

Fostering Open Research through Responsible Research Assessment

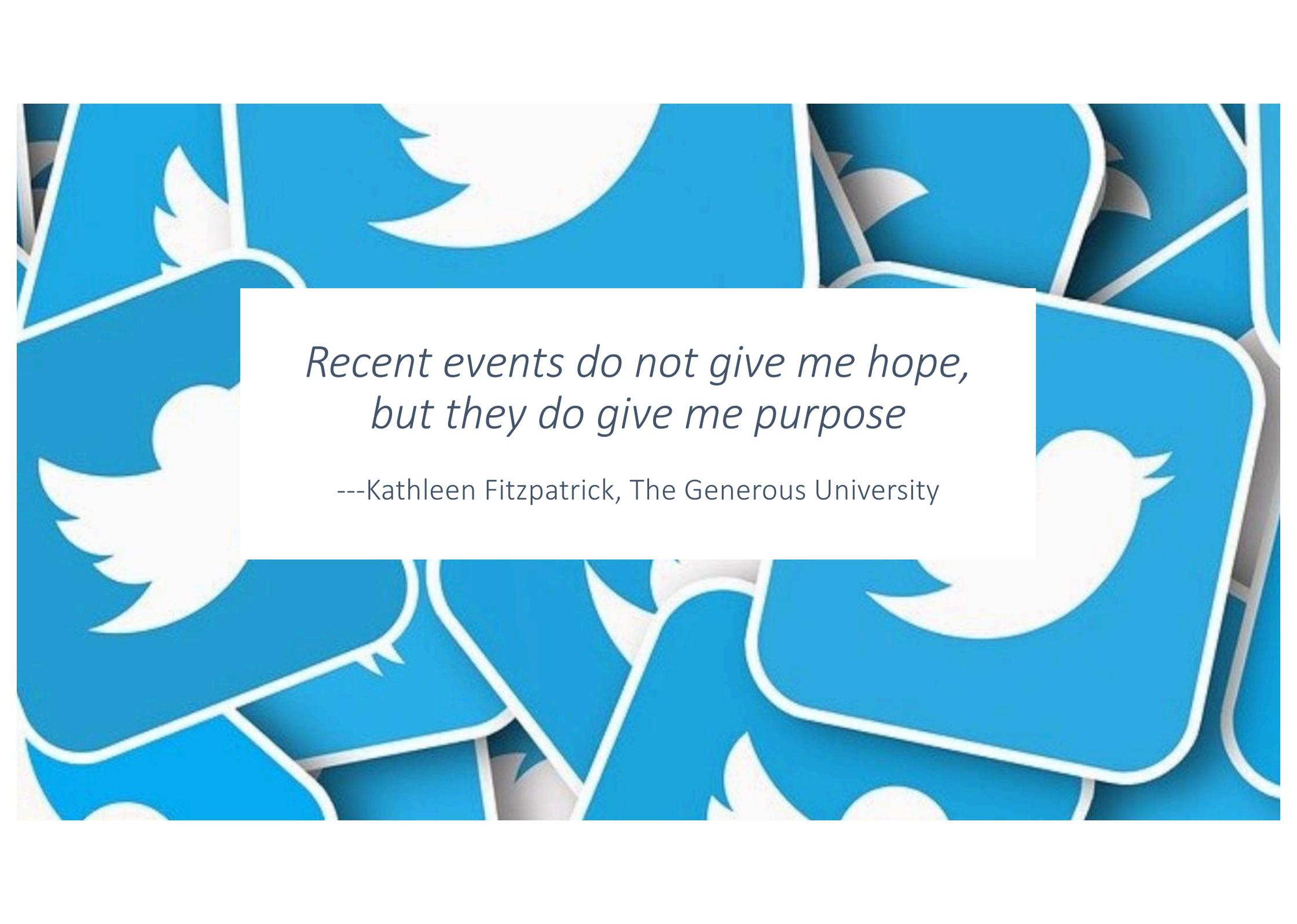
READING OPEN RESEARCH AWARD 2021

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*Recent events do not give me hope,
but they do give me purpose*

