[pedagogical]

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Golden Rules for Referees

Open Collaboration^{*†}

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Abstract

This manuscript serves as a pedagogical guideline for referees during the peer-reviewing process.

keywords: peer-review, referee, ethics

Introduction

1. Producing knowledge and helping to develop science is a holy endeavor.
2. A few numbers of referees (Hopefully!) use their ego to produce predatory comments during peer-review.
3. In the following section, we present some golden rules [1] that are expected in the peer-reviewing process [2].

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Golden Rules for a Healthier Science

4. Be ethical.
5. Be respectful.
6. Leave your ego outside the peer-reviewing process.
7. Refuse to peer-review an article whenever it is not within your expertise.
8. Refuse to peer-review an article whenever your opinion does not agree with the strategies accomplished by the authors.
9. Avoid general and unsubstantial arguments.
10. Provide one or more examples for each statement that embodies the referee's main argument.
11. Rejecting the publication of an article because one of the referee's article was not cited in it is extremely unethical.
12. The identity of the referee should be revealed.
13. The anonymity supports abusive behavior.

Final Remarks

14. If we always remember these golden rules and use them as guidelines during the peer-review, science becomes more collaborative in a much more profound sense.

Open Invitation

Review, add content, and **co-author** this article. *Join* the **Open Collaboration**. Send your contribution to mplobo@uft.edu.br.

Ethical conduct of research

This original work was pre-registered under the OSF Preprints [3], please cite it accordingly [4]. This will ensure that researches are conducted with integrity and intellectual honesty at all times and by all means.

References

- [1] Glen, A. S. “A New ‘Golden Rule’ for Peer Review.” *Bulletin of the Ecological Society of America* 95.4 (2014): 431-434.
- [2] Liebowitz, Jay. *A guide to publishing for academics: Inside the publish or perish phenomenon*. Auerbach Publications, 2015.
- [3] COS. *Open Science Framework*. <https://osf.io>
- [4] Lobo, Matheus P. “Golden Rules for Referees.” *OSF Preprints*, 24 Dec. 2019. <https://doi.org/10.31219/osf.io/grz9j>

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