

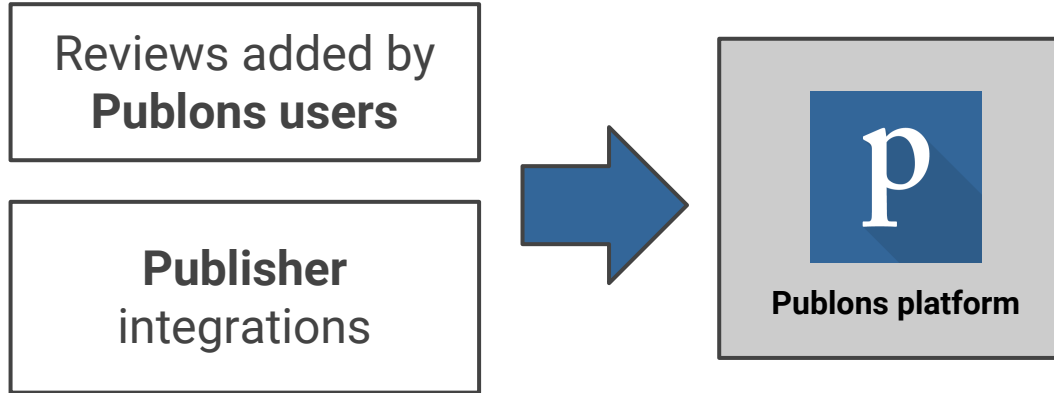
**COASP: Credit for peer review**

September 2015

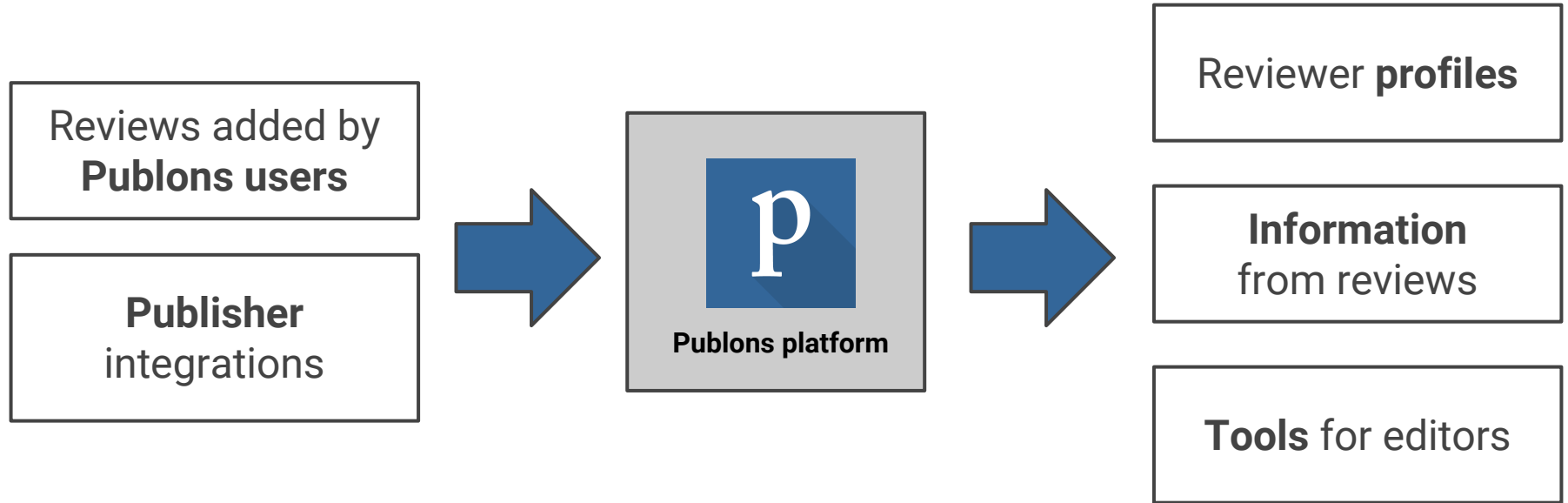


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to **speed up science**  
by **harnessing** the power  
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## Publons collects reviews and turns them into a verifiable, measurable research output



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# Publons gives cross-publisher recognition for peer review



**Steven B. Roberts**

Associate Professor - University of Washington [↗](#)  
Editorial Board - Scientific Data [↗](#)


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**BIO**

Steven has not yet completed their profile bio.