---Kathleen Fitzpatrick, The Generous University

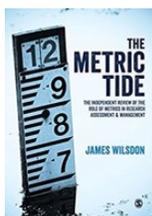
A moment of opportunity? Concern has intensified



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



- 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



COMMENT · 05 NOVEMBER 2019

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



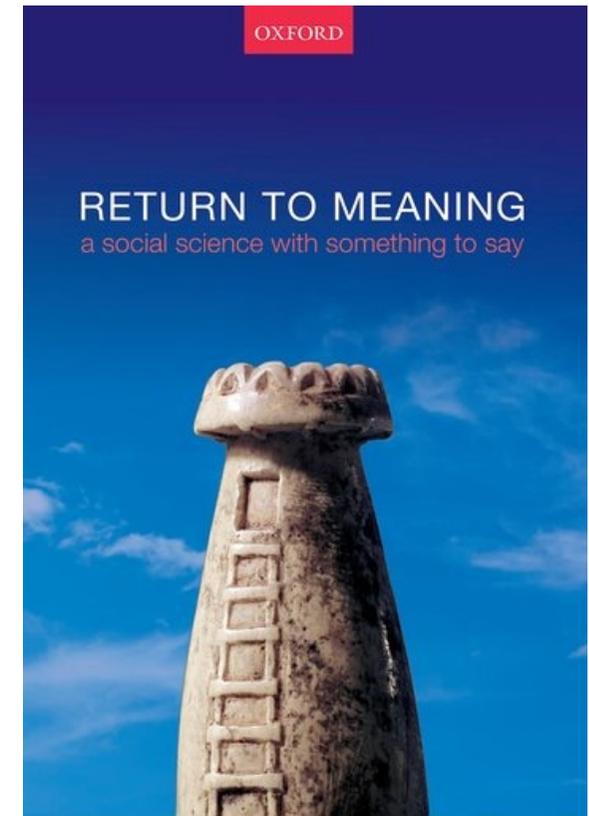
“Among the ways in which science has changed over the past century and a half, three loom large. First, it is no longer driven by lone figures labouring in their laboratories, but has become a team effort that spans labs, departments, disciplines, institutions and continents. Second, it often relies now on data sets so vast that human brains cannot hope to hold or parse them all. Third, it increasingly confronts issues of global reach and even existential urgency — from climate heating and the need for a carbon-neutral economy, to epidemics and water security.”

Philip Ball, Nature, 5 November 2019



“The canonical scientific article, with its unified and passive voice, its closed and self-contained narrative, its seductively confident diagrams and standardized format, and its eventual metric quantification of impact, is not the only or the best vehicle for translating and disseminating today’s research: for posing and then answering questions. There’s scope for more variety in who does this, and how.”

