



Bay Area Open Science Group 2023-24 Reflection

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Introduction

[The Bay Area Open Science Group \(BAOSG\)](#) is a collaborative community for San Francisco Bay Area academics and researchers interested in incorporating open science into their research, teaching, and learning. In June we completed our third year of programming, offering 8 sessions to our community members in the 2023-24 academic year with an average attendance of 18 people per session. This summary reflects on the themes and lessons that emerged from this year's conversations and serves as a model for other growing communities of practice in open science.

Meetings

Title	Date	Presenter	Summary	Attendees
Journal club: Teaching open and reproducible scholarship	9/26/2023	BAOSG Co-convenors	Discussion of the paper " Teaching open and reproducible scholarship: a critical review of the evidence base for current pedagogical methods and their outcomes "	16
Building your Open Science Career	10/24/2023	Hao Ye, Community for Rigor, U of Pennsylvania and Virginia Scarlett, HHMI Janelia	Panel discussion on job searching and career pathways in open science.	16
UCSF Industry Documents Library	11/28/2023	Kate Tasker and Rebecca Tang, UCSF Industry Documents Library	Discussion of the UCSF Industry Documents Library, a free online archive of corporate documents affecting public health, and its use in research, litigation, journalism, and policymaking.	14
Citizen Science for health research	1/23/2024	Shamsi Soltani, Stanford	Use of citizen scientist-collected data from Bay Area communities along with aggregate epidemiologic and population-level data sets to illustrate barriers to, and facilitators of, physical activity in low-income aging adults.	22
Reproducibility in the UCSF Decision Lab	2/27/2024	Winston Chiong, Clara Sanches, Pongpat Putthinun, and Brandon Leggins, UCSF Decision Lab	Incorporating reproducibility into neuroethics and decision neuroscience research, showcasing practices and values from their lab handbook.	15
SCOAP3 10th Anniversary	3/19/2024	Kamran Naim and Anne Gentil-Beccot - CERN	10th anniversary of the SCOAP3 model (Sponsoring Consortium for Open Access Publishing in Particle Physics), accomplishments and plans for the future, and highlighted data from participating US institutions.	29
Supporting an Open Source Software Journal: Strategies for Effective Editing and Engagement	4/23/2024	Kelly Rowland, NERSC/LBNL	Experience as editor for JOSS, a journal dedicated to publishing articles about open source research software across domains.	22
Will teamwork make the dream work? Promoting open science practices via big team science	5/28/2024	Nicholas Coles and Heidi Baumgartner, Stanford	Discussion of the Stanford Big Team Science Lab (BITS) and how to promote open science practices through large-scale collaboration.	13

Themes from the Year

Here are the key themes that emerged from our [collaborative meeting notes](#) and discussions:

Open science in research practice

This year we heard from several researchers and teams advancing open science in their work. The UCSF Decision Lab emphasizes reproducibility through their onboarding and authorship practices, as well as clear documentation and code sharing. Nicholas and Heidi from Stanford shared how open science practices are baked into their big Team Science projects through the use of data sharing, collaboration agreements, and registered reports. They also emphasized the importance of documentation, transparency, addressing disagreements, and even sparking adversarial collaboration within team science projects. Shamsi from Stanford described how collaborating with members of the public on her mapping research made her projects more open and accessible. Finally, Kelly discussed how the Journal of Open Source Software (JOSS) uses transparent editorial workflows and open publishing to document key research software packages.

Open science careers

Hao and Virginia shared their paths from academia to careers in open science, highlighting the importance of networking and looking for opportunities that align with personal values. For folks interested in this path they recommended looking into careers in open data, data management, grant writing, and research evaluation. Tips were compiled and co-edited in a shared doc available at: <http://ucberk.li/open-science-careers>. Nicholas from Stanford also shared that in his most recent faculty job search his interviewers had been excited to talk about his open science work and that he felt it was as valued as research contributions.

The power of open science initiatives and projects

We also heard about the power of large scale initiatives to promote open science. The team behind SCOAP3 discussed how their partnership of 3000+ libraries redirects subscription funds to support open access publishing. SCOAP3 has funded 62,000 articles in its first 10 years, and is now expanding into an open science ecosystem by incorporating transparent peer review, dataset linking, and motivating publishers with assessment metrics based on their open practices. At UCSF, the Industry Documents Library (a large archive consisting of 18 million documents, primarily from the tobacco and opioid industries,) has become a treasure trove of well-curated data that has been used in court cases and led to initiatives such as the US Family Smoking and Tobacco Control Act.

Summary

We successfully hosted 8 events this academic year with an average attendance of 18 attendees. Most sessions featured active participation in Zoom chat, a lively discussion, and to a lesser extent participation in our running [collaborative notes doc](#) and asynchronously through Slack.

Present at a Bay Area Open Science Group meeting in 2024-25!

If you are interested in presenting at a future meeting, or know of an open science advocate who you would like to nominate (especially if they are early career) please [contact us](#).