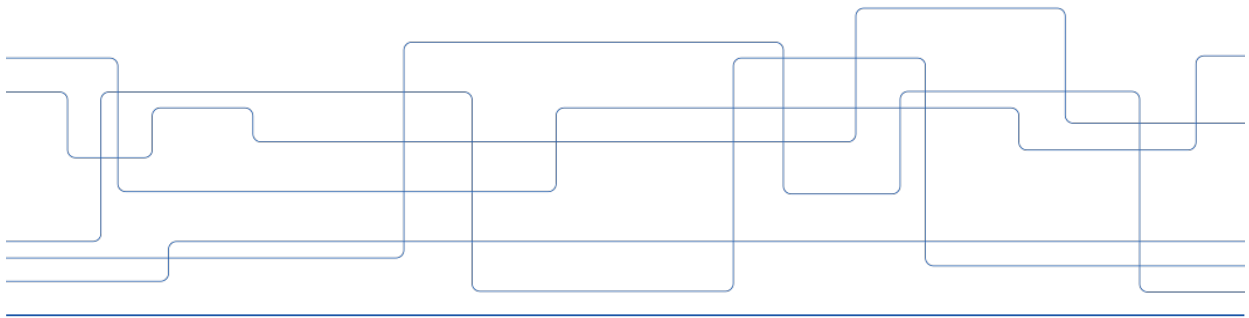




Co-authorship - some personal reflections

Arnold Pears



Some background

- In my research fields the norm is to
 - co-publish with ones PhD students regularly as a part of contributing to their research education and technical writing
 - publishing in collaboration with colleagues, where people contribute in very different ways to the final paper
 - publish most significant work in highly ranked conferences with short review to publication delays
 - collect data in consortia where data is often collected in multiple institutions by many participants in the project.



Some reflections

- Agree on authorship invitations based on data collection and usage in publication at the start of the project
 - Discussing who to include after data is collected and when a paper is proposed tends to lead to conflicts - get the ground-rules established early.
- Disciplinary norms for co-authorship differ between disciplines
 - Don't assume everyone shares your norms
- Be generous, but ethical...
 - even peripheral actors might like to make a contribution to the publication
- Co-authors can make many types of contribution,
 - I use "Would this paper have been as good without their participation?" as a basic "rule of thumb".

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Something to read

Helgesson, G., Master, Z. & Bülow, W. How to Handle Co-authorship When Not Everyone's Research Contributions Make It into the Paper. *Sci Eng Ethics* **27**, 27 (2021). <https://doi.org/10.1007/s11948-021-00303-y>

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