

WS-05

Authorship and research integrity issues: Workshopping solutions to a chronic problem

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Authorship issues continue to be prevalent in research misconduct allegations and investigations and in the queries that for example Finland's research integrity advisors receive, despite various institutional and national guidelines and training resources in place. Factors such as discipline-specific practices in multidisciplinary projects, power imbalances and the effects of quantitative metrics in research assessment and research funding play a role in authorship problems, and preventive discussions may be difficult to navigate. For example, training tends to be targeted at early-career researchers, but PIs and senior researchers have more decision-making and social power.

We propose a workshop that brings together RI practitioners, researchers, trainers and educators, and other experts working in fields where authorship issues are relevant to discuss the current situation in authorship issues and how to implement best practices.

In this workshop, we will:

- Chart current and emerging issues that should be addressed in authorship guidance and training
- Discuss how to implement authorship guidelines and practices in research communities, particularly with a preventive aim
- Equip participants with take-home messages through mutual learning and knowledge-sharing and with a summary of key insights

Authorship issues are best avoided by open and transparent discussions and agreements in the beginning of projects, so the premise of the workshop is in preventive measures.

Workshop structure:

- Programme and instructions: 10 minutes
- Current and emerging authorship issues: 35 minutes, consisting of 1) small group discussions (15 minutes) and 2) collective working (20 minutes)
- Best practices in preventing problems and effecting change: 35 minutes, consisting of 1) small group discussions (15 minutes) and 2) collective working (20 minutes)
- Final conclusions and a reminder: what will you take home with you? (10 minutes)

After the event, the organisers provide the participants with a document of the key insights of the workshop. The participants are asked to read Cooke et al (2021) before the workshop.

The workshop is intended for 20-30 participants, to be confirmed on the basis of the provided space, if the workshop proposal is accepted. Registration for the workshop is arranged by the organisers, and will close two weeks before the event.

References:

S.J. Cooke, N. Young, M.R. Donaldson, E.A. Nyboer, D.G. Roche, C.L. Madliger, R.J. Lennox, J.M. Chapman, Z. Faulkes, and J.R. Bennett (2021) Ten strategies for avoiding and overcoming authorship conflicts in academic publishing. *FACETS*. 6: 1753-1770. <https://doi.org/10.1139/facets-2021-0103>

Agreeing on authorship. Recommendation for research publications. Finnish National Board on Research Integrity TENK 2018. https://tenk.fi/sites/tenk.fi/files/TENK_suositus_tekijyys.pdf