

Tell me more – exploring Open Science through podcasting.

This poster will discuss whether Open Science should use more ‘sci-tainment’ styles and make its principles and practices more accessible through different mediums for Open Science education and science communication to the broad public. In order to make this discussion concrete we will use the ORION Open Science podcast that the ORION Open Science EU funded project and the Max-Delbrück-Center for Molecular Medicine in the Helmholtz Association (MDC) has produced and presented for nearly two years as a case study with almost 50 episodes that are free and openly available for listeners all over the world.

This poster would discuss how the podcast has functioned as an example of best practice when creating Open Science education for a broad audience. Open Science training and communication has sometimes been accused of being insular or missionary, the ‘scitainment’ format of the podcast offers one alternative approach. It explores talking with experts and advocates to dive into detailed subjects and topics of Open Science using interest and conversation to not only educate but also entertain. While there has been a huge upsurge in the number of podcasts available, especially since the pandemic, it is important to consider how the medium relates to Open Science specifically.

The poster would highlight the advantages of the podcast as a communication medium for Open Science. These include the benefit of getting differing viewpoints that may not usually get to have a voice in the Open Science movement, for example controversial citizen scientists or Open Science practitioners from outside of Europe. The poster will also show how the podcast can be used to raise awareness for researchers and the Open Science community of new tools and initiatives.

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