

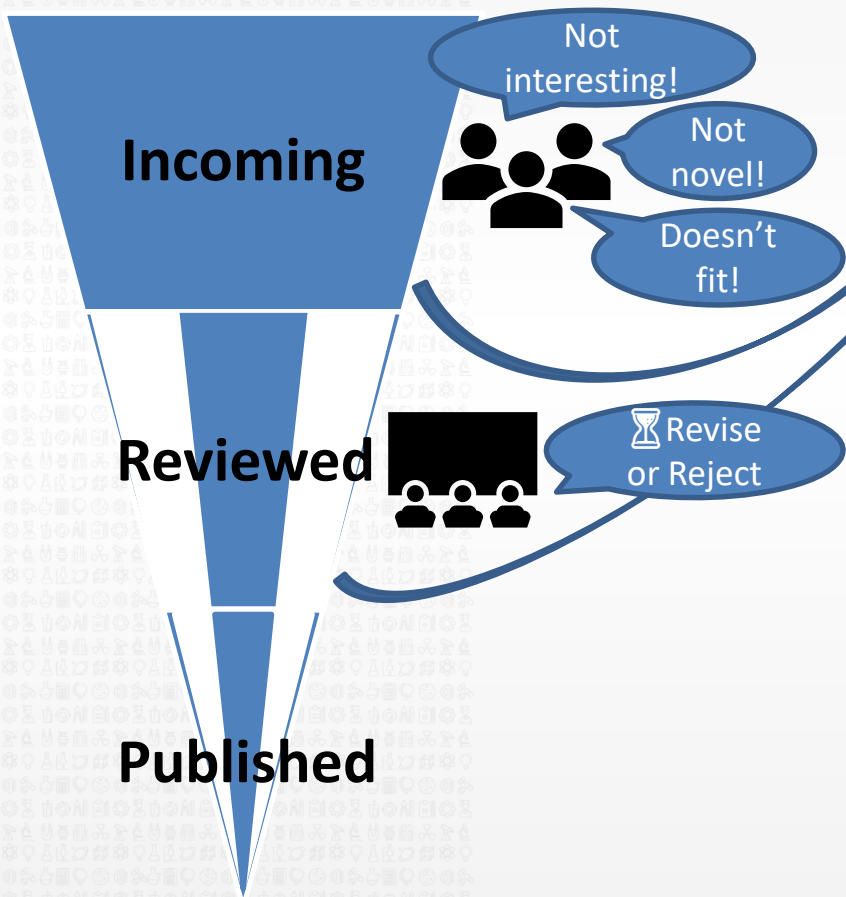
# WHAT'S TAKING SO LONG?

