Waipapa Taumata Rau
University of Auckland

Publish Smarter

Choosing where to publish

Maria Dams, Research Services Adviser
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Ngā Ratonga Manaaki Rangahau | Research Services
Te Tumu Herenga | Libraries and Learning Services

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Navigating Academic Systems

"There’s so much to learn about publishing - open access, citations, metrics. To succeed in academia, you need to understand these systems. For many of us Pacific academics, we’re the first in our families to enter this space, and we don’t have the same knowledge base or social capital as some of our peers. This world is entirely new to us. We need to learn how to play the game - not get played by it."

Associate Professor Sereana Naepi, Social Sciences, The University of Auckland

Let’s Start with You

- Have you published yet?
- If yes, where?
- How did you choose that journal?
- What was the hardest part?
- If not, what’s stopping you?
- Is your supervisor pushing you to publish?
- Why do *you* want to publish?

Motivation 1: Build an Academic Career

- **Strategy:**
  - ✓ Target high-impact journals in your field
  - ✓ Aim for indexed journals (Scopus, Web of Science)
  - ✓ Prioritise original research and novel contributions

Motivation 2: Contribute to Society

- **Strategy:**
  - ✓ Choose open access journals for broader reach
  - ✓ Consider preprint servers for early visibility
  - ✓ Publish data papers, methods, or negative results to support reproducibility

What makes a quality journal?

Peer Review Process

Reviewer Guidelines

Peer review model

Scope & article eligibility

Reviewer eligibility

Peer reviewer code of conduct

Guidelines for reviewing

How to submit

The peer-review process

Peer Reviewing Tips

Benefits for Reviewers

Reviewer Guidelines

F1000Research's peer review model

Peer review of articles on F1000Research takes place after publication; once the article is published, expert reviewers are formally invited to review under our open and transparent peer review model. To improve the consistency of definitions and terminology in peer review, F1000Research uses the NISO standard terminology for peer review to summarise our peer review process as:

- Identity transparency: All identities visible
- Reviewer interacts with: Editor, other reviewers, authors
- Review information published: Review reports, submitted manuscript, reviewer identities
- Post publication commenting: Open

More information is available on Peer review process for articles section of the How it Works page.

Peer review reports are published alongside the reviewers' full names and affiliations, and remain attached to the article, including if it is indexed with sites such as PubMed and Scopus. Your report will be published, citable, and have a DOI. Peer review directly determines whether an article will be indexed, via the approval status that reviewers select when reviewing the article.

We are very appreciative of the work our reviewers do for us, and believe it is important for

About F1000Research

How it Works

For Reviewers

Our Advisors

Policies

Glossary

FAQs

Contact

Initial Checks
Editorial Review
Peer Review
Editorial Decisions
Revisions
Accepted Manuscripts

Editorial and Peer Review Process

PLOS ONE is a peer reviewed scientific journal with a rigorous editorial screening and assessment process made up of several stages.

PLOS ONE considers original research articles from all disciplines within the journal's scope in the natural sciences, medical research, engineering, as well as the related social sciences and humanities. The editors make decisions on submissions based on scientific rigor, regardless of novelty.

Peer Review

During the submission process you'll be asked to indicate any specific editors or reviewers who should not review your manuscript. We will respect your request so long as it does not interfere with the objective and thorough assessment of the submission.

The handling editor selects reviewers based on expertise, publication history, and past reviews, and invites them to provide feedback on the manuscript. After agreeing to review, external peer reviewers typically have 10 days to submit their review. The journal office will follow up with late reviewers and keep you informed if there are any delays.

PLOS ONE uses single-anonymized peer review. Reviewers remain anonymous unless they choose to identify themselves by signing their name to their review in our submission system.

Peer Review Is a Dialogue, Not a Verdict

“When it comes to peer review, I believe authors should know they can ask questions and push back if they believe a reviewer is wrong. There’s a common misconception that peer reviewers are always right, but that’s not the case – though we also have to consider if someone doesn’t “get” something, perhaps we haven’t explained it as clearly as we needed to. Respectful disagreement is a valid and important part of the scholarly process that helps us produce better work.”

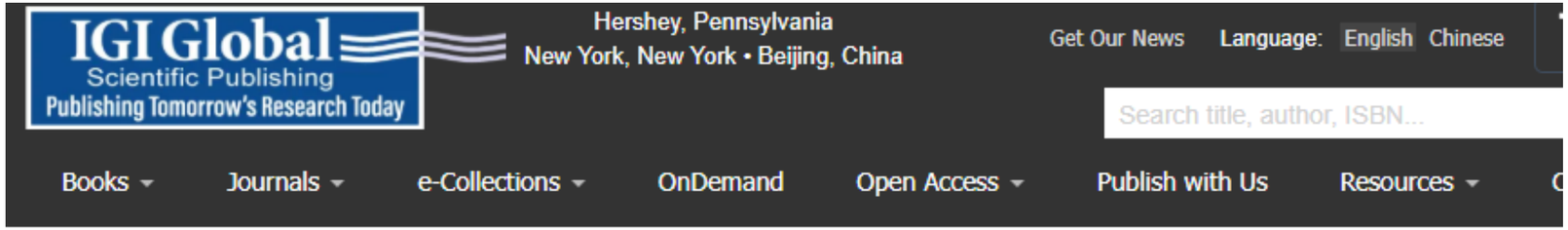
Professor Virginia Braun, Faculty of Science, Psychology, The University of Auckland

What makes a quality journal?

Peer Review Process

Editorial Standards

Promoting integrity in scholarly research and its publication



IGI Global Scientific Publishing is a Full Member of the Committee on Publication Ethics (COPE)

What is the Committee on Publication Ethics (COPE)?

The Committee on Publication Ethics, known also by its acronym, COPE, is a non-profit UK-based international organization that strives to provide leadership and promote adherence to strict ethical guidelines in the publishing and academic communities, as well as offers a professional voice in current debates. COPE continually shares educational resources with editors and publishers on the latest best practices for maintaining the highest standard of ethics in all publications.

