

4.B - Focus Track (Part 2)

Towards a Global Reporting Standard for AI Disclosure in Research



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Ambassadored by



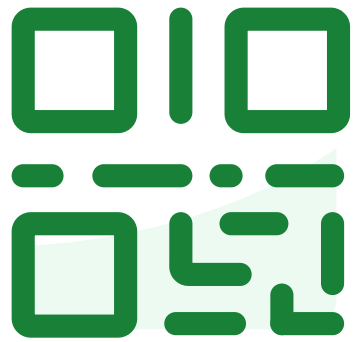
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**Join at slido.com
#2344102**

Why AI disclosure?

Culture of integrity

Methodological
transparency

Honesty:
acknowledge work
that's not yours

Today

Fast update of AI

AI disclosure expected

—— *but* ——

Stigma and fear

AI under-disclosure

Future

Shared expectations
on AI disclosure

Normalisation

Agentic AI



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Scope

Towards a Global Reporting Standard for AI Disclosure in Research

Make AI disclosure expectations *explicit*

- *What/when to disclose?* → Thresholds
- *Where?* → In main content or separate statement?
- *How to disclose?* → Structure, format
- ***How to signal responsibility & accountability?***
- ...



All AI tools and agents



For peer-reviewed articles



Language: EN (development)

6 UN languages

More translations



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A participatory process

Developing a shared understanding

“Harmonisation”

Listening & understanding

Political alignment effort

across sectors, disciplines, continents

Adaptive! Responsive!

— *not* —

Research project

3 consultation rounds

Involving *all* stakeholders

1: Needs? Structure/format?

2: Key questions: What, where, how?

3: Feedback on a draft

+ Focus Track @



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Round 1 Criteria

Our proposal

Disclosure (standard) should:

- Easy to understand and easy to create
- Consistent structure, so disclosures are comparable and reproducible
- Machine-readable and machine-generatable (by AI agents)
- Flexible enough to describe the nature and extent of AI use
- Covers multiple AI tools and uses in a single work
- Works across disciplines and output types



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Round 1 Feedback

The Needs

- Balance transparency
- Avoid excessive reporting burdens (proportional to AI use level)
- Work across disciplines
- Define the primary purpose of disclosure
- Keep human responsibility and oversight central



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Round 1 Feedback

The Structure

Easy to understand and use

Structured, consistent categories of research tasks and processes

Room for flexible description

Covers multiple AI tools and agents in a single disclosure



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Responsibility & Accountability

in an Era of AI-First Science

When might disclosure not be enough?

What does genuine accountability require as AI moves from tool, to collaborator, to agent?



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Future-proofing

The problem changed while we were working on the standard.

The question is no longer only whether AI helped with text. It's about which research decisions were handed off, who reviewed them, and what trace of that process remains.



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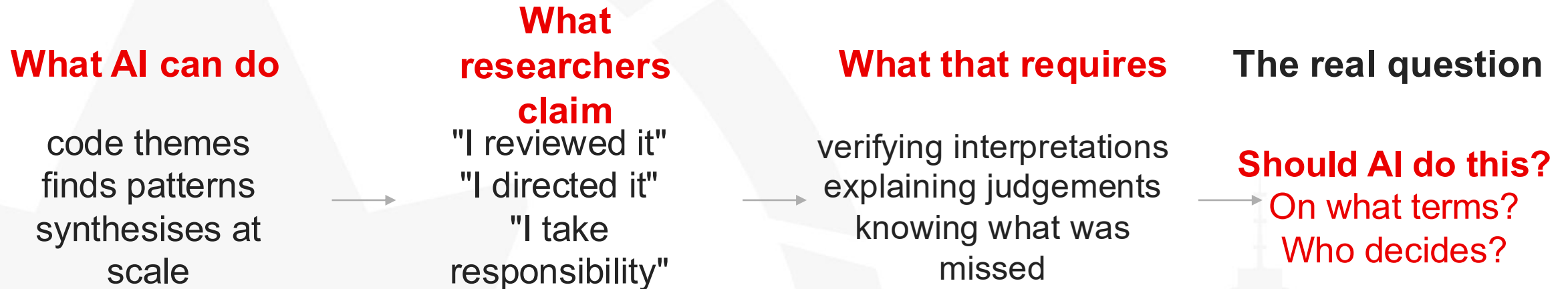


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Example 1: Qualitative analysis

Qualitative analysis

**AI can already complete certain elements of research practice.
What does that mean for the research community?**



The gap: between **"I take responsibility"** and **"I can verify what it did"** is where the standard must reach.



