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Martin Paul Eve , Cameron Neylon , Daniel Paul O'Donnell , Samuel Moore ,

Robert Gadie , Victoria Odeniyi , Shahina Parvin

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Elements in Publishing and Book Culture

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READING PEER REVIEW

*PLOS ONE and Institutional
Change in Academia*

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ABSTRACT: This Element describes for the first time the database of peer review reports at *PLOS ONE*, the largest scientific journal in the world, to which the authors had unique access. Specifically, this Element presents the background contexts and histories of peer review, the data-handling sensitivities of this type of research, the typical properties of reports in the journal to which the authors had access, a taxonomy of the reports, and their sentiment arcs. This unique work thereby yields a compelling and unprecedented set of insights into the evolving state of peer review in the twenty-first century, at a crucial political moment for the transformation of science. It also, though, presents a study in radicalism and the ways in which PLOS's vision for science can be said to have effected change in the ultra-conservative contemporary university. This title is also available as Open Access on Cambridge Core.

KEYWORDS: academics, evaluation, journals, peer review, publishing

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