

Peer Review Week 2020 - Fact Sheet

Peer Review Week is a yearly global event celebrating the essential role that peer review plays in maintaining high-quality research. The event brings together individuals, institutions, and organizations committed to sharing the central message that good peer review, whatever shape or form it might take, is critical to scholarly communications.

Peer Review Week 2020 is taking place September 21 – 25, dedicated to the theme of “Trust in Peer Review”, shining a light on how the peer review process works and why it helps build trust in research. The importance of reliable scholarly publications has rarely been as public or pressing as now, with the world in the throes of the COVID-19 pandemic. Maintaining trust in the peer review decision-making process is paramount if we are to solve the world’s most pressing problems. This includes ensuring that the peer review process is transparent (easily discoverable, accessible, and understandable by anyone writing, reviewing, or reading peer-reviewed content) and that everyone involved in the process receives the training and education needed to play their part in making it reliable and trustworthy.

If you would like to get involved in Peer Review Week or have any questions, feel free to email peerreviewweek@outlook.com.

Peer Review Week 2020 Facts and Figures:

- **42 organisations are involved in the Planning Committee**, including
 - 14 scientific publishers/journals
 - 15 scholarly societies, not-for-profit organisations, universities, and librarians
 - 13 service providers, consulting experts, and funders
 - Organisers are active globally (10) or based in the Americas (15), Europe (11), Asia (5), Africa (1)
 - To increase diversity and inclusiveness, the Planning Committee welcomes the involvement of representatives from libraries, funders and research
 - Four organisations – ORCID, ScienceOpen, Sense About Science, and Wiley – founded Peer Review Week in 2016

- **Outreach activities** include
 - Social media presence on [YouTube](#) (150+ subscribers) and Twitter ([@PeerRevWeek](#), 2k followers)
 - As of August 2020, 38 Peer Review Week videos are available on YouTube with a total of 5,796 views (3,431 video views between 1st August and 30th September 2019, and 130+ new subscribers during Peer Review Week 2019)
 - During Peer Review Week 2019, the hashtags #PeerRevWk19 and #QualityInPeerReview were used on Twitter 18k times, and the topic “Quality in Peer Review” was discussed by 2,187 Twitter users

- Translations of press releases are available in 10+ languages (including Bulgarian, Croatian, French, German, Hindi, Italian, Japanese, Korean, Russian, Spanish, Turkish, Vietnamese)

- **More than 40 events** are planned for 2020
 - [Full list of events is available here](#)
 - Events organised in 2019 include activities such as blog posts, videos, webinars, panel discussion, Twitter polls, and live chats. Two Reddit AMAs (Ask Me Anything) were hosted, [Integrity and controversies in peer review](#) and [New ideas and solutions to peer review](#)

- **Statistics on Peer Review**
 - Data from ScholarOne (Clarivate) show that in the past 12 months (Sept. 1st 2019–Aug. 31st 2020), a total of 4,330,238 reviews were completed (16 % increase in comparison to Sept. 1st 2018–Aug. 31st 2019)
 - Since the COVID-19 outbreak (March 1st–Aug. 31st 2020), data from ScholarOne (Clarivate) show that a total of 2,371,705 reviews were complete with a turnaround time of 25 days (22 % increase and same turnaround time in comparison to March 1st–Aug. 31st 2019)