

INCREASING RESEARCH TRANSPARENCY IN PSYCHOLOGICAL SCIENCE: HOW CAN GRADUATE STUDENTS PARTICIPATE?

- 1. How can I get started? Think of small steps, such as privately pre-registering your design, hypotheses, and planned analyses. Place them in a locked file (hardcopy or electronically) or post them on AsPredicted.org or Open Science Framework (www.osf.io).
- 2. What impact can baby steps have? As famed physicist and Nobel Prize winner, Richard Feynman once said, "You must not fool yourself" -- meaning you must not misremember what you did and did not plan, hypothesize, and predict -- and "you are the easiest person to fool" -- because you have the most investment in how your study comes out!

- 3. Who can I connect with to feel community? Us! And the Society for Improving Psychological Science (SIPS), Twitter, and other graduate students, perhaps in your own department or in your circle of friends and colleagues who are also looking for camaraderie.
- 4. What if I encounter resistance from my advisor? Perhaps your advisor has heard only hearsay, so taking them through the baby steps might help. Consider, for example, having a planning meeting that lays out some of these baby steps. Perhaps offer to do any of the "extra work," which often isn't that much extra.
- 5. What if working more transparently feels odd compared with how I've been trained? Again, think of baby steps and ways that transparency might have already been built into your (or your lab's) culture (e.g., announcing proposed designs, data analysis plans, or predictions at a lab meeting; sharing data or materials with younger students; posting journal article PDFs on your lab's website).
- 6. Doesn't working more transparently take too long? It doesn't have to! Preregistering is simply documenting your work (and good documentation is a love letter you send to your future self). Registered Report journal articles can flow through the publication pipeline more quickly than endless cycles of revise and resubmit. Preparing materials and data for posting (on OSF or the like) is an investment in your own future research.

- 7. Where is the reward structure for working more transparently? We're already seeing some job ads mention a priority on transparency along with a handful of honors and awards. But the greatest reward is personal -- knowing that you're contributing to improving psychological science.
- 8. What if my ideas change or I learn new skills? You can propose additional hypotheses, further analyses, or future research. You can also engage in exploratory research. Just be sure to distinguish between exploratory and confirmatory (and remember that null hypothesis testing relies on a confirmatory approach).
- 9. What if someone finds I've made a mistake? We all do! It's ok! And preparing materials, data, and analyses for transparency is the best way to find those mistakes yourself (or consider swap-checking with a friend or colleague).
- 10. What if I become a zealot? We hope you'll become more enthusiastic about working transparently, but if you find your enthusiasm going over the edge ...

REACH OUT TO US!

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