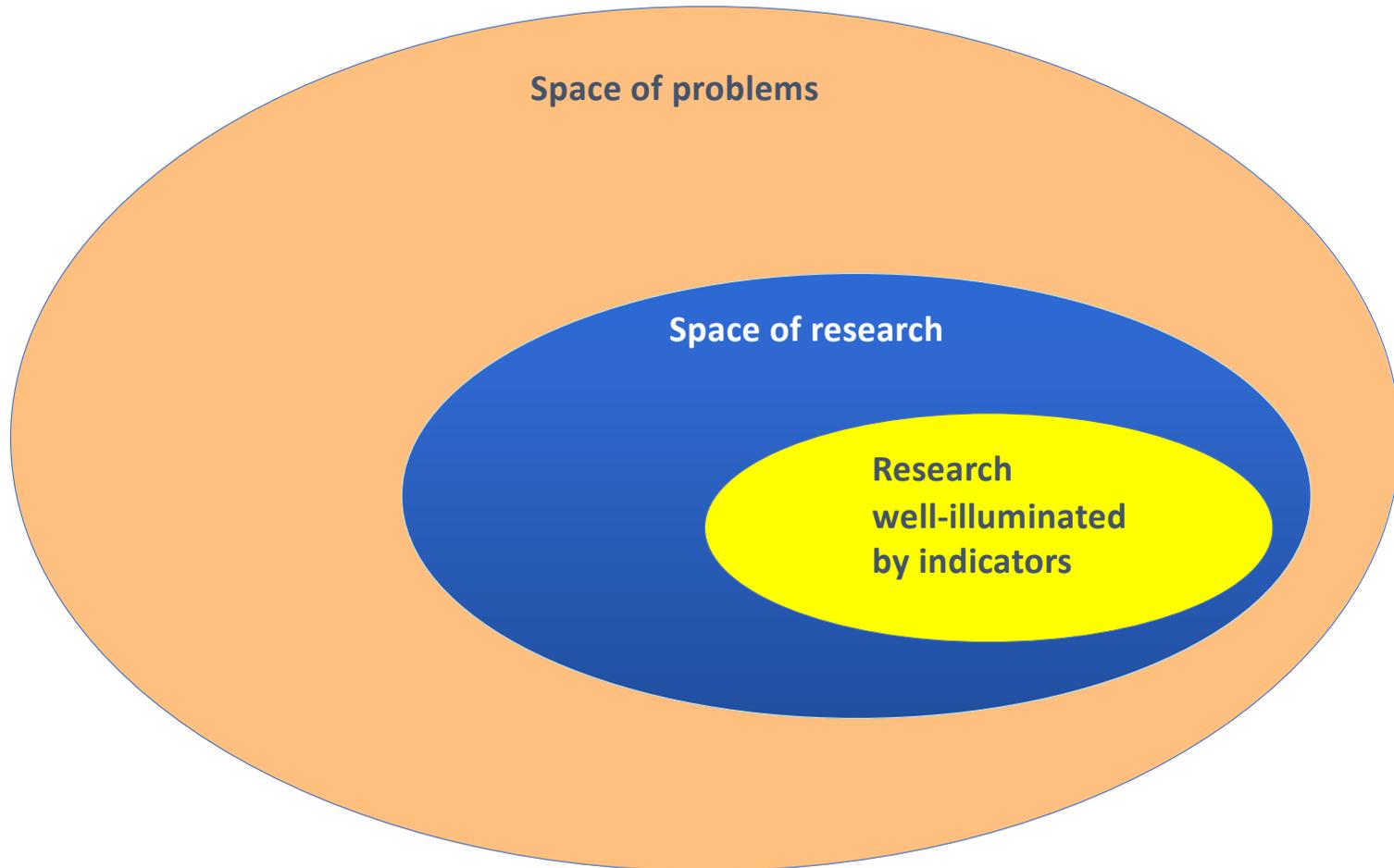
Philip Ball, Nature, 5 November 2019

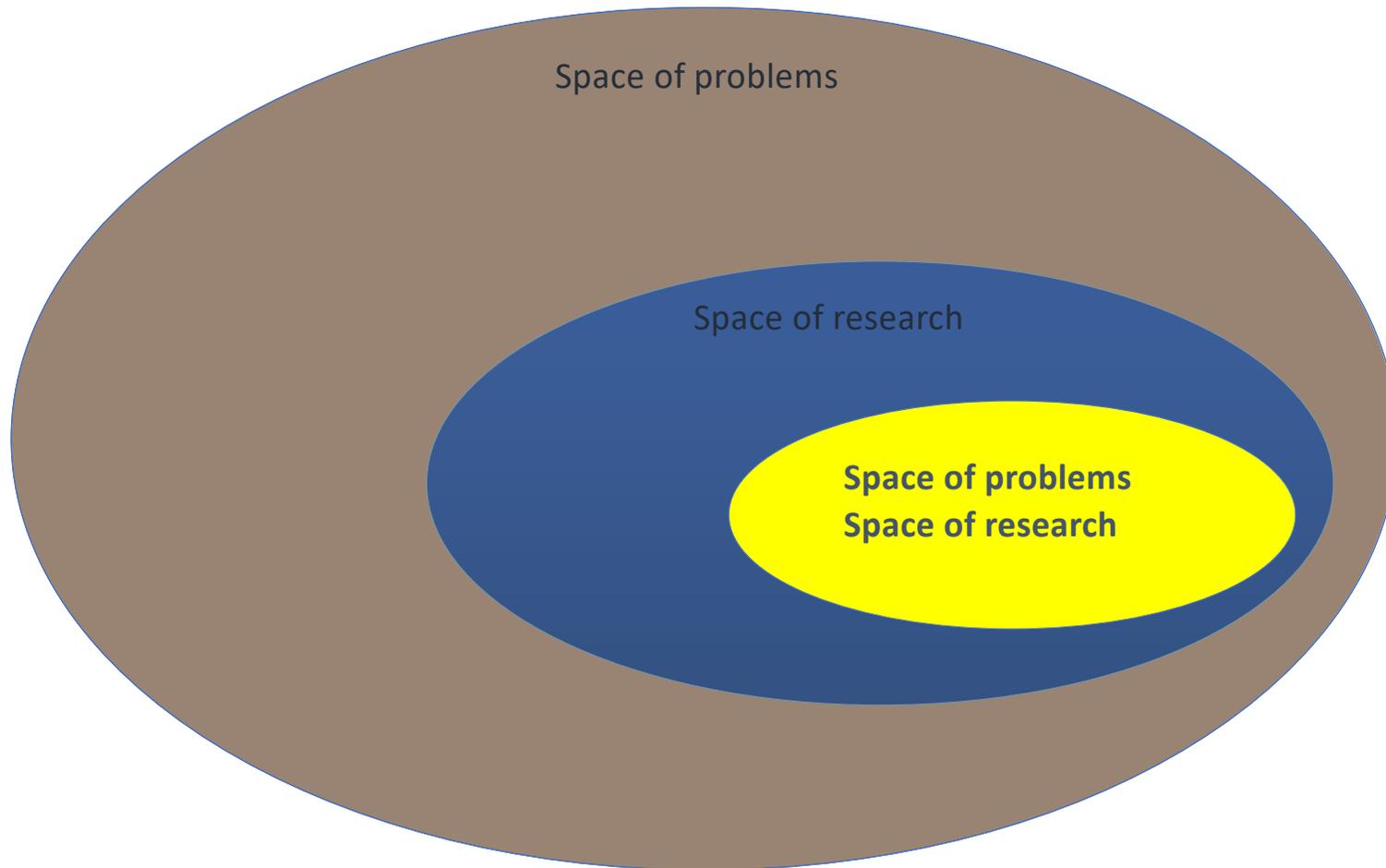


“Never before in the history of humanity have so many written so much while having so little to say to so few”

