Scientific Writing in the EAS Dept

Writing effectively, giving & receiving feedback, general admin...

Overarching objectives

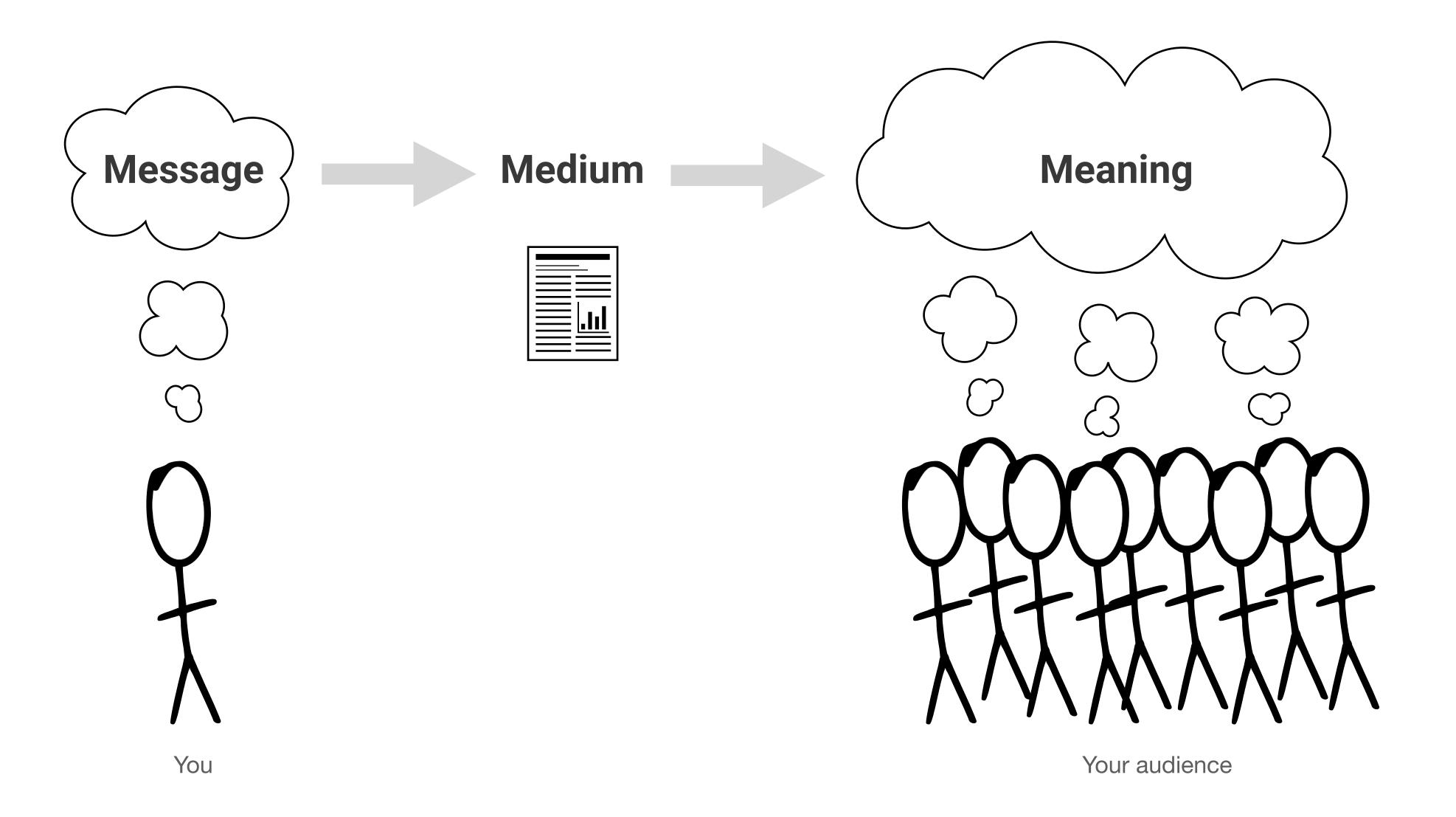
Our papers are written effectively

We habitually exchange feedback on written work

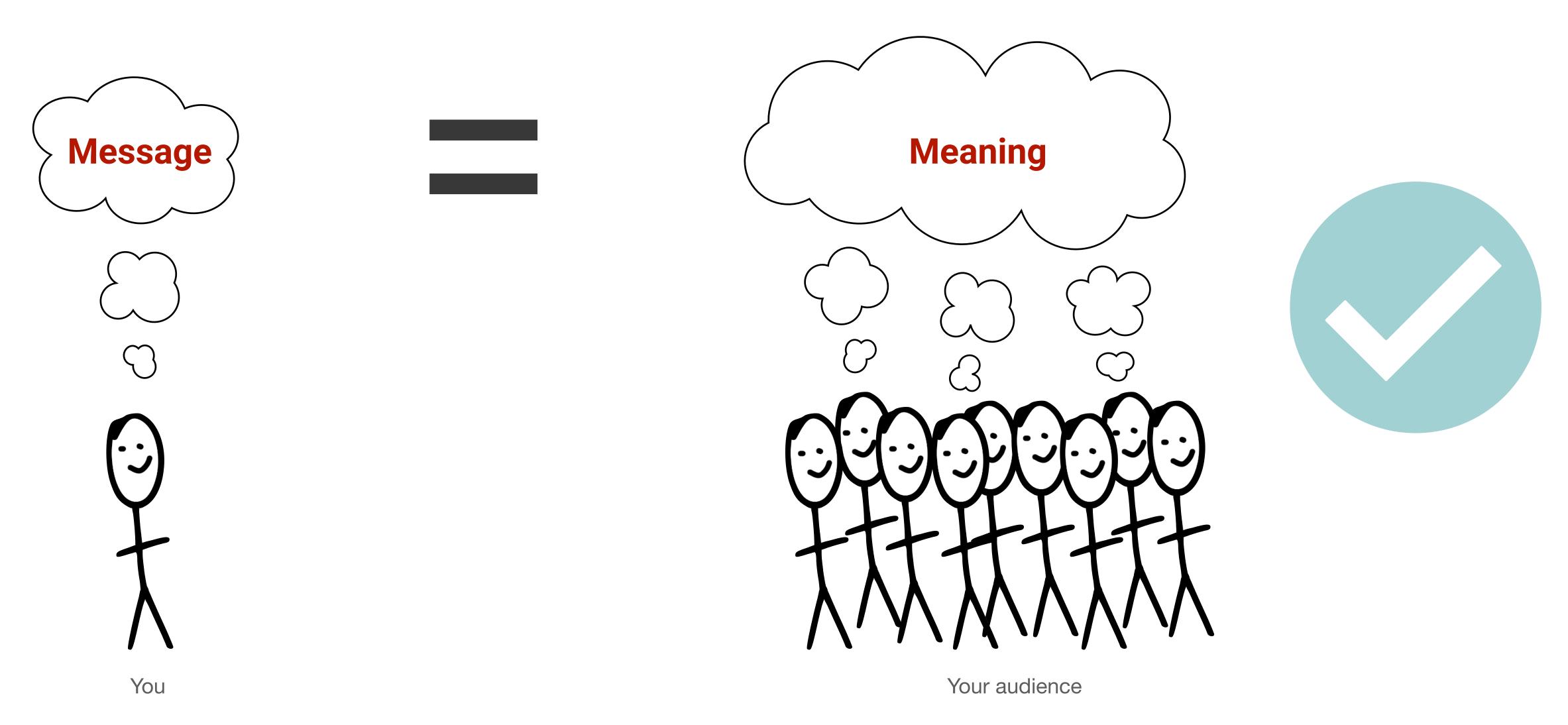
We have a shared set of guidelines for basic publishing admin

Our papers are written effectively

What constitutes effective scientific writing?



What constitutes effective scientific writing?



If your audience can easily understand your message, you have written effectively.

