CWTS
Meaningful metrics

Responsible Research Assessment & Open Research
The global state of the art

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ON-MERRIT Final Event 22 March 2022

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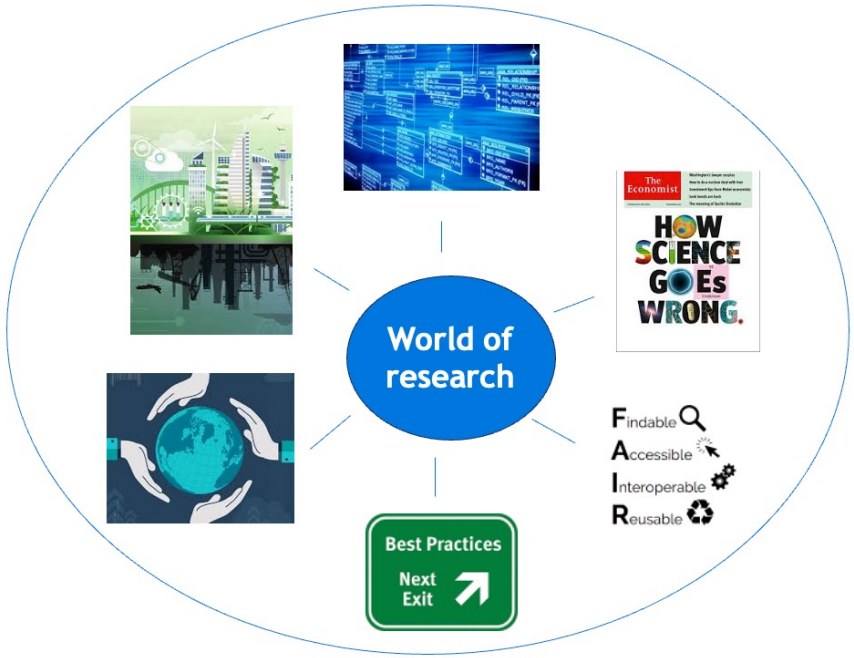
Universiteit Leiden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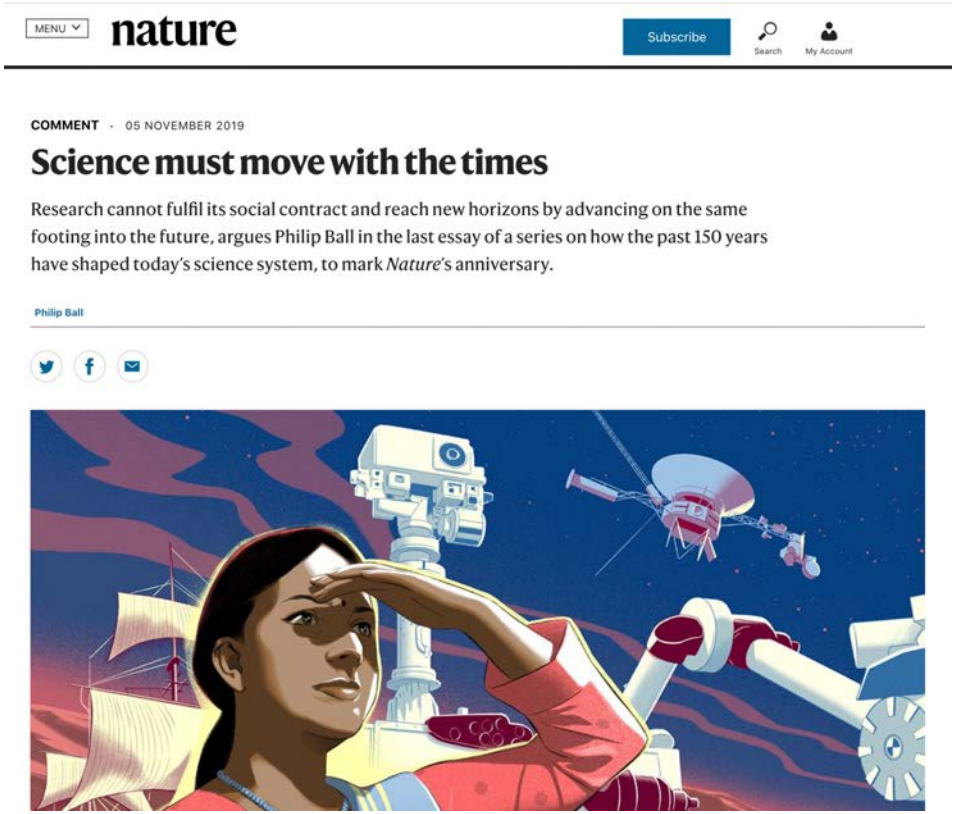
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Science must move with the times
Research cannot fulfil its social contract and reach new horizons by advancing on the same footing into the future, argues Philip Ball in the last essay of a series on how the past 150 years have shaped today's science system, to mark *Nature*'s anniversary.
Philip Ball