Streetlight effect indicators

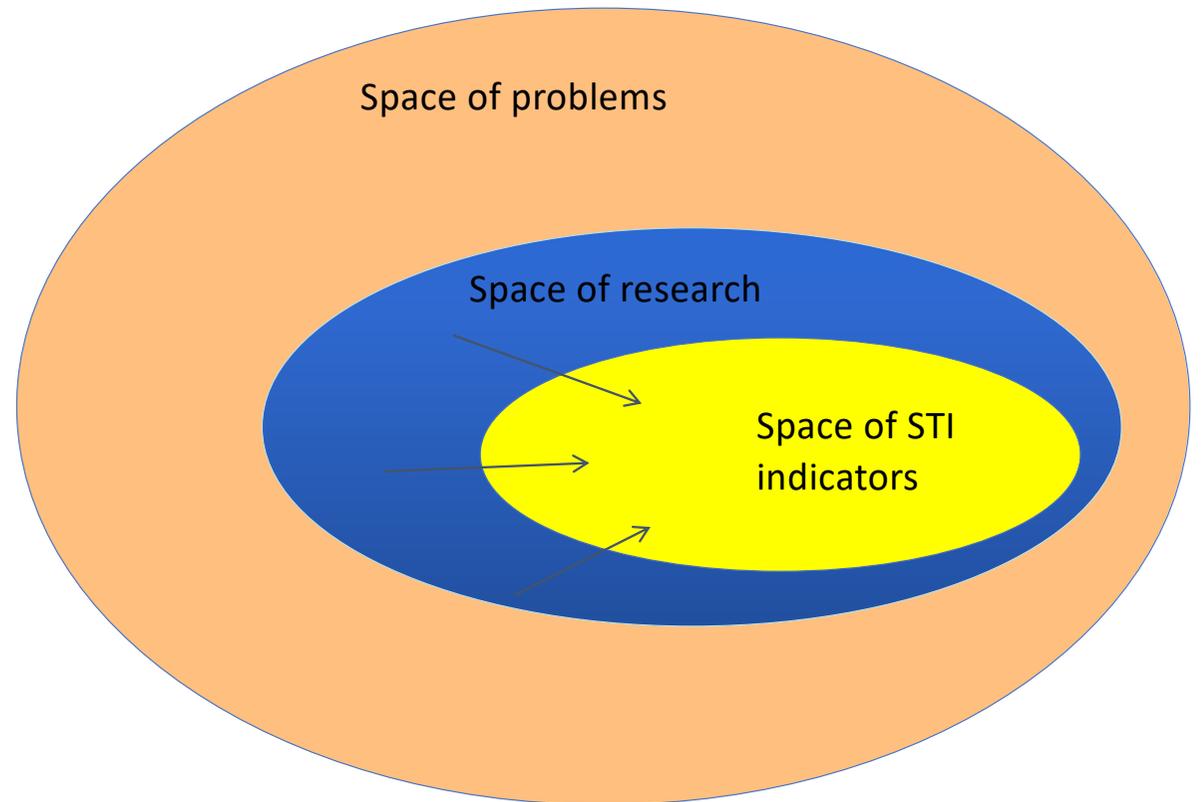




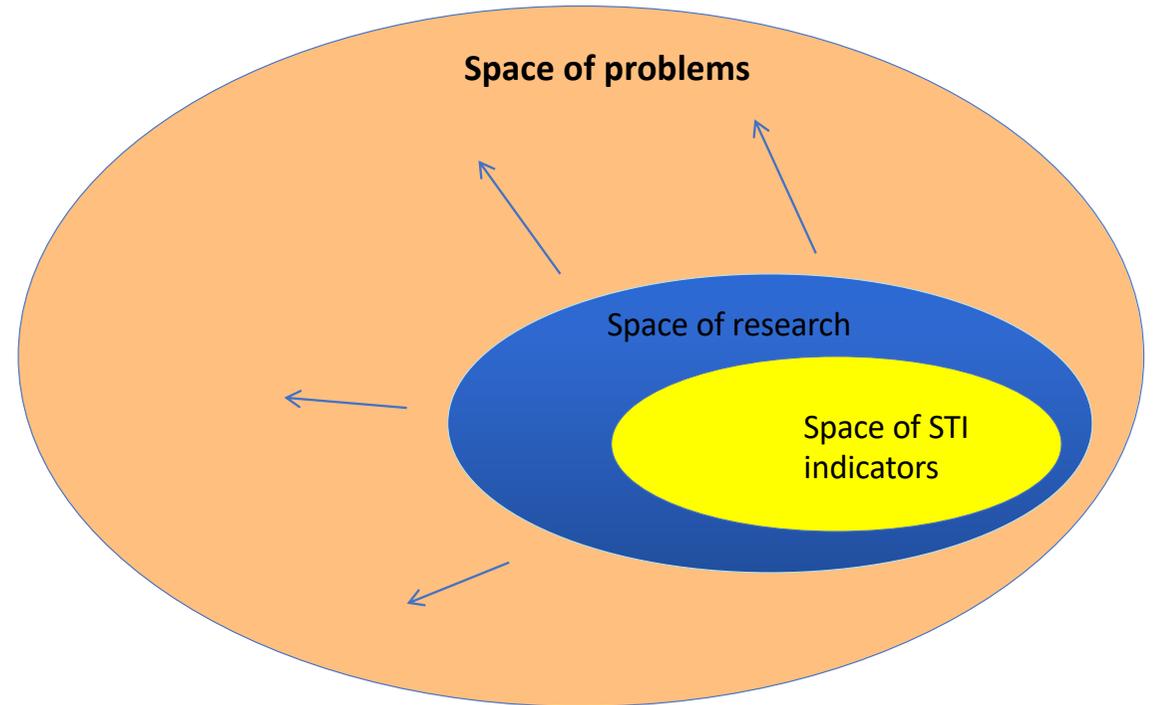


**Reduced diversity of
research efforts...**

**... contraction of
research space**



This is the move we should facilitate



The background of the slide is a repeating pattern of blue and white Twitter bird icons. The birds are stylized and arranged in a way that creates a sense of depth and movement, with some appearing to be layered over others. The colors are a vibrant blue and a clean white.

The purpose of open research is to improve research, in cultures, in practices and in products

RoRI Working Paper No.3
**The changing role of
funders in responsible
research assessment:**

progress, obstacles and the way ahead

Stephen Curry, Sarah de Rijcke, Anna Hatch, Dorsamy (Gansen)
Pillay, Inge van der Weijden and James Wilsdon

November 2020

Produced in partnership with:



DORA



UK Research
and Innovation



National
Research
Foundation

Global Research Council (GRC) Survey on RRA



Methodology

Online survey:

- 23 questions
- Builds on Science Europe questionnaire on RA practices 2019
- Open from September-October 2020
- Completed by 55 organisations - 46% response rate

	N	%
Africa and Middle-East <i>(Sub-Saharan Africa, North Africa & Middle East)</i>	10	18.2
Asia-Pacific	14	25.5
Americas	10	18.2
Europe	21	38.2
<i>Total</i>	55	100