Perkins, M. & Roe, J. (2024). The use of Generative AI in qualitative analysis: Inductive thematic analysis with ChatGPT. *Journal of Applied Learning & Teaching*, 7(1).
doi.org/10.37074/jalt.2024.7.1.22

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Example 2

AI scientist / co-scientist

The AI scientist is not science fiction anymore.

Sakana AI Scientist

idea
code
analyse
paper



Preprint in 2024; Nature publication in 2026.

Google AI co-scientist

generate
reflect
rank
evolve
meta-review



A multi-agent research group, compressed into a system.

The accountability question: what is the role of humans in these research practices?



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Example 3

AI as builder and evaluator

AlphaEvolve shifts the question from *authorship* to *evaluation*.



For code, algorithms, or proofs, the accountability hinge may be the evaluator.

AI Co-Scientist generates hypotheses (outputs that still require human expert judgement to validate.)

AlphaEvolve's evaluator is computable: it runs the code and scores it — no human judgement required.



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**Disclosures have focused on the tools themselves
But what about the workflow?**



When supervisory agents select specialist agents, a disclosure statement has to say more than the name of one chatbot.

And you can only be accountable for work you can meaningfully verify.



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Disclosure (attestation?) versus accountability

what the standard must make visible

Disclosure

What tool was used?
For which task?
At what level of contribution?

Accountability

What did someone inspect?
Could the output be reproduced?
Who had capacity to verify?

A reporting standard can capture the first. Making the second visible, without pretending it is easy, is the harder job.



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Three possible elements of the disclosure

1 What AI did

Task, tool, version,
stage, role.

2 What humans checked

Verification steps,
sampling, replication,
responsible person.

3 What could not be checked

Opaque behaviour,
irreproducible outputs,
unlogged agent actions.

How to avoid vague disclosure?



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Verification ladder

proportionate checks

Not all claims for accountability are equally strong...



The issue is matching the claim to a credible level of checking.



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Ask this instead!

which move was delegated?

Do not ask only: did you use AI?

Research activities	What AI CAN do	What humans are expected to check
Hypothesis	generate candidates	why this question matters
Method	choose workflow or model	fit, limits, alternatives
Analysis	code, classify, optimize	sample, replicate, inspect
Interpretation	draft claims	context, uncertainty, counterexamples
Communication	write manuscript	accuracy, attribution, caveats

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Now you tell us!

A Two-Round Sequential Structure

- Round 1: what accountability requires
- Round 2: how to validate it



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Two questions for you to set the scene...

Q1 Which accountability problem worries you most?

verification | agentic decisions | nominal compliance | equity/access | something else?

Q2 In one or two words, what does meaningful accountability require?

AKA what should we DO?!



