Accelerating Science and Publication in Biology (ASAPbio)

Scientific progress depends on the communication of new ideas to the research community. However, the traditional publishing process can conceal scientific findings for months or even years after the data is collected or analyzed. These delays stunt collaboration, hinder career advancement, and slow the process of securing funding. One solution to these problems is the use of preprints. Preprints are scientific manuscripts posted on the internet on servers such as bioRxiv prior to peer review. These preprints allow free and immediate distribution of research findings to the scientific community. This mechanism has been in use in the Physics and Mathematics communities for several decades but has not yet become commonplace in the life sciences.

The Accelerating Science and Publication in Biology (ASAPbio) initiative assembled major stakeholders to promote discussion about preprints in the life sciences and has been active since the initial meeting in February of 2016. This subgroup will introduce the topic broadly to the Cell Biology community and discuss progress toward preprint consideration for funding, promotion and subsequent publication. Many related topics of interest including preprint feedback, citation and priority will be discussed.

1:30pm-1:40pm  Session Introduction
   • Prachee Avasthi, PhD (University of Kansas Medical Center)
   • Jessica Polka, PhD (Director, Accelerating Science and Publication in Biology (ASAPbio))

1:40pm-2:10pm  Background and Introduction to ASAPbio
   • James Fraser, PhD (University of California San Francisco and ASAPbio)
   • Ronald Vale, PhD (University of California San Francisco and ASAPbio)

2:10pm-3:15pm  Preprints in Career Advancement, Training and Education
   Short Talks and Panel Discussion
   • Needhi Bhalla, PhD (University of California Santa Cruz)
   • Stephen Floor, PhD (University of California Berkeley)
   • Omar Quintero, PhD (University of Richmond)
   • Stephen Royle, PhD (University of Warwick Medical School)
   • Nikolai Slavov, PhD (Northeastern University)

3:15pm-3:30pm  Break

3:30pm-4:00pm  Interactive Session on Preprint Governance
   • Prachee Avasthi, PhD and Jessica Polka, PhD (Organizers)

4:00pm-4:50pm  Perspectives from Journals, Servers and Tool-builders
   Short Talks and Panel Discussion
   • Peter Binfield, PhD (Co-founder, Peer J)
   • Ansuman Chattopadhyay, PhD (University of Pittsburgh; Creator, search.Biopreprint)
   • David Drubin, PhD (University of California Berkeley; Editor in Chief, Molecular Biology of the Cell)
   • John Inglis, PhD and Richard Sever, PhD (Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory; Founders, bioRxiv)

4:50pm-5:00pm  Advocating for Preprints and How to Get Involved
   • Prachee Avasthi, PhD and Jessica Polka, PhD (Organizers)

5:00pm-5:30pm  Interactive Discussion and Audience Questions

5:30pm  End Session