Table 1: Respondents by geographical region

Research Assessment Indicators

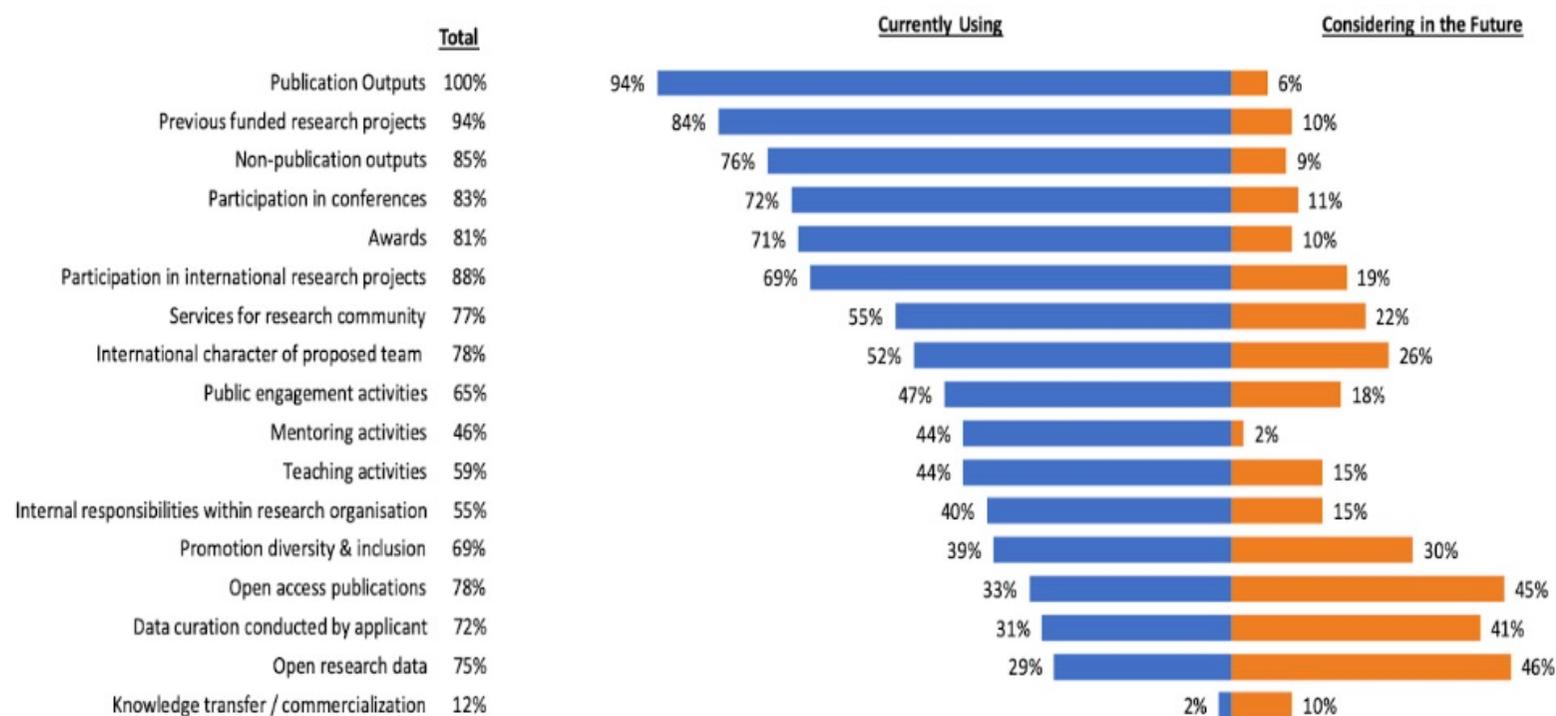


Figure 3: Research assessment indicators (to be) used by GRC participating organisations who responded to the survey (n=50, missing n=5)

The background of the slide is a repeating pattern of blue and white Twitter bird icons. The birds are stylized and arranged in a way that creates a sense of depth and movement, with some appearing to be layered over others. The overall color scheme is a vibrant blue and white.

Open Research: from an initial focus on Open Access to a more holistic focus on fostering a healthy research culture

UNESCO Recommendation on Open Science

**A consequential
instrument that takes
Open Research to the
global level.**

The image is a screenshot of the UNESCO website page for the Recommendation on Open Science. At the top left is the UNESCO logo and name, with the tagline "Building peace in the minds of men and women". Below this is a navigation menu with links for "IN BRIEF", "WHAT WE DO", "WHERE WE WORK", "PARTNERS", "JOIN US", and "RESOURCES". A breadcrumb trail shows "Home > Open Science > UNESCO Recommendation on Open Science". The main content area features a large graphic with the text "Open Science" and several colorful circular icons representing various scientific and educational concepts: a microscope, a globe, a person with a laptop, a person with a ball, a person with a gear, and a person with a book. At the bottom, the text "UNESCO Recommendation on Open Science" is displayed, along with a "Home" button.



Definition of 'Open Science' in Recommendation

- **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





UNESCO

IN BRIEF

WHAT WE DO

WHERE WE WORK

Key Objectives Recommendation

Home > Open Science > UNESCO Recommendation on Open Science

Open Science

Promoting

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

Developing

- an enabling policy environment for Open Research;

Investing

- in Open Research infrastructures and services;

Investing

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

Fostering

- a culture of Open Research and aligning incentives for Open Research;