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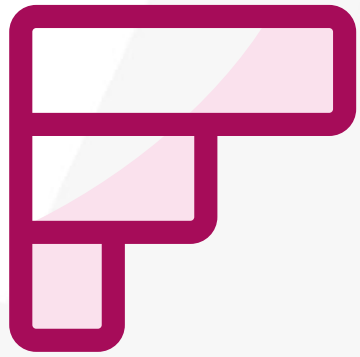
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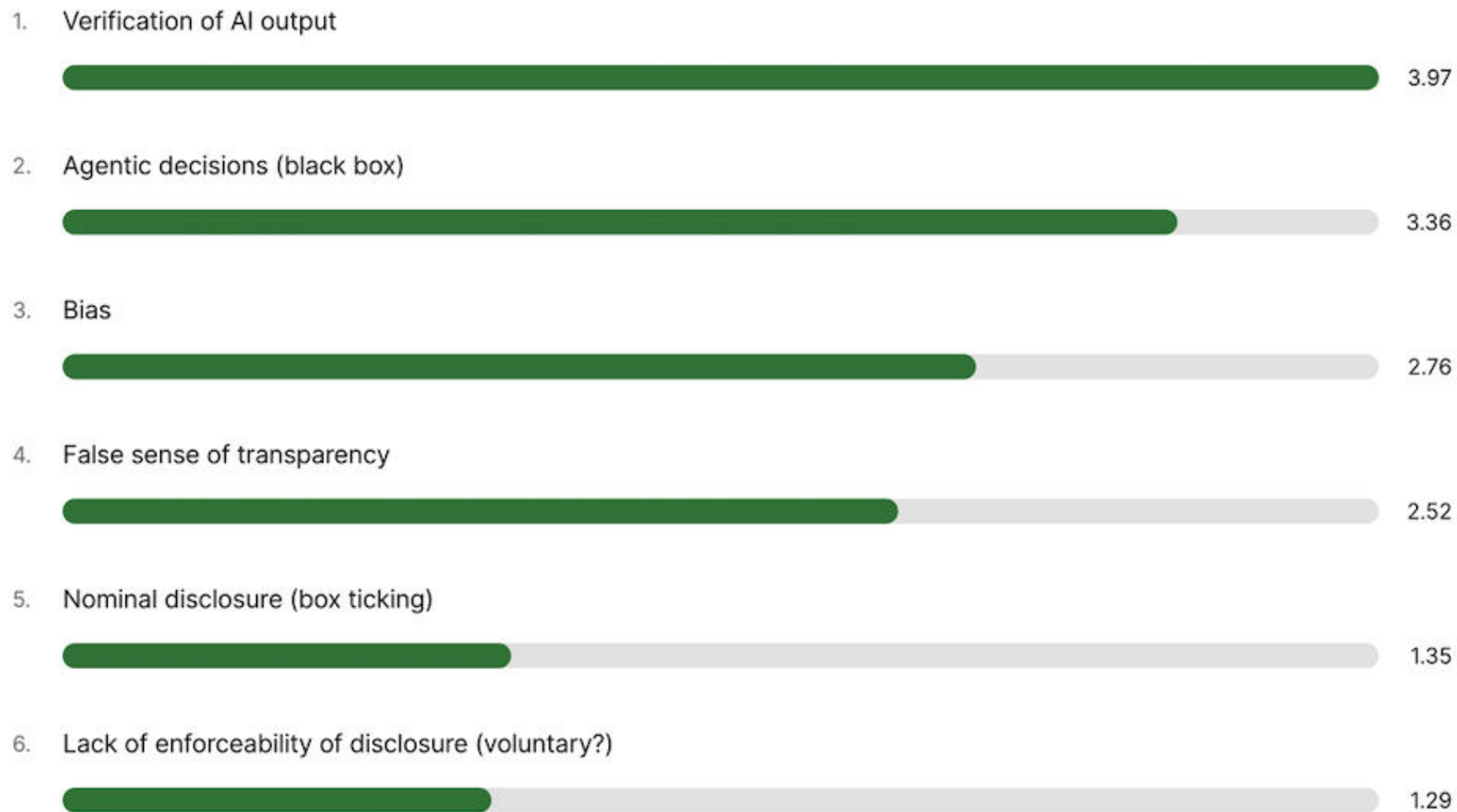
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Which accountability problem worries you most?

Which accountability problem worries you most?

