Understanding the Perception of Open Science Within Academia

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Introduction
- Over the years, Open Science has grown exponentially; however, widespread adoption of its practices is not yet achieved.
- Researchers across the globe have kept themselves away from this approach due to various concerns.
- We conducted a global research survey to understand the perceived value of the Open Science approach in the academic publishing sphere.

Objective
Our primary aim was to understand the following:
- The general perception and awareness of Open Science.
- The adoption of Open Science beyond Open Access.
- The perceived benefits and concerns related to Open Access as compared to the traditional publishing model.

Methodology
- The survey was released by Enago Academy in English and was conducted between July 19 and September 10, 2022.
- The questionnaire was created in a digital format using SurveyMonkey and released on the Enago Academy website and its social media handles.
- The responses were entered into a spreadsheet (Microsoft Excel) for analysis.

Results
- A total of 60 participants took the survey, with most respondents being PhD scholars.
- Analyzing the level of awareness of the Open Science approach, 66.67% of the participants responded positively while, 21.67% were unaware and 11.67% were not sure about it.
- 53.33% of the respondents opined that Open Science and Open Access are not the same, while 31.67% were not sure about the similarity or differences between the two concepts. Also, 15% of the survey participants claimed that both are the same.
- The majority of the researchers (85%) voted in favor of making all scholarly content Open Access.
- For the preferred publishing model, 51.67% of the respondents selected both Open Access and traditional publishing models, 23.33% opted Open Access model, 20% chose the traditional model, and the remaining 5% were specific about their preferred publishing model to be preprints and repositories.

Conclusion
- Our study validates that the majority of the researchers are aware and in favor of the Open Science approach.
- Scientists are approaching new models of Open Science beyond Open Access such as institutional repositories, e-preprints, data repositories, etc. to publish and disseminate their research data. Also, most participants have confirmed their knowledge of the peer review process followed by the Open Access platforms.
- A smaller group of scholars were unaware of the Open Science approach, which demands the spreading awareness of this dynamic mechanism in the scholarly publishing world.

Future Prospects
To further understand the acceptance of Open Science, we are launching our next global survey. This survey will focus on the “pay-to-publish” practice for Open Access journals. Take the survey now!