A moment of opportunity? Concern has intensified

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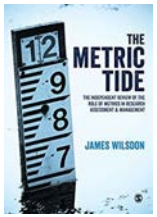
- the **misapplication of narrow criteria and indicators of research quality or impact**
- has **reduced the diversity of research missions and purposes**

SCIENCE EUROPE
Shaping the future of research

- the **systemic biases against those who do not meet - or choose not to prioritise - narrow criteria and indicators of quality or impact**
- these biases have **reduced the diversity, vitality and representative legitimacy of the research community**



- a **diversion of policy & managerial attention to things that can be measured**, at the expense of less tangible or quantifiable qualities, impacts, assets and values

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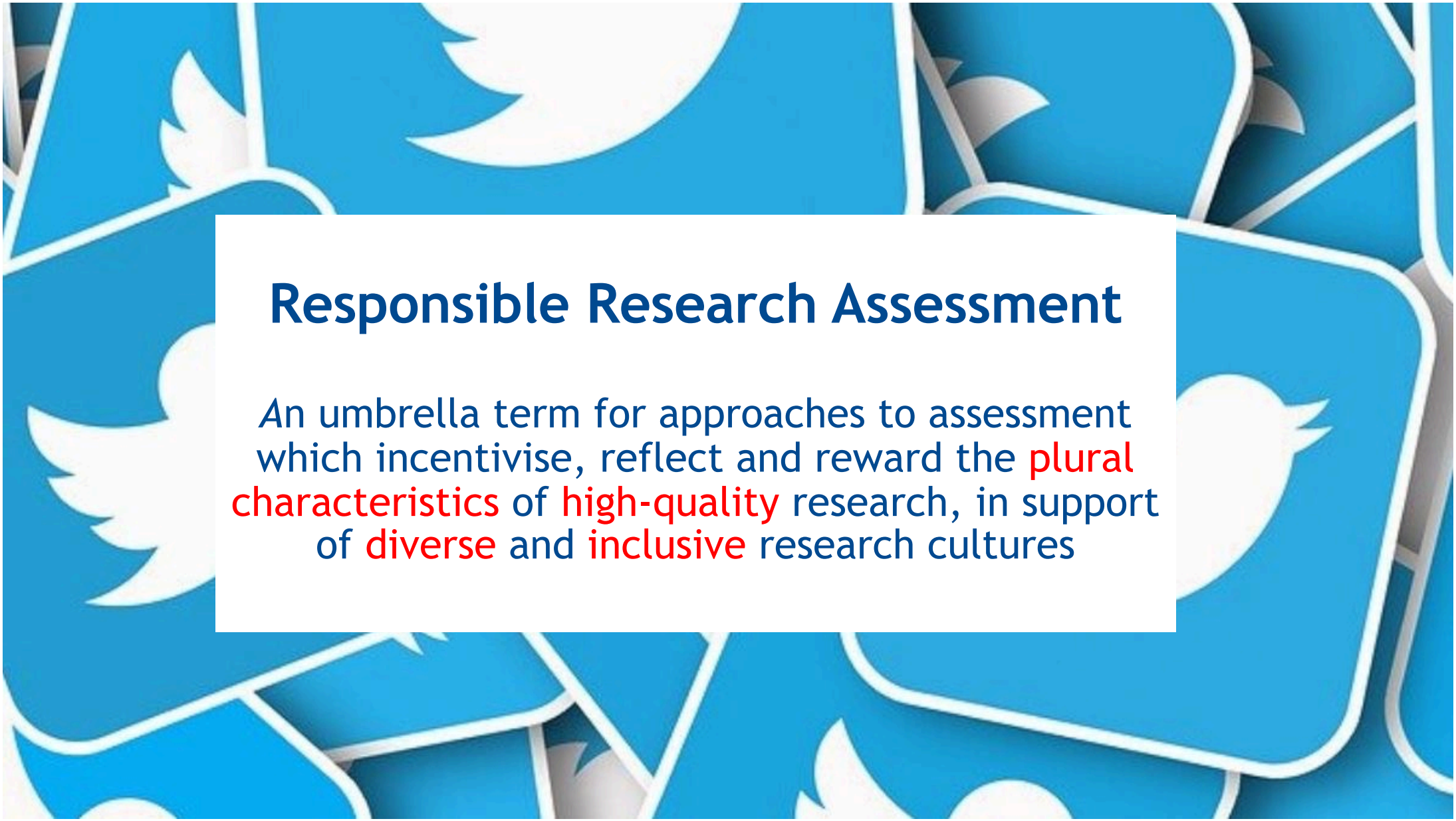
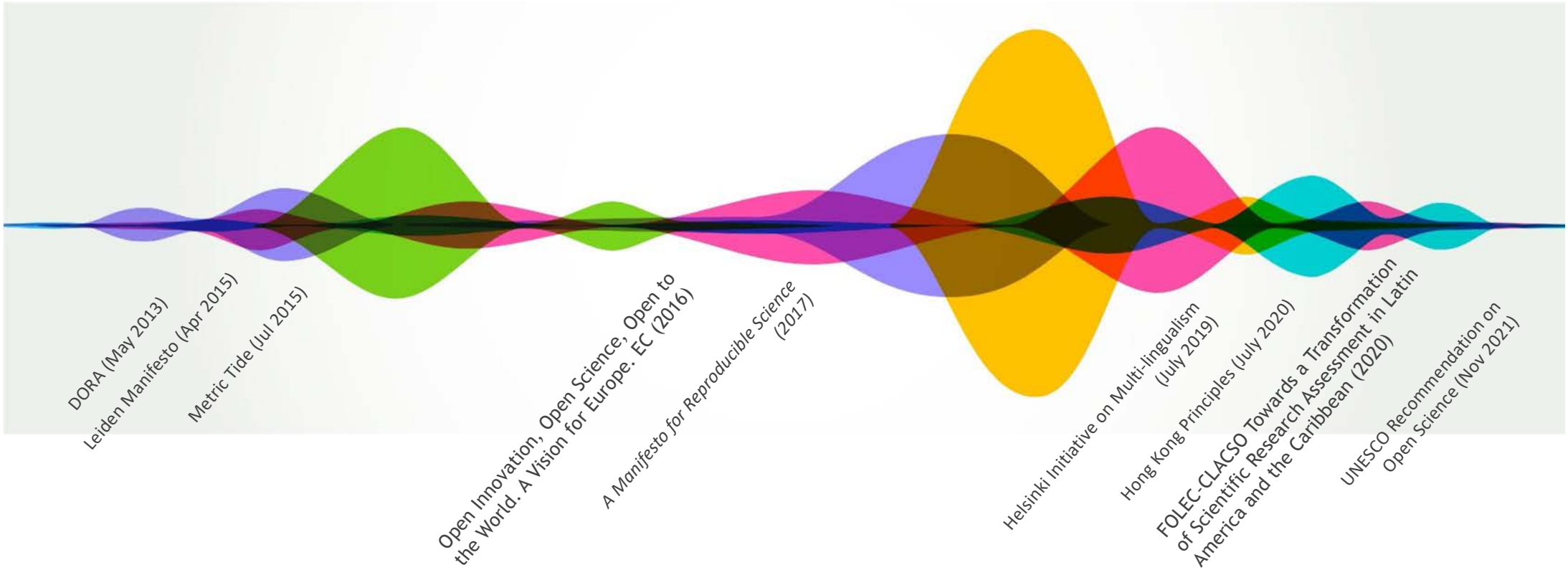


Responsible Research Assessment

An umbrella term for approaches to assessment which incentivise, reflect and reward the plural characteristics of high-quality research, in support of diverse and inclusive research cultures

Timeline & drivers



DRIVERS						
	1. Misapplication of narrow criteria & metrics	2. Desire for non-bibliometric indicators for a broader view of research	3. Increasing focus on societal and economic outcomes of research	4. Increasing focus on institutional mission and local priorities/needs	5. Drive to create (open) research and evaluation infrastructure	6. Drive to change research culture (esp. Inclusion & Diversity and Sustainability)