Two aspects of effective writing



The mechanics of effective writing

- Content
- Structure
- Language



The mentality of effective writing

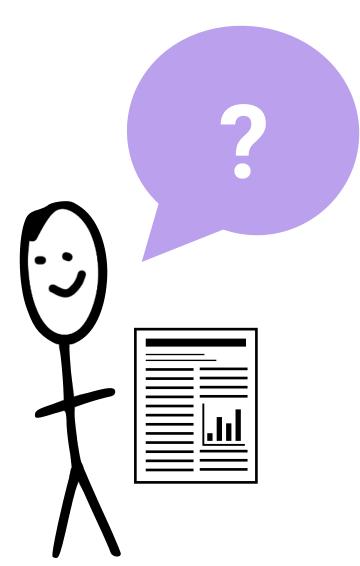
- Mindset
- Approach
- Workflow

We habitually exchange feedback on written work

The best ways to improve our writing

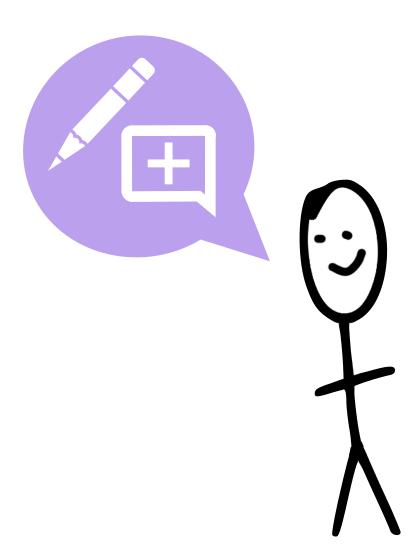
Receiving feedback

 The only way to really know what your audience gets from your writing



Giving feedback

 It is often easier to see merits and faults when critically considering writing that is unfamiliar



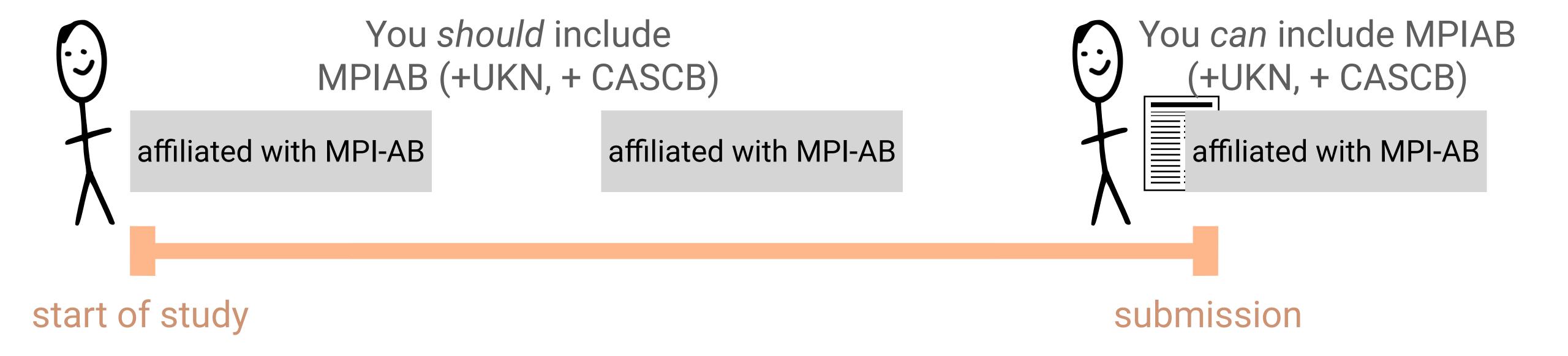
Possible avenues to normalize feedback exchange



- Writing Feedback Workshop
 - A person opts to have their text circulated to other members in the department, we meet to discuss and give them feedback
 - If you'd like to try this, let me know!
- Other ideas? Come talk to me :)