C O P E
Member Since 2017
Committee on Publication Ethics

Learn More about COPE

COPE Membership Review Process

At the start of 2017, IGI Global Scientific Publishing submitted an application to COPE and then entered into a review process by the COPE Council in which our publishing house was carefully examined, including our editorial management processes, our peer review process, our ethics and malpractice policies, and our online manuscript submission system, eEditorial Discovery®. We agreed to comply with the COPE core principles of publication ethics as laid out in COPE's "Core Practices."

In 2017, IGI Global Scientific Publishing was formally recognized by COPE and was offered the opportunity to become a full member, which we gladly accepted. This allows all our journal Editor(s)-in-Chief to become full members of COPE as well.

COPE Core Practices | Principles of Transparency and Best Practice

What makes a quality journal?

Peer Review Process

Editorial Standards

Indexing

Common Indexing Databases

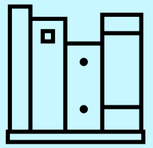
- ❑ Scopus
- ❑ Web of Science
- ❑ PubMed
- ❑ DOAJ (Directory of Open Access Journals)
- ❑ Google Scholar (less selective but widely used)

What makes a quality journal?

Peer Review Process

Editorial Standards

Indexing



Journal Metrics

Citation metrics

e.g., Impact Factor (Web of Science)
CiteScore (Scopus)

1. Match the metric to your goals.
2. Compare journals in your field.
3. Balance metrics with other factors.
4. Avoid over-reliance on metrics.

What Are Journal Quartiles?

Q1 (Top 25%)

Top-tier journals with the highest impact and citations.

Q2 (25-50%)

Strong journals with solid reputations.

Q3 (50-75%)

Mid-tier journals, often more specialized.

Q4 (Bottom 25%)

Lower-tier or emerging journals with fewer citations.

Where to find journal metrics and quartile rankings?

Journal Citation Reports

Best for:

Journals indexed in Web of Science

Scopus sources

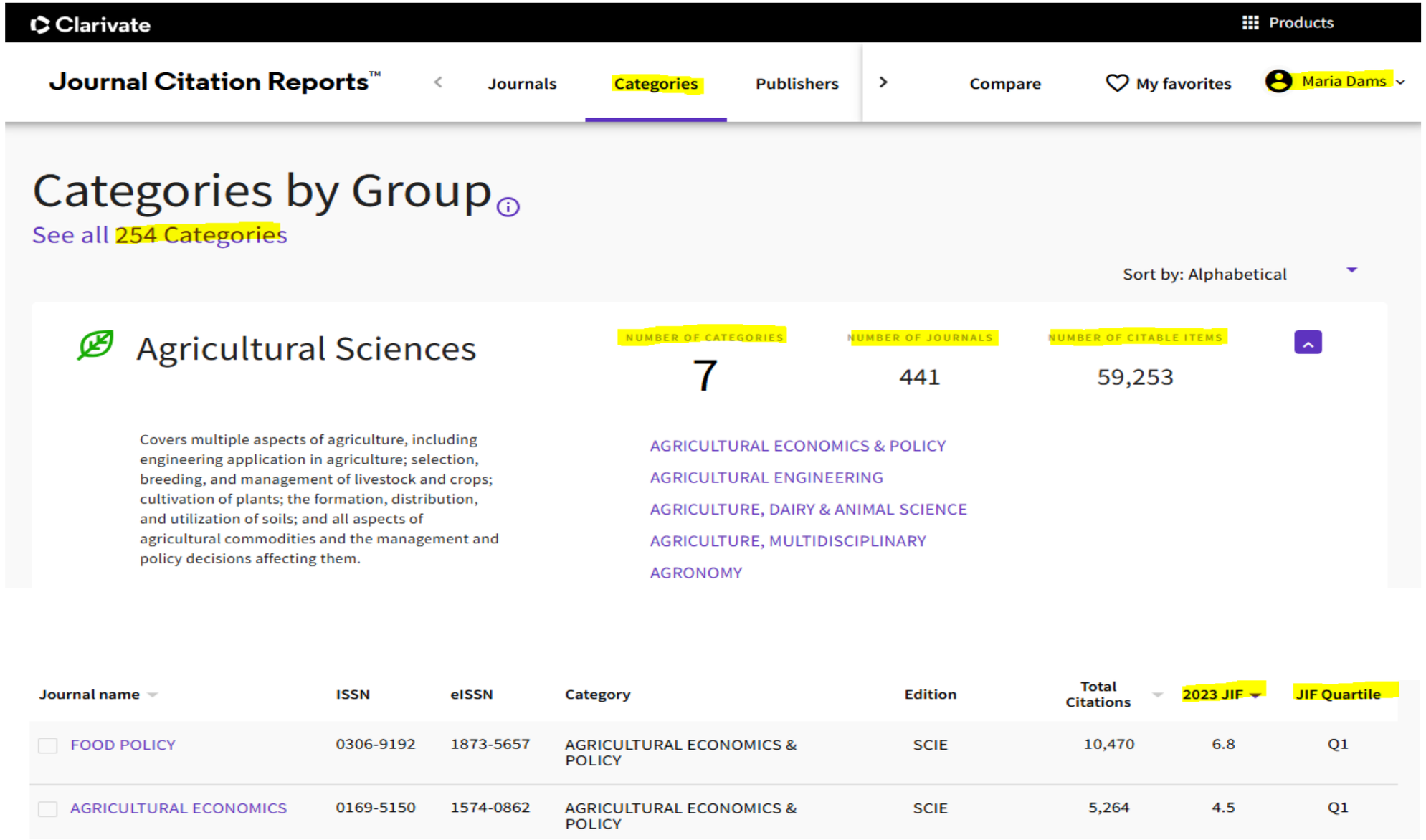
Best for:

Journals indexed in Scopus

Scimago Journal & Country Rank

Best for:

Journals indexed in Scopus


Clarivate
Products
Journal Citation Reports™
Journals
Categories
Publishers
Compare
My favorites
Maria Dams
Categories by Group
See all 254 Categories
Sort by: Alphabetical
Agricultural Sciences
NUMBER OF CATEGORIES
7
NUMBER OF JOURNALS
441
NUMBER OF CITABLE ITEMS
59,253
Covers multiple aspects of agriculture, including engineering application in agriculture; selection, breeding, and management of livestock and crops; cultivation of plants; the formation, distribution, and utilization of soils; and all aspects of agricultural commodities and the management and policy decisions affecting them.
AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS & POLICY
AGRICULTURAL ENGINEERING
AGRICULTURE, DAIRY & ANIMAL SCIENCE
AGRICULTURE, MULTIDISCIPLINARY
AGRONOMY
Journal name
ISSN
eISSN
Category
Edition
Total Citations
2023 JIF
JIF Quartile
FOOD POLICY
0306-9192
1873-5657
AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS & POLICY
SCIE
10,470
6.8
Q1
AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS
0169-5150
1574-0862
AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS & POLICY
SCIE
5,264
4.5
Q1

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Journal metrics

Usage

- **188K** annual downloads/views

Citation metrics

- **4.0 (2023)** Impact Factor
- **Q1** Impact Factor Best Quartile
- **4.0 (2023)** 5 year IF
- **10.1 (2023)** CiteScore (Scopus)
- **Q1** CiteScore Best Quartile
- **3.248 (2023)** SNIP
- **1.819 (2023)** SJR

Speed/acceptance

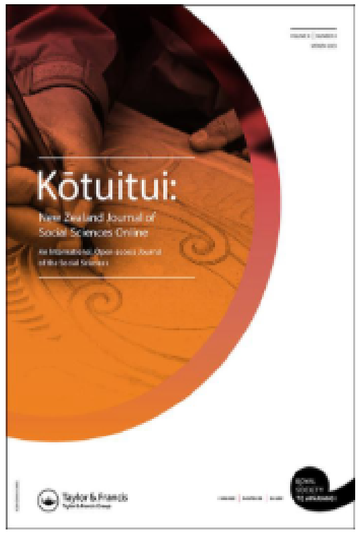
- **24** days avg. from submission to first decision
- **107** days avg. from submission to first post-review decision
- **10** days avg. from acceptance to online publication
- **11%** acceptance rate

Use Journal Suggester, e.g., Taylor & Francis

An open access journal

Kotuitui: New Zealand Journal of Social Sciences Online

About | Metrics



Citation metrics

Impact Factor	**1.4 (2023)**
CiteScore	**3.6 (2023)**
SNIP	**1.082 (2023)**

Speed / acceptance

Submission to first decision	**34 days**
Acceptance rate	**45%**

Read more about understanding journal metrics

Learn more

or visit the cost finder to calculate the article publishing charge

Open Select: Choose to publish open access

Policy Reviews in Higher Education

About | Metrics

Citation metrics

Impact Factor	**3.8 (2023)**
CiteScore	**9.0 (2023)**
SNIP	**3.818 (2023)**

Speed / acceptance

Submission to first decision	**16 days**
Acceptance rate	**19%**

Read more about understanding journal metrics

Learn more

or visit the cost finder to calculate the article publishing charge

Publishing Strategy: Aim High, Revise, Resubmit

“When choosing where to publish, I prioritize the journals I read most and aim high, submitting first to top-tier journals in my field. I’ve been desk rejected many times, but I treat those as opportunities to improve the manuscript. After revising, I submit to a second-choice journal that’s still reputable and well-aligned with my work.”

Dr Helen Murray, Senior Research Fellow, FMHS, The University of Auckland

Beware of predatory journals!

- Aggressive emails
- Fake credentials
- Hidden fees and policies
- Unrealistic Promises

Think. Check. Submit.

Publish Where You Read: Building a Trusted Journal List

“You should only consider publishing in journals you’re familiar with. Ideally, maintain a curated list of up to 15 reputable journals in your field and engage with their content regularly. By doing so, you’ll avoid even considering predatory journals, because they won’t be part of your reading list.”

Professor Julia Kotlarsky, Business School, The University of Auckland

Getting published in top-tier journals, e.g., *Nature* and *Science*

Highly selective journals, 10% acceptance rate

What makes a study a good fit for *Nature*, *Science*, or similar top-tier journals

Broad Appeal

Accessible Writing

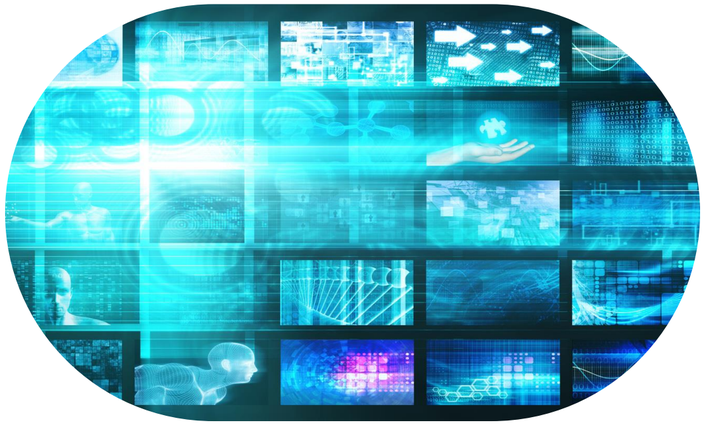
Strong Narrative

Presentation Matters

Types of suitable studies

Public Interest Topics: e.g., pandemics, climate change, AI ethics.

