



# Social Aspects of Collaboration

---

NCEAS Learning Hub  
*for*  
Delta Science Program  
August 2023

# What we will cover?

---

- Developing a code of conduct
- Authorship and Credit Policies
- Data Sharing and Reuse Policies

# Developing a Code of Conduct

---

Whether you are joining a lab group or establishing a new collaboration, **articulating a set of shared agreements about how people in the group will treat each other will help create the conditions for successful collaboration.**

# Developing a Code of Conduct

---

- Invite a conversation among all members to create grounding guidelines
- Co-creation of a code of conduct will foster collaboration and engagement as a process in it self.
- It is important to ensure all voices are heard
- Things to consider
  - Behaviors you want to encourage
  - Behaviors that will not be tolerated

# Example: Openscapes

---



## CODE OF CONDUCT

- Be respectful
- Be direct but professional
- Be inclusive
- Understand different perspectives
- Appreciate and Accommodate Our Similarities and Differences
- Lead by Example

# Example: Openscapes

---

## **Understand Different Perspectives**

Our goal should not be to “win” every disagreement or argument. A more productive goal is to be open to ideas that make our own ideas better. Strive to be an example for inclusive thinking. “Winning” is when different perspectives make our work richer and stronger.

# Example: Openscapes

---

## Summary

Be respectful, honest, inclusive, accommodating, appreciative, and open to learning from everyone else.

Do not attack, demean, disrupt, harass, or threaten others or encourage such behavior.

This Code of Conduct applies to all people participating in the Openscapes community, including Openscapes staff and leadership. It applies to all modes of interaction online including GitHub project repositories, remote calls, and in person at Openscapes -hosted events.

# Authorship and Credit Policies

## THE AUTHOR LIST: GIVING CREDIT WHERE CREDIT IS DUE

**The first author**  
Senior grad student on the project. Made the figures.

**The third author**  
First year student who actually did the experiments, performed the analysis and wrote the whole paper. Thinks being third author is "fair".

**The second-to-last author**  
Ambitious assistant professor or post-doc who instigated the paper.

Michaels, C., Lee, E. F., Sap, P. S., Nichols, S. T., Oliveira, L., Smith, B. S.

**The second author**  
Grad student in the lab that has nothing to do with this project, but was included because he/she hung around the group meetings (usually for the food).

**The middle authors**  
Author names nobody really reads. Reserved for undergrads and technical staff.

**The last author**  
The head honcho. Hasn't even read the paper but, hey, he/she got the funding, and their famous name will get the paper accepted.

JORGE CHAM © 2005

WWW.PHDCOMICS.COM



# Authorship and Credit Policies

---

- Navigating issues of intellectual property and credit can be a challenge, particularly for early career researchers.
- Open communication is critical to avoiding misunderstandings and conflicts.
- Talk to your coauthors and collaborators about authorship, credit, and data sharing early and often.
- This is particularly important when working with new collaborators and across lab groups or disciplines which may have divergent views on authorship and data sharing.

# Authorship and Credit Policies

---

- [International Committee of Medical Journal Editors guidelines](#) for authorship and contribution

## *2. Who Is an Author?*

The ICMJE recommends that authorship be based on the following 4 criteria:

- Substantial contributions to the conception or design of the work; or the acquisition, analysis, or interpretation of data for the work; AND
- Drafting the work or reviewing it critically for important intellectual content; AND
- Final approval of the version to be published; AND
- Agreement to be accountable for all aspects of the work in ensuring that questions related to the accuracy or integrity of any part of the work are appropriately investigated and resolved.

# Authorship and Credit Policies

---

- [International Committee of Medical Journal Editors guidelines](#) for authorship and contribution

In addition to being accountable for the parts of the work done, an author should be able to identify which co-authors are responsible for specific other parts of the work. In addition, authors should have confidence in the integrity of the contributions of their co-authors.

# Key questions to consider

---

- What roles do we anticipate contributors will play? (Conceptualization, data curation, formal analysis, investigation, writing original draft, etc)
- What are our criteria for authorship?
- Will we extend the opportunity for authorship to all group members on every paper or product?
- Do we want to have an opt in or opt out policy? (In an opt out policy, all group members are considered authors from the outset and must request removal from the paper if they don't want think they meet the criteria for authorship)

# Key questions to consider

---

- Who has the authority to make decisions about authorship? Lead author? PI? Group?
- How will we decide authorship order?
- In what other ways will we acknowledge contributions and extend credit to collaborators?
- How will we resolve conflicts if they arise?

# Data Sharing and Reuse Policies

---

- As with authorship agreements, it is valuable to establish a shared agreement around handling of data when embarking on collaborative projects.
- A discussion and agreement around the handling of data brought into and resulting from the collaboration is warranted and management of this new data may benefit from going through a data management planning process.

# Example Template from Artic Data Center

---

- Three main categories
  - **Individual data not in the public domain**
    - Conditions under which those data may be used and permissions associated with use. It also addresses access and sharing.
  - **Individual data with public access**
    - stipulates that the team will abide by the attribution and usage policies that the data were published under.
  - **Derived data resulting from the project**
    - similar to a DMP with consideration of making the data public; management, documentation and archiving; pre-publication sharing; and public sharing and attribution.

# Your turn

---

- Get together in your groups and start the conversation about how you want to work together.
- The idea is to create guidelines for better communication and collaboration during your synthesis project.