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Affiliations



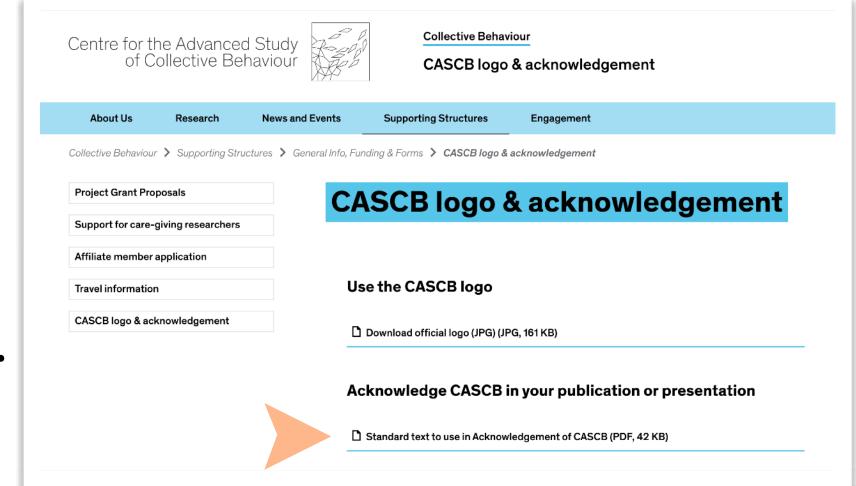
- If the affiliation and email address of the corresponding author is MPG, then the MPG will cover Open Access publishing costs.
 - Check with Daniel Piechowski for details

Acknowledgements

- Anybody who helped with the study (data collection, analysis, writing), but not to the level of warranting authorship
- All relevant authorities, government bodies, institutions that provided permits and/or research support
- Get input/confirmation from co-authors
- Funders (if no specific 'Funding' section)...

Funders

- List all funders in a specific "Funding" section, or in acknowledgements
- Include appropriate information...
 - Specify grant number, if applicable
 - Use correct phrasing, e.g., for the Cluster...
- Get input/confirmation from co-authors



Important: Cluster Dedication
On All Publications and Public Presentations

"Gefördert durch die **Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft** (**DFG**) im Rahmen der Exzellenzstrategie des Bundes und der Länder **EXC 2117** – **422037984**"

"... funded by the **Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (DFG**, German Research Foundation) under Germany's Excellence Strategy – **EXC 2117** – **422037984**"

Non-English abstracts

- If your study system resides in a non-English-speaking area, consider publishing an abstract in that area's language
- Some (many?) journals will accept an additional non-English abstract
 - If not put it in Supplementary Materials

- Open this conversation early on with your collaborators/team
- Write this into your Collaborative Research Agreement (CRA)
- Keep the discussion open as the project outputs evolve and change (and keep your CRA up-to-date)

MAX-PLANCK-GESELLSCHAFT

Rules of Good Scientific Practice



- adopted by the senate of the Max Planck Society on November 24, 2000, amended on March 20, 2009 -

- "...the only persons who may be credited as co-authors are those who themselves
 made a considerable contribution to the design of the studies or experiments, to
 working out, analysing or interpreting the data and to drawing up the manuscript..."
- "[All co-authors must have] agreed to [the manuscript's] publication."
- "Management of the organisation unit in which the publication arose is not, in itself, sufficient grounds to claim authorship..."
- "The authors always bear joint responsibility for the content..."



Guidelines for Safeguarding Good Research Practice

Code of Conduct

"An author is an individual who has made a genuine, identifiable contribution to the content of a research publication...

All authors agree on the final version of the work to be published.

Unless explicitly stated otherwise, they share responsibility for the publication.

Explanations:

The contribution must add to the research content of the publication. What constitutes a genuine and identifiable contribution must be evaluated on a case-by-case basis and depends on the subject area in question. An identifiable, genuine contribution is deemed to exist particularly in instances in which a researcher – in a research-relevant way – takes part in:

- the development and conceptual design of the research project, or
- the gathering, collection, acquisition or provision of data, software or sources, or
- by the analysis/evaluation or interpretation of data, sources and conclusions drawn from them, or
- the drafting of the manuscript.

A leadership or supervisory function does not itself constitute co-authorship."



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With respect to our field of research...

- What does and does not constitute a "genuine, identifiable contribution"?
- What (if any) categories of potential contributions would you add?
- Would you add, remove, or change anything?

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