologies in addition to their technical expertise. Finally, we will present a setup developed for an ongoing research project that leverages FOSS as its primary toolset.

73. Make a Fun Open Science Workflow! Surprise Zine Workshop!

Felicity Tayler and Melissa Cheung
University of Ottawa

Other

Objective
Make a fun Open Science workflow! Research Data Management can seem boring and complicated, but good data management is critical to Open Science workflows that prioritize ethical data sharing and reuse. In this one-hour workshop, an RDM Librarian will lead participants through stages of a data management plan. Instead of writing technical instructions, participants will draw, colour, cut, and paste their plan intentions while learning from colleagues' experiences through facilitated dialogue.
Method
"Zines" are small, easy-to-make notebooks that tell a story. They are self-published and have long been used to celebrate interests and represent complex issues in a simplified, personalized format. More recently, the educational power of zines has been recognized: creating a zine by hand in a casual group context integrates concepts through sustained contemplation and dialogue, making academic research more accessible.
The workshop will draw on Data Management Planning for Open Science Workflows and the Data Handling Courses and DMP Tools offered by the Metaresearch & Open Sciences Program. Paper, scissors, glue, markers, and other materials will be provided. Maximum 20 participants.
Results
Participants will have a creative break from the intense listening and sitting experience of the conference; peer knowledge exchange through facilitated discussion; knowledge of data management planning best practices in support of Open Science; awareness of RDM training and tools; and a zine to take home.