

# Spreading the word about scientists' experience with science

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I started the podcast, Bold Signals, broadly because I'm interested in science communication and a lot of science communication, in my experience, is very results-driven, so people sharing their data or talking about their projects. There's a lot of stuff like that on figshare. I'm all on board for that. But where I thought there was a gap was scientists talking about their experience with science, their perceptions of science.

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My thought was to kind of demystify science and scientists by getting people to talk about their work as they would to someone at a party or their parent who doesn't necessarily understand what they do. I started interviewing people and I realised that people were listing the podcasts on their CVs and websites generally under 'science engagement and outreach', which is fantastic. It's exactly what I want people to do.


But I also realised, at the same time, that there was no central location for the podcast to live in an academic sense since they were listing the podcast on their academic CVs. It's kind of awkward sometimes to point someone to a SoundCloud URL or to iTunes to listen to something.

Also, I work in a library, so I was very concerned

about bibliometrics and the library side, so I wanted to give people a permanent address for their podcasts if they wanted to cite it or they wanted to give it out. Basically, I wanted to give them a DOI number. I remembered that figshare accepts all kinds of media. A great way to not only make the podcast sharable in an easy way, but give DOI numbers, would be to just upload things to figshare. I started doing that with a podcast I did with another person who shares my job description (another neuroscientist turned library person) and have taken it from there.

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At first, I was unsure if it was allowed, because when I think of figshare and when I recommend that people use it, it's for very scholarly things like their papers or data: things that I think of as very 'in-lab' things or very scholarly things. So I was kind of unsure, even though my podcast doesn't diverge much from scholarly life and what that's like, it's a



little bit different than a lot of the more data-like stuff that's on figshare. So I just started uploading things and not making a big deal out of it and then figshare retweeted it and I thought "Oh, this is okay."

The reason for doing it was logistics - I just wanted to be able to give one URL when I was linking to the podcast. I wanted a way for people to easily access and navigate all the podcasts from the season. I found the process super easy. I was pretty excited

when I found that it was possible to put things in groups like that because I had been looking for a way to do something like that. It was super simple - it probably took me 5 minutes.

Get in touch:

**[figshare.com](https://figshare.com)**

**[info@figshare.com](mailto:info@figshare.com)**