Adapted from Plume, JOSS 2021

Some guiding Principles

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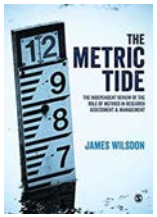

- Research assessment and career evaluation systems need to **align with the principles of Open Research**
- To break the barriers in the way we assess researchers **requires a global effort**
- We need to change the current research culture and to **reward researchers for sharing, collaborating and engaging with society**
- Requires **a combined effort of many different stakeholders**, including funders, universities, journals, and scientific societies across disciplines and countries

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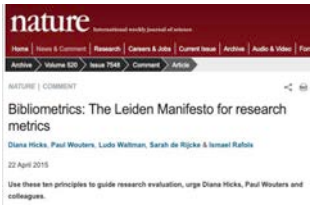

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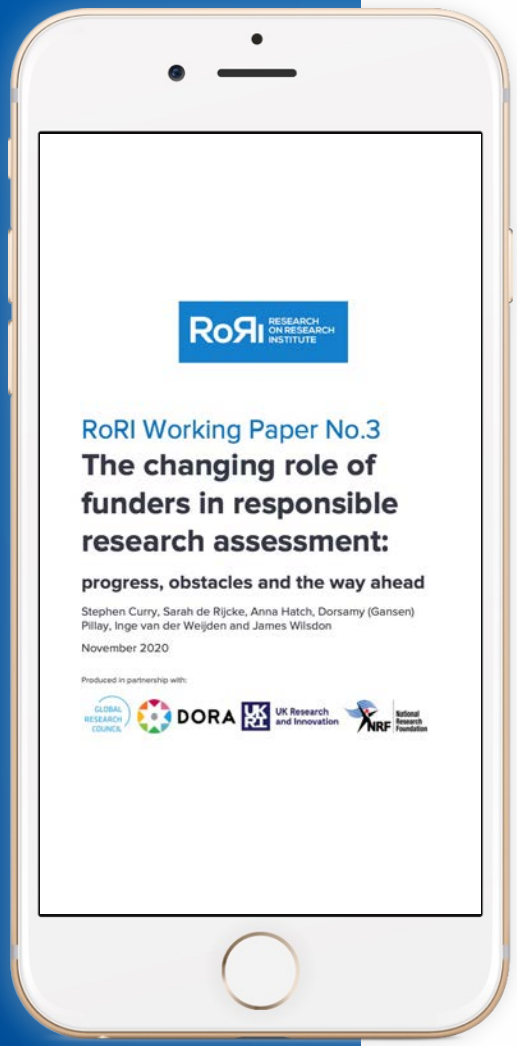

A typology of responses

- Cosmetic appropriation
- Calibrating the machine
- Can openers
- Advocacy coalitions


UNESCO
"Building peace in the minds of men and women"
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News and announcements
DORA receives $1.2M grant from Arcadia to accelerate research assessment reform
JULY 13, 2021
ARCADIA
A CHARITABLE FUND OF
LISBET RAUSING & PETER BALDWIN

UNESCO Recommendation on Open Science

A consequential instrument that takes Open Science to the global level

Breaks the barriers in the way we assess researchers

Definition of Open Science

- an inclusive construct that combines various movements and practices aiming to make scientific knowledge openly available, accessible and reusable for everyone
- to increase scientific collaborations and sharing of information for the benefits of science and society
- and to open the processes of scientific knowledge creation, evaluation and communication to societal actors beyond the traditional scientific community

5 key pillars

1. open access to scientific knowledge
2. open infrastructures
3. open communication
4. open engagement of societal actors
5. open dialogue with other knowledge systems

Key Objectives

Promoting
- a common understanding of Open Science, associated benefits and challenges & diverse paths to Open Science;

Developing
- an enabling policy environment for Open Science;

Investing
- in Open Science infrastructures and services;

Investing
- in human resources, education, digital literacy and capacity building for Open Science;

Fostering
- a culture of Open Science and aligning incentives for Open Science;

Promoting
- innovative approaches for Open Science at different stages of the scientific process;

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Key Objective (v): Fostering a culture of Open Science and aligning incentives for Open Science

Combine efforts of many different stakeholders

Review assessment & career evaluation systems to align with Open Science

Promote responsible evaluation and assessment systems

quality over quantity
all relevant research activities and scientific outputs
evidence of impact and exchange
diversity of disciplines and different career stages