Chrissy Prater, PhD  
Senior Product Development Coordinator

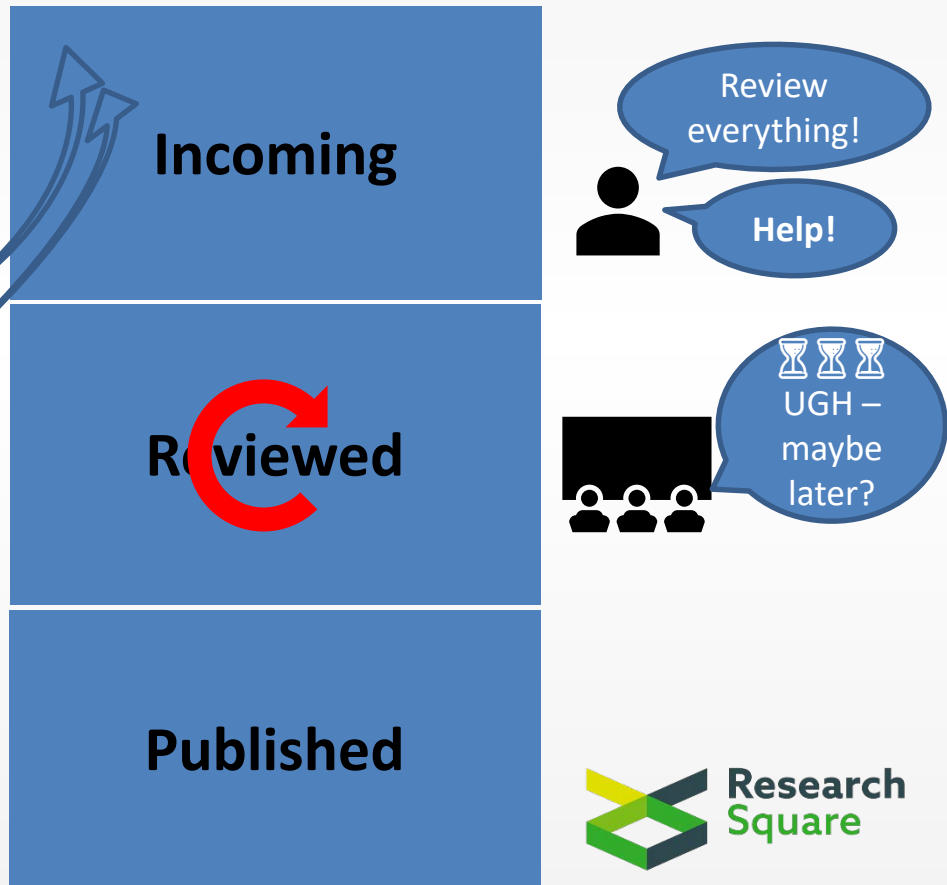


# MORE VOLUME, MORE PROBLEMS

Traditional, selective journals



OA "sound research" journals



# GLOBAL-STATE-OF-PEER-REVIEW-2018

9.8%

Increase year-on-year  
of reviewer invitation.

75%

of journal editors  
"finding reviewers  
getting them to  
review invitation  
hardest part of

2016 PUBLONS' EDITOR

publons

Publons data  
shows that

10%

of reviewers  
perform

50%

of all reviews

84.8%

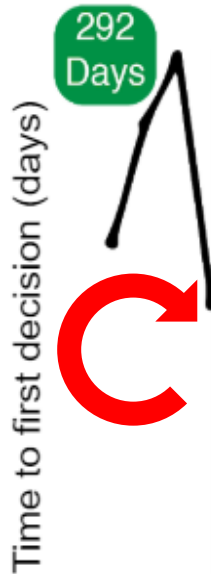
of survey respondents  
should more  
recognize peer

FIG. 8  
INSTITUTE  
Data source

5 hrs

Median hours spent  
writing each review in 2016

# TIME TO DECISION



**How can Research Square help bring down the time to decision?**

**Help editors make the decisions quickly and confidently!**

1. Provide assessments editors can trust
2. Provide fast return of reviewer comments ★

**How do we excel at this?**

- Manage the peer review process ←
- Identify and recruit topic-specific expert reviewers

23.4.17

# HOW CAN WE GET GOOD REVIEWS, FAST?

*(even on challenging manuscripts)*

Research Quality Evaluations (RQE) a fast, portable, sound research peer review

## Decrease fatigue, facilitate efficiencies

- Eliminate reviewer distractions
  - Ask reviewers to compare research quality to best practice
  - Get reviewers thinking “should it be published somewhere?”

## Increase recognition

- Offer incentive to complete the evaluation within a few days

## Encourage diversity and fairness

- Include potential reviewers that are typically overlooked
- Minimize unconscious biases

# FINDING REVIEWERS

- Internal database of current and potential peer reviewers: 10,000+ researchers from all over the world
- On-the-fly recruiting: new manuscript-specific leads are added to the reviewer database

When a reviewer says yes, we send the redacted manuscript and a link to the RQE form...

# RQE REVIEWER FORM

## 9 → Want to do more Research Quality Evaluations in the future?

If you're interested, we'll send you an invitation email next time we have another manuscript that seems to be a good fit

A Yes - I'm interested

B Maybe - depends on my schedule



C Maybe - depends on the manuscript

D No thanks - I'm not interested in trying this again

## 10 → What do you think about this peer review approach?





# TIME TO DECISION



**How can Research Square help bring down the time to decision?**

**Help editors make the decisions quickly and confidently!**

1. Provide assessments editors can trust
2. Provide fast return of reviewer comments

**How do we excel at this?**

- Manage the peer review process
- Identify and recruit topic-specific expert reviewers

# EXPANSION OF RQE

RQEs now utilized by over 60 journals to complete 1 review

>3000 reviews processed to date



Great reviewer feedback



Good editor feedback – able to make decisions

Good metrics



80% of papers reviewed in 20 business days



9 business days avg (first invitation > review completion)

RQE can be used to supplement the traditional process in different journals when they have trouble finding multiple reviewers

Next project: expanding to a 2-reviewer RQE workflow

# GLOBAL-STATE-OF-PEER-REVIEW-2018

9.8%

Increase year-on-year  
of reviewer invitation.

75%

of journal editors  
"finding reviewers"  
getting them to  
review invitation  
hardest part of

2016 PUBLONS' EDITOR

publons

Publons data  
shows that

10%

of reviewers  
perform

50%

of all reviews

84.8%

of survey respondents  
should more  
recognize peer

FIG. 8  
INSTITUTE  
Data source

5 hrs

Median hours spent  
writing each review in 2016

# ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Peer Reviewers

Reviewer Lead Hunters

Participating Journal Editors

RS Peer Review Coordinators

RS R&D Team Managers

RS R&D Engineers

RS R&D Management