Peer Review at Cambridge University Press

A set of objectives, with several question marks

- Objectives:
  - Increase transparency
  - Support reviewer recognition
  - Offer more training resources for reviewers
  - Improve internal processes to make peer review more efficient

- Questions:
  - What are the evolving challenges to peer review and how do we respond to them?
  - If peer review is one of the services we provide that is the most valued in the fields we serve, how do we ensure that we communicate that value?
  - Where are we best placed to experiment in peer review?
Our approach: Collaborate & Pilot

Blockchain for Peer Review

bioRxiv integration

Peer Reviewer Hub

Post-publication peer review
Urgent Challenges in Peer Review

- Fraud and manipulation
- Lack of reviewer recognition
- Lack of transportability of review / inefficiencies
- Increasing difficulty finding reviewers
- Challenging to research & innovate the process
The solution

- Create a neutral infrastructure for sharing and analyzing peer review data
- Supporting blind & promoting open review models
- On an industry, not-for-profit basis

Why Blockchain?

- Decentralized
- Pseudonymous
Publishers
- Deposit data on activities via submission systems.
- Independent validations of peer review process
- Managing openness of peer review

Funders
- Easier to find reviewers, more efficient process
- Insight in review activities for their funded research(ers)

Recognition platforms
Receive feed of metadata on reviewer activities (e.g. on ORCID)

Reviewer finding tools
Complete information on reviewer activities, preferences & experience

Reviewers
- Receive proper recognition
- More targeted invitations
- Manage openness of their reviews
- Manage their review availability and preferences

Editors
More data to target suitable reviewers, higher acceptance rates

Institutions
Trustworthy data on review activities of researchers

Researchers
Proper research on the peer review process
High-level architecture

User Management System

PeerReview.Query

Katalysis Peer Review

PeerReview.Parser

ORCID

Blockchain

User Management

Third party content store

Local content store

Publisher MMS

Third party content store
Where are we now?

- **March 2018**: PoC & Testing
- **September 2018**: Review validator MVP
- **March 2019**: Funding
- **December 2019**: Onboarding new publishers
What’s next-review validator
Powered by the blockchain for peer review
bioRxiv B2J integration

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Thank you

bshull@cambridge.org