

Science Communication Needs to be Inclusive and Intentional

For the benefit of humanity and the planet, the scientific community must promote and protect free and open science communication, ensuring that scientific insights are shared in a way that is accessible to all.

Communication by the scientific community is essential for increasing knowledge, supporting decision-making, building trusting relationships and ensuring that science serves the needs of society. If done reflexively, such communication can help build a shared understanding of science, including the research practices and knowledge systems that enable scientists to conduct Earth and space science for the benefit of humanity and our planet.

As members of the scientific community, we must all do our part to facilitate communication opportunities, eliminate communication barriers and secure free speech. We must also thoughtfully consider diverse perspectives, counter political interference, overcome censorship and speak against intimidation¹. Together, we're responsible for fostering a collaborative environment that produces, promotes and protects the free and open communication of science². The scientific community, along with scientific institutions and society, should value and support science communication, including by building individual and organizational capacity through training, recognition and access to expertise, financial resources and time.

In the evolving landscape of science communication, the scientific community must engage in meaningful dialogue, including listening and responding, with a full range of actors across society