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**EDITOR FOR**

 Scientific Data

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**REVIEWER FOR**

 BMC Genomics     Aquaculture     PLOS ONE

 Journal of Invertebrate Pathology     Heredity     Ecotoxicology and Environment...

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**PRE PUBLICATION REVIEWS**

Nov 2014 ✓ Reviewed for [Molecular Ecology](#)

Oct 2014 ✓ Reviewed for [Scientific Reports](#)

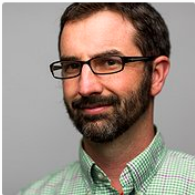
Sep 2014 ✓ Reviewed for [BMC Genomics](#)

Sep 2014 ✓ Reviewed for [Heredity](#)

Jun 2014 ✓ Reviewed Unfit for cold: liver transc... for [BMC Genomics](#) [Read](#)

Apr 2014 ✓ Reviewed for [Ecotoxicology and Environmental Safety](#)


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Apr 2014	✓ Reviewed for	Ecotoxicology and Environmental Safety


Verified reviewer  
38 total merit  
0000-0001-8302-1138  
2 Affiliations  
Has edited for 1 journal  
11 Pre Publication Reviews



**Steven Roberts** @sr320 · Sep 20

It was a little easier spending AM on manuscript review knowing even if comments are ignored - I still get some credit, thanks @Publons!

[↶](#) [↻ 3](#) [★ 3](#) [⋮](#)



**Steven Roberts** @sr320 · Sep 20

... I also believe I am much more constructive and spend more time explaining issues and offering solutions.. cc @Publons

[↶](#) [↻ 2](#) [★ 2](#) [⋮](#)

NATURE | TOOLBOX: Q&A [↶](#) [✉](#) [🖨](#)

## The scientists who get credit for peer review

Publons rewards researchers for putting their peer-review activity online. *Nature* spoke to the startup's co-founder and two super-users.

[Richard Van Noorden](#)

“This year I will be evaluated by my institution for a promotion and in the documents I am including a link to my Publons profile to show my peer-review activity.”

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reviews

**7k+**  
journals

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SOCIETY FOR  
MICROBIOLOGY

eLIFE

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**Credit for peer review..?**



## Credit for peer review..?

- What is peer review actually for?
- Why credit for peer review?
- Why now?
- Can we go beyond credit?

## What is peer review actually for?

- Authors -- improve their paper
- Editors -- ensure the scientific validity of the paper
- Journals -- accurately filter manuscripts
- Research community -- to provide context and insight to new research

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Historically, there has been minimal consideration for the reviewer

## Why credit for peer review?

- Authors get a lot of credit for publishing research
- Editors get a lot of credit for managing the process
- Reviewers get... more review requests



# Why credit for peer review?

## Reviewers

- Build reputation as expert in field
- It's deserved!

## Authors

- Better peer review experience

## Journals and editors

- Speed up review
- Easier access to reviewers
- Prove a high quality review system
- Better understanding of reviewers
- Protect against fraud

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It's obviously a good thing!

## Why now?

- Blind reviews are hard to measure and easy to fake

Historically, it's been impossible to recognise review



## Why now? Hard to measure

Privacy policies need to support 10k different journals:

1. Information about the manuscript is only revealed after it's published
2. After publication, the reviewer decides if they want to sign their name to the review
3. After publication, the reviewer decides if they want to publish their review
4. The author, editor, or journal can request a published review to be hidden at any time
5. Journals can specify blanket policies that override reviewer preferences

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### REVIEW POLICY ?

- Allows reviews to be published
- Allows reviewers to sign their reviews

### REVIEW POLICY ?

- Does not allow reviews to be published
- Enforces blind review

## Why now? Easy to fake

It's necessary to verify thousands of reviews each week.

Verifying means confirming with the journal AND the reviewer that the review happened.

Verification strategies:

- Review receipt from editorial management systems
- Query the editor
- Direct integration with publisher



# Can we go beyond credit?

- Openness is inherently a good thing
  - Review can be a part of the sphere of human knowledge too!
  - Helps to train reviewers
- Tools for editors
  - Find and screen potential reviewers
  - Monitor reviewer workload across journals
- Reviews actually give us a lot of insight into research...

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For Publons, credit is just the start



# Publons

## Speeding up and evaluating research

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@arhpreston