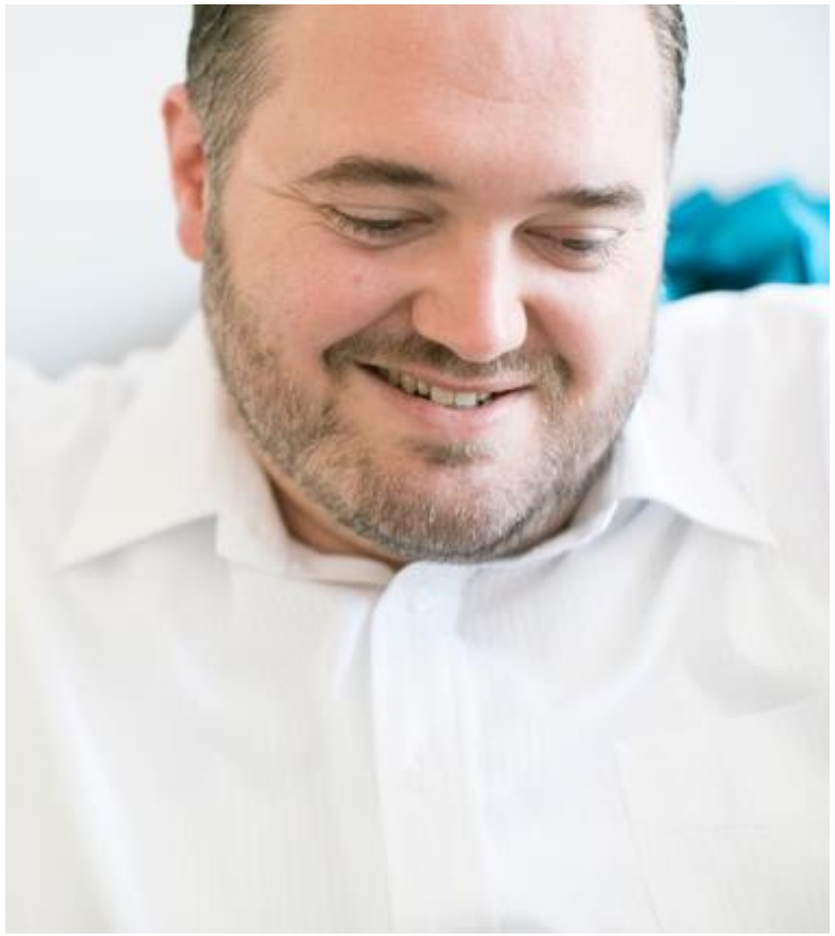
Technological Breakthroughs: Tools or methods that can be used across disciplines.



Big Data or Resources: Datasets, platforms, or models that others can build on.

Publishing with Purpose: Define Your Destination Early

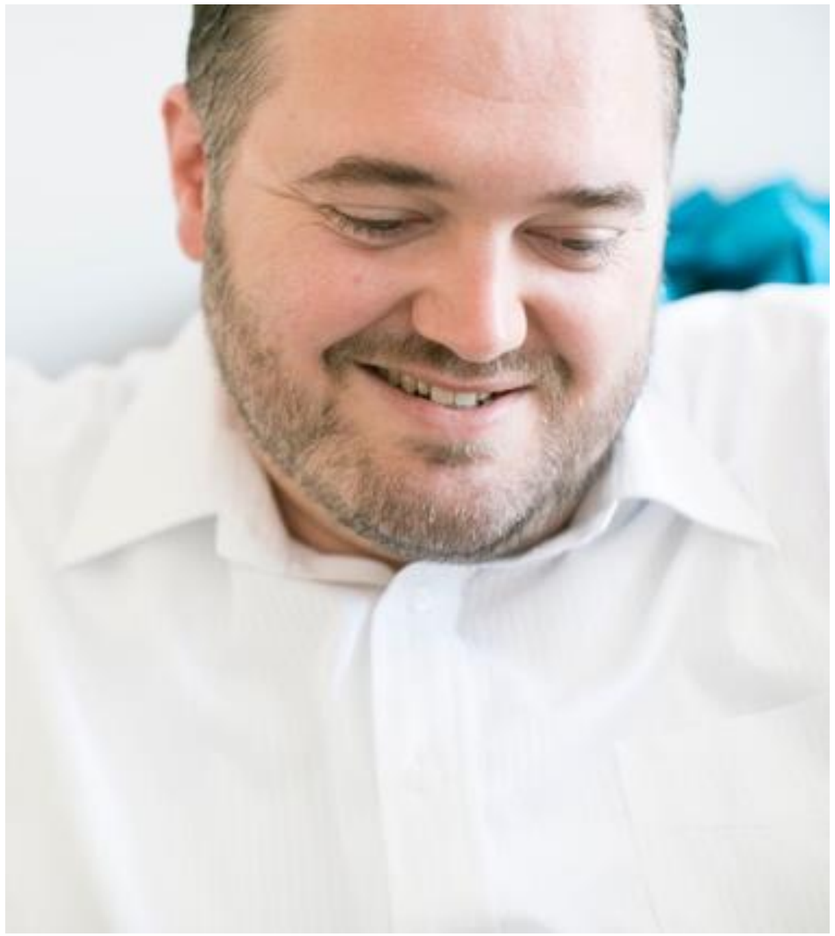
“Think about the destination early on, that will tell you what you need to focus on and what areas of your research will be important for the paper. What is the issue that people are trying to solve in my area, how does my research speak to that, how do I speak to that?”



Associate Professor Simon Greenhill,
Biological Sciences, The University of Auckland

Know Your Audience: Publishing as Scholarly Conversation

“Who do you want to have a conversation with? Those who study the topic in New Zealand? Or internationally? You really need to think about the audience. Research is a conversation, who do you want to have a conversation with, and what do you want the conversation to be?”



Associate Professor Simon Greenhill,
Biological Sciences, The University of Auckland

Tell a Story That Resonates Across Disciplines

“*Science* and *Nature* are not your typical academic journal, they are magazines. If your research is sound but doesn't tell a good story, then it should not go here. You need to tell a story, like an elevator pitch, that your grandparents can understand. How do you tell your story to people in your field but also in other fields?”