Promoting

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

UNESCO Recommendation on Open Science

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



Combine efforts of many different stakeholders



Review assessment & career evaluation systems to align with Open Research



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

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

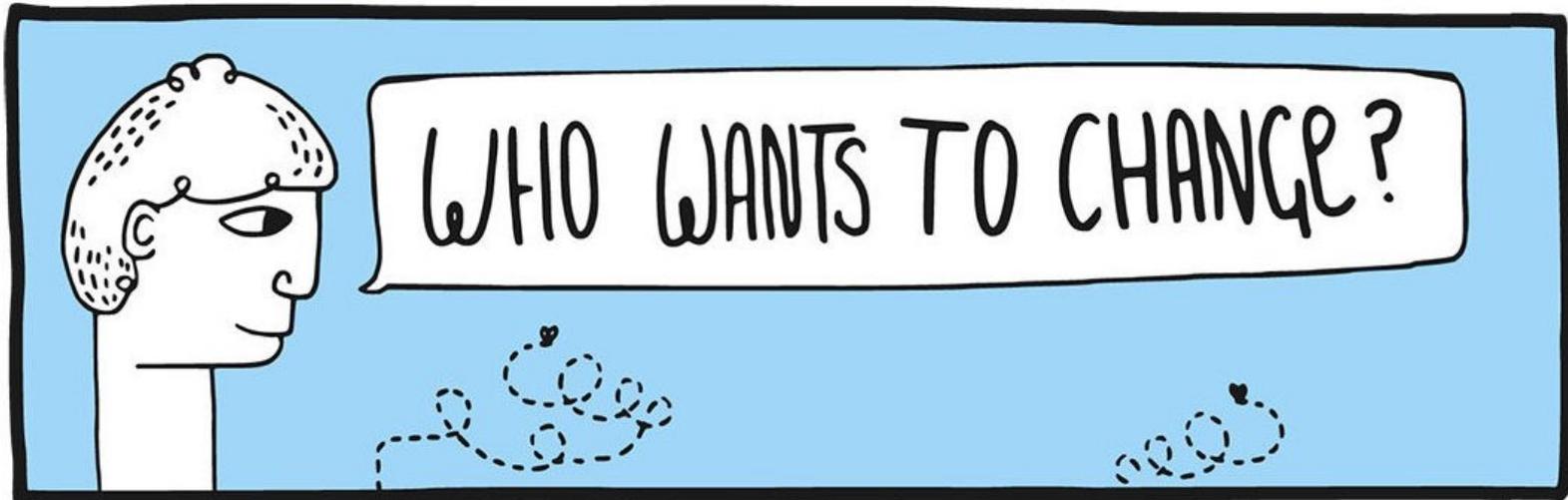


Ensure diversity in scholarly communications -- principles of open, transparent and equitable access -- supporting non-commercial publishing models and collaborative publishing models with no article processing charges or book processing charges



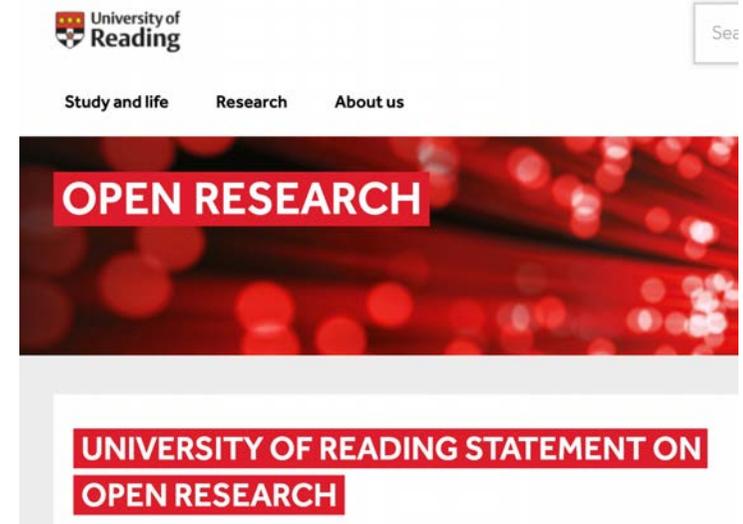
Timeline UNESCO Recommendation

- UNESCO's General Conference decided to elaborate a draft Recommendation in Nov 2019
- The first draft was sent to UNESCO Member States in September 2020
- Final draft sent to UNESCO Member States in March 2021
- Examination by technical and legal experts in May 2021
- Approved draft approved will be submitted to Member States in August 2021, with a view to its adoption by the General Conference at its 41st session in November 2021



Open Research in 2021: Reasons for optimism!

- Growing slew of initiatives
- Lively and progressive engagement with Open Research
- Is already impacting funder practices worldwide
- And is also impacting **universities!**





**Open Research is a joint
(ad)venture**

I'm looking forward to learning from
Reading's next steps!

THANK YOU

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