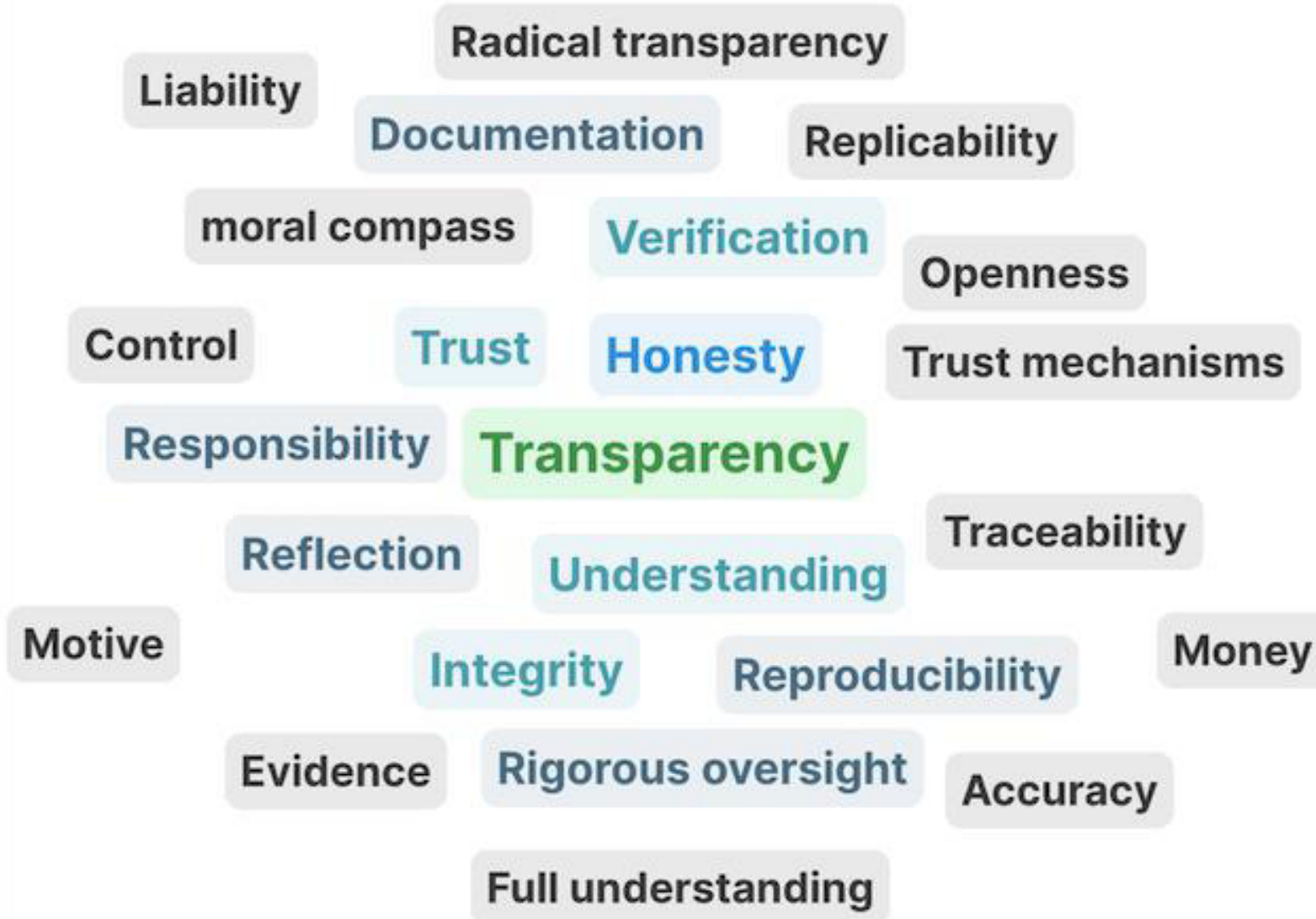


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**In one or two words, what does
meaningful accountability
require?**



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Round 1 prompt

What does genuine accountability require a researcher to do?

**Do not start with what authors should declare.
Start with what they must actually do.**

What would genuine oversight look like in one example?

Where does the chain of responsibility break down?

Does the answer change by how much the AI tool is influencing the thinking?

Output: one requirement your group thinks matters most.



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Round 1 capture (15 minutes)

discuss in your group-team to present

What does genuine accountability require a researcher to do?

Requirement

What must a researcher actually do?

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

Evidence it happened

How would you know they did it?

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

Where it gets hard

What makes this difficult in practice?

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____



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Round 1

What does genuine
accountability
actually require a
researcher to **do**?



Round 2

What practical methods can
peers, institutions, and journals
use to **validate and cross-check**
AI contributions?



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Round 2 prompt

12 minutes

What practical methods might help validate and cross-check AI contributions?

Researcher methods

sampling
replication
prompt logs
version pinning
Etc...

Institution / journal methods

verification notes
audit trails
stewardship roles

GenAI tool choices

reproducible runs
agent action records

Output: methods that is useful, realistic, and not merely performative.



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Round 2 capture (15 minutes)

make accountability concrete

What practical methods can validate and cross-check AI contributions?

What the researcher has done? (Round 1)

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____

Institution / journal requirements

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____

Tool and infrastructure design/changes

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____

Mark contested or performative ideas!



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Convergence

What do we need to do now?

Adopt or require...what?

One validation method the room thinks should become normal practice.



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What validation method does the room think should become normal practice in our new era?

Conclusions: Insights to Carry Forward

- Verification of AI output is a main concern. What is our ongoing role?
- How do we know what is happening in the background with agentic systems, and how does the Vancouver Standard address this?
- How do we track or document the process? What place does this have in our standard?
- What do we mean by authorship, anyway?



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Conclusions: Ongoing Questions

- Meaningful accountability requires transparency, understanding, integrity, honesty, verification, understanding, trust
- The scale of AI use and possibility are a core challenge
- We – the researcher, the publisher, the peer reviewer and the entire scientific community-have roles to play in the work of accountability



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April 2025

Summer 2025

Oct-Nov 2025

December 2025

28 February 2026

March-April 2026

3-6 May 2026

Kari & Bert proposed topic
Programme Committee decided
Ambassadors, preparations

Consultation Round 1 (needs, structure)

Core team processes Round 1 & prepares Round 2



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Timeline



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3-6 May 2026

13 May 2026



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Consultation Round 2 (what, where, how)

August 2026

Core team processes Round 2 & prepares Standard

September 2026

October 2025

Consultation Round 3 (feedback)

November 2026

Core team finalises the Standard
Publication of the Standard

December 2026

Updates,
Quick
feedback

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