Dr Ziyun Wang, Faculty of Science, Chemical Sciences, The University of Auckland

Present Your Best Work: Minimise Distractions for Reviewers

“When submitting to a journal, take care to eliminate anything that might distract reviewers from focusing on the ideas and content of your work. Put effort into presenting the strongest possible version of your manuscript, ensure it is proofread and that the list of references is complete. I recently submitted to a top journal in my field, and the editor flagged two missing references. It may seem minor, but such details can divert attention from your research, and that’s something you want to avoid.”

Professor Julia Kotlarsky, Business School, The University of Auckland

Publishing beyond Metrics

Strategic publishing is about more than just metrics and citations. It can be about ensuring your work reaches outside of academia and makes societal change.

If your primary motivation for doing research is community impact or societal benefit, your publishing strategy may need to adjust to reflect that.

Purpose-driven publishing

- If your motivation is a broader impact, your publishing strategy might also include:

- Local/Indigenous journals
- Open Access
- Preprints
- Publishing null/negative results
- Publishing broader outputs such as policy documents, blogposts and NTROs

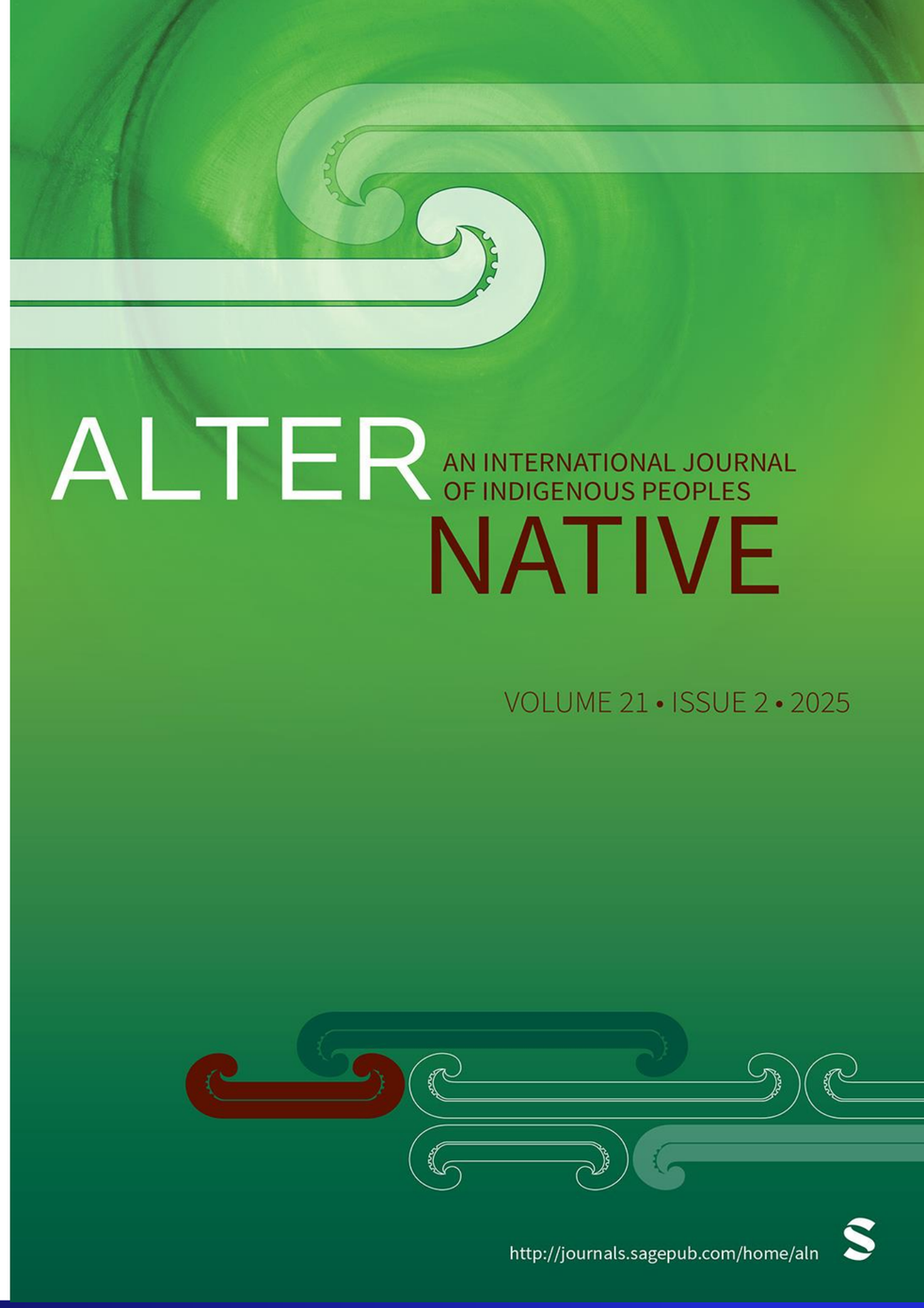
Balancing Local and Global Publishing

"As a Pacific researcher, I often find that the journals I want to publish in aren't formally recognised. My publishing strategy is to place about 50% of my work in localised journals and 50% in larger international ones. If we stop publishing in domestic journals, they risk disappearing."

