

Scientific Collaboration

An Interesting Annotation by a Classmate



One of the [annotations](#) made by a classmate, [sherlynassam](#), stuck with me. The annotation itself was on a blog post by W. Caleb McDaniel about [open notebook history](#). The particular part they had anotated was about scientists working colaborativly. They had commented about one scientists failure 'saving' another from making the same mistake by having the data they had colected available, showing the mistakes they had made already, and that the soloution was something that neither would have thought up on their own. This stuck with me, so much so that I thought about it for most of the night. There were many people that were bringing up good

reasons *against* open notebooks, that I was relieved to see something that was along the same lines as I was thinking. However, I am not in the sciences, and I wanted to know more opinions on what the open notebook was like first hand. I ended up having a discussion with someone who is currently doing their PHD in psychology. Even though we had other readings that had been helpful in giving me an idea on how it worked, such as [Trevor Owens](#) and [Ian Milligan](#) I really just wanted all of the information before I made a judgement on open research and notebooks. Honestly It was not particularly helpful, but very eye opening. I asked if my classmate was correct in the ideas of one scientist potentially helping another from spiriling down the rabbit hole. According to him it was something that definitely happened, but there was more to it than that. He was on the fence about open notebooks, saying that it would be great for research, but that he didn't trust anyone, nor did he think much of the sciences did either. I did however learn about the [Center For Open Science](#) so not a loss. So this one annotation sent me on a bit of a journey but it reinforced the idea that open notebook, and being open, would be a great tool for most, even if it needs some warming up to.

