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At The Front Of Open Science

Editorial

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Manifesto

Today, in a time of “fake news” and politically motivated decline of faith in science, we scientists have a special responsibility: We need to open up our work, so that everyone has the possibility to understand.

The public needs to know that science is not a job, but rather a way of acquiring knowledge and sharing it without limitation. Anyone who follows the guidelines of correct scientific work is a scientist; that is, a creator of knowledge.

Part of that is also to actively defend science.

If Galileo had hidden away his results out of fear of the church, who knows if there would be aeroplanes, computers or mobile phones today. It is thanks to the work of countless researchers and their will to fight against false beliefs that today the developed world enjoys a life expectancy that may seem like a dream to the people from the Dark Ages.

Or think about Ignaz Semmelweis, who enforced hand disinfection in hospitals. It was his persistence that helped to reduce childbed fever substantially. Today we see his work as one of the first cases of evidence based medicine and prime example of methodically correct validation of scientific hypotheses.

The basis of scientific work is the continuous testing of findings. This can only work if science is comprehensible. This requires free access to data, free access to methods and free access to results. Open Science is therefore nothing new; instead it is the essence of science.

With our journal *The Lead* we put Open Science on the spearhead of a new scientific consciousness. It offers a space for all publications that live the spirit of Open Science.

You are invited to publish with us!