Associate Professor Sereana Naepi, Social Sciences, The University of Auckland

Indigenous Research

- Māori and Pacific scholars in Aotearoa navigate a complex and unique publishing landscape
- Māori scholars may prioritise kaupapa Maōri values: collaboration, reciprocity, benefit to iwi/hapū/community
- May be wary of impact metrics that do not fully capture their contributions (h-index, quartiles etc).
- Due to this, some academics adopt a dual strategic approach:
  - Publish in high impact journals for greater recognition
  - Paired with publishing in Open Access/local journals for community/stakeholder reach and accessibility

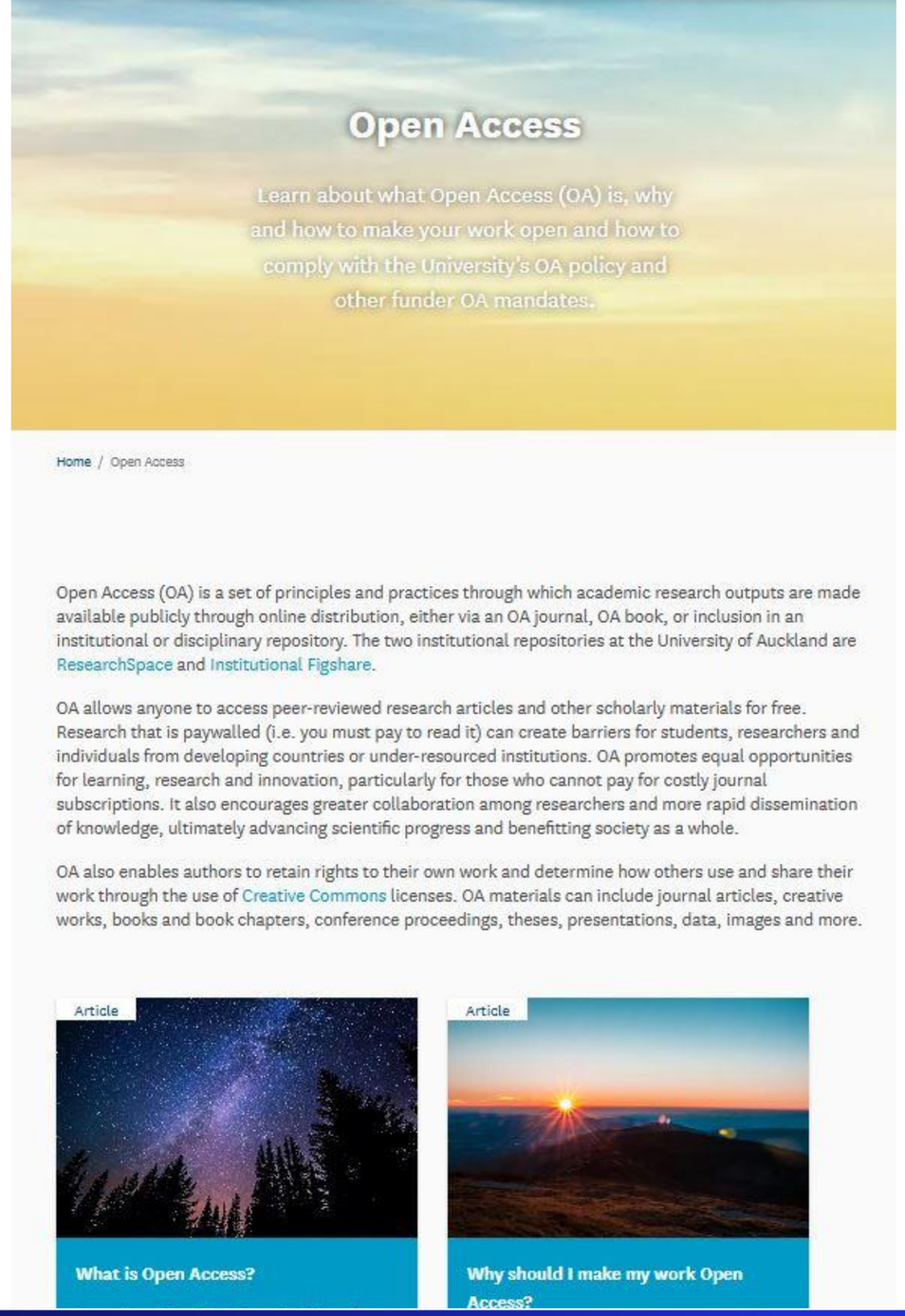


Open Access

If your motivation includes accessibility, public benefit, or community engagement, publishing in Open Access is a strategic publishing choice to help achieve that