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Key Objective (v): Fostering a culture of Open Science and aligning incentives for Open Science

Ensure that the practice of Open Science is a known, well-understood and standardized element in academic recruitment and promotion criteria

Encourage funders, institutions, editorial boards, learned societies and publishers to adopt policies that require and reward the open access to scientific knowledge

Ensure diversity in scholarly communications with adherence to the principles of open, transparent and equitable access; supporting non-commercial and collaborative publishing models with no APCs or book processing charges

TARA project

Tools to Advance Research Assessment (TARA)

Goal: to facilitate the development of new policies and practices for academic career assessment

Research Assessment Reforms – Where are we?

- Some controversies and unknowns about what reforms involve and what results will be
- Momentum is building – *in some contexts* – Netherlands is at frontier of experiments with Recognition and Rewards
- Need for communities of practice – common knowledge resources and shared learning

What is Project TARA (Tools to Advance Research Assessment)?

Supported by Arcadia, a charitable fund of Lisbet Rausing and Peter Baldwin

An **interactive online dashboard**

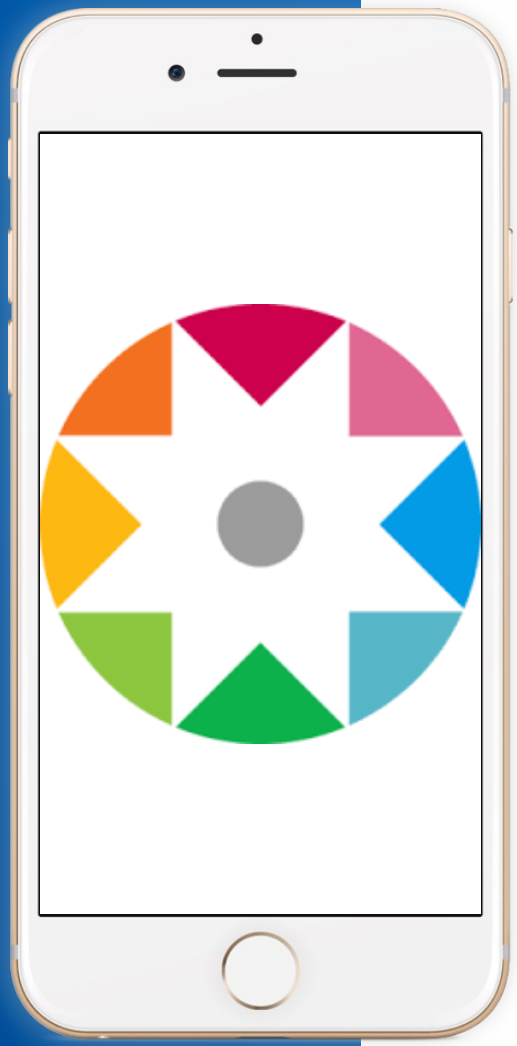
A **survey of U.S. academic institutions**

A **toolkit of resources**

DORA

Dashboard development: identifying and categorizing good practice

- Community workshops
- Different stages of readiness
- Identify good practice, and classify them:
  - Impact
  - research integrity
  - Openness
  - equity & inclusion
- Next steps: determine data structure and visualization
- We have begun web development



Contribute to Dashboard?

- Sign up to DORA mailing list or follow the official DORA account on Twitter (sfdora.org; @DORAssessment)
- Attend online community events – provide feedback.
- Nominate examples from research institutes:
  - We are looking for interesting and novel practices, policies, plans in the context of hiring, promotion, tenure and assessment processes.
- Contact: a.d.rushforth@cwts.leidenuniv.nl

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Scoping group

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iap SCIENCE HEALTH POLICY
the interacademy partnership

International Science Council

The horizon

- A global view & beyond how science is currently organized and assessed
- Should not only look at how countries and fields should approach international competition in the current system
- Very big challenges for which we will urgently need new scientific knowledge
- Which science system do we need *tomorrow* for challenges of tomorrow
- Open Research and RRA are crucial to help build that system

Time to Say Goodbye to Our Heroes?

BY LINDY ELKINS-TANTON

To increase the speed and impact of knowledge creation, the United States must radically restructure research funding and resources away from big names—and toward our biggest questions.

Thank you

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