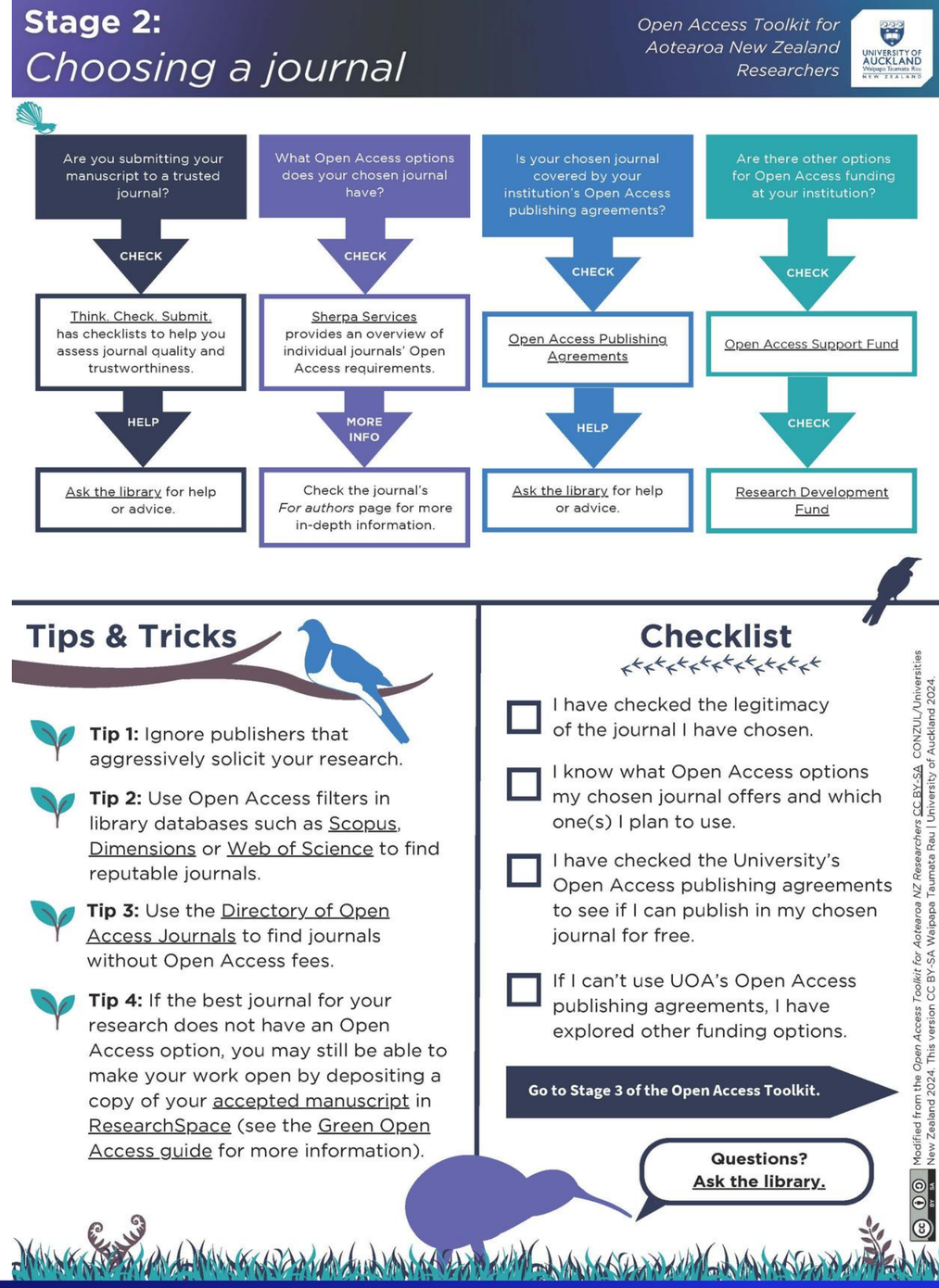
Open Access:

- Increases the reach and visibility of your work
- Enables public benefit
- Supports equity in knowledge
- Boosts citations



Open Access Toolkit

- Support for the Open Access process
- Open Access publishing agreements
- Open Access Support Fund
- Directory of Open Access Journals

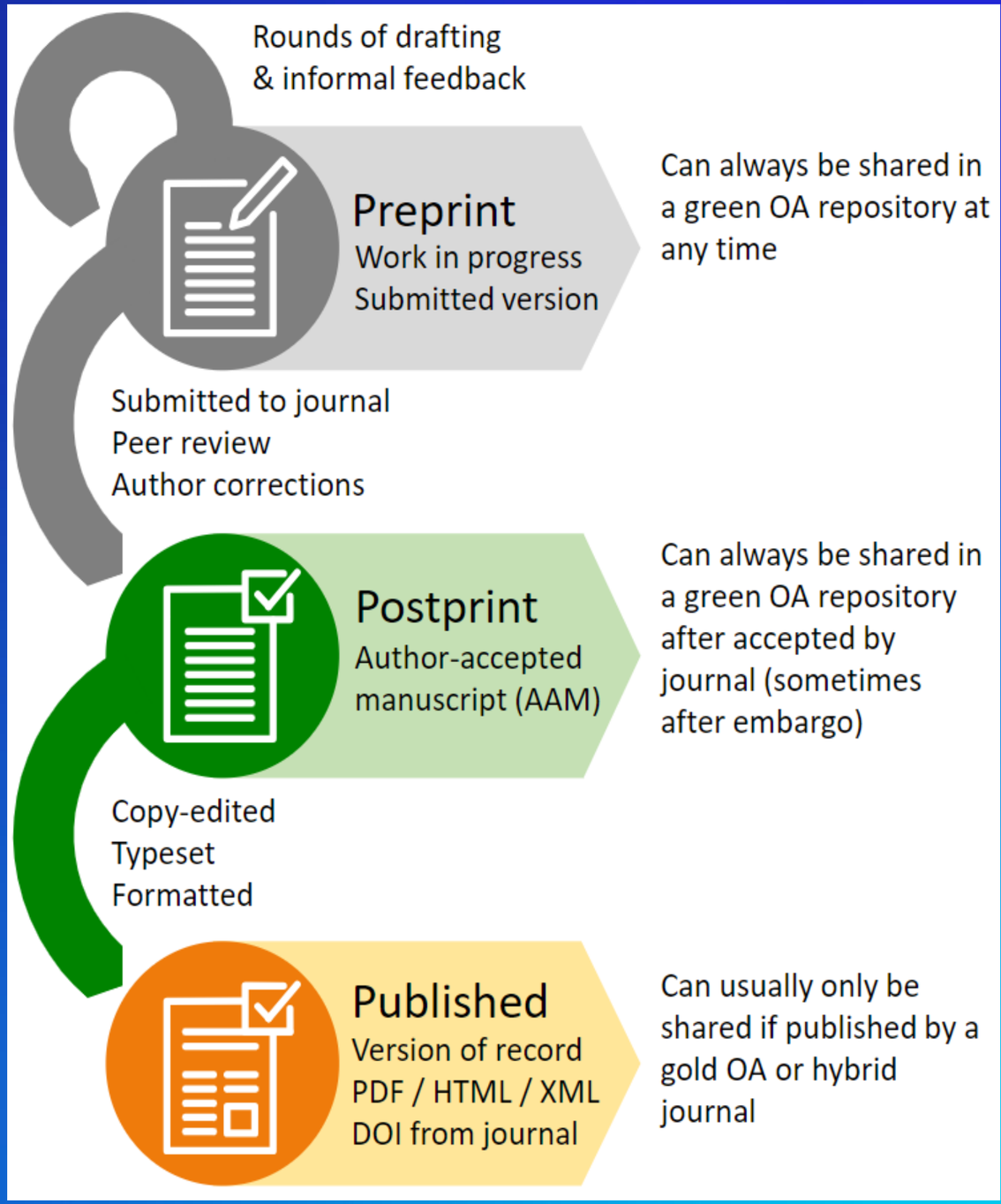


Preprints

- Allows for rapid sharing
- Shows work in progress
- Early review/feedback
- Better visibility/accessibility

But

- Not peer reviewed
- Journal policies vary
- Need to consider ethics, consent and misinterpretation



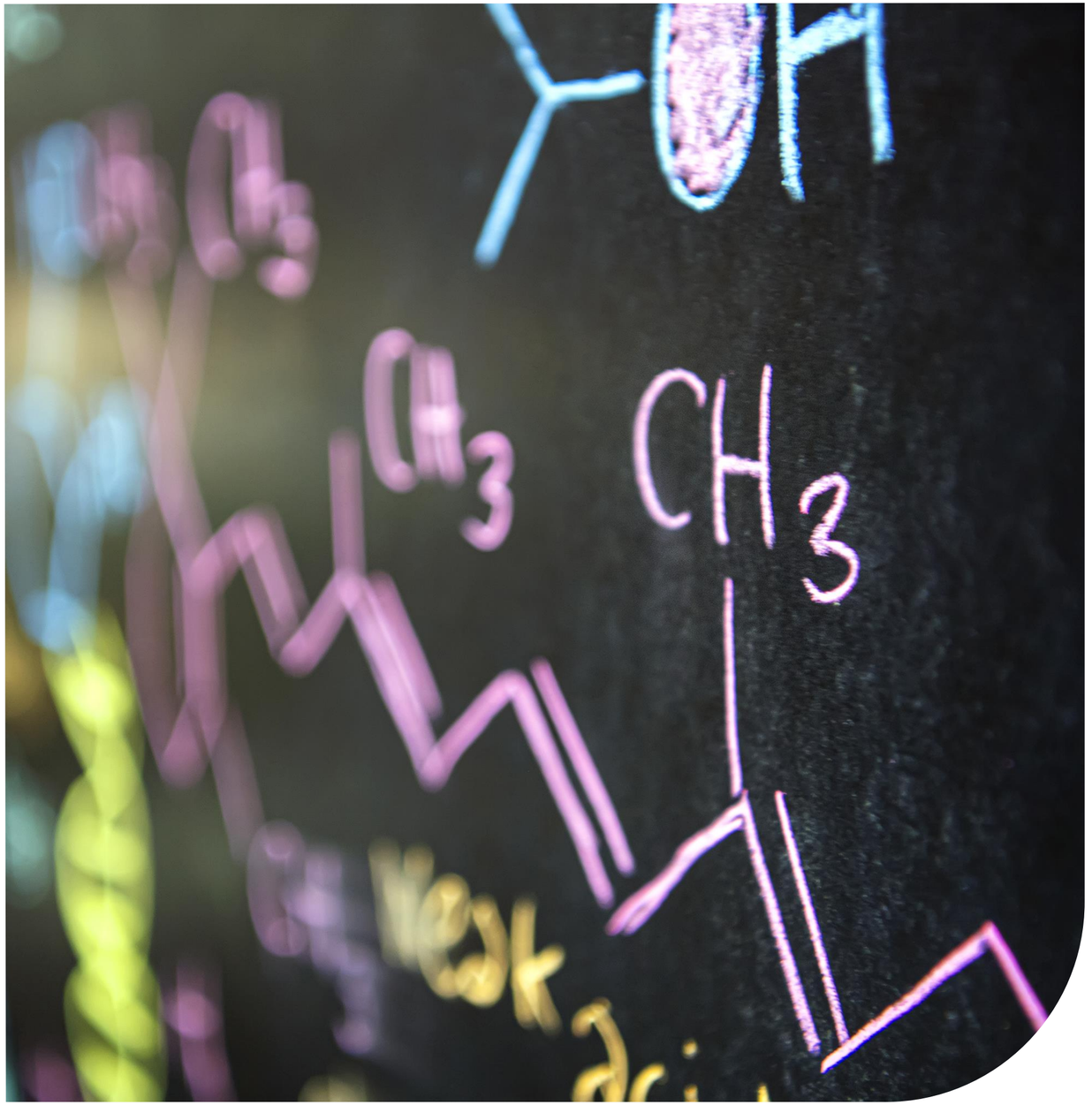
The Benefits of Early Feedback

“As a postdoc I led a big paper we didn’t post as a preprint which I later sorely regretted. It was published in Nature, but after publication a serious error was discovered that led us to retract the paper (and later republish a corrected version in a different journal). I’m pretty sure if we had posted a preprint the error would have been identified and corrected before publication, avoiding all the drama and wasted time of retracting/republishing. I don’t think I’ve ever published a paper since then without preprinting it first.”

Dr Patrick Savage, Faculty of Science, Psychology, The University of Auckland

Publishing null/negative results

- Strengthens integrity and transparency
- Prevents duplication
- Contributes to overall knowledge
- Prevents publication bias



Publishing Broader Outputs

- Policy briefs
- Technical reports
- Guides or toolkits
- Blogs, op-eds, science communication
- Non-traditional research outputs

Motivations

Career? Community? Change?

Why you publish shapes where and how you publish

Your motivations might fluctuate, or overlap at different times. You can adjust your strategy to reflect this.

If your focus includes society, community, culture, consider broadening where you publish

Consider high-impact journals and use them strategically

You can do both!

Follow-up activities

- ❑ List your motivations and align them with journals that support your publishing goals.
- ❑ Use JCR or Scopus to identify the top 5 Q1 journals in your field.
- ❑ Find 5 journals in your field your university has Open Access agreements with.
- ❑ Use DOAJ to locate 5 Open Access journals in your field without fees.
- ❑ Explain your research in one sentence for a non-specialist audience.

Questions

Feedback

Thanks for your time!

We’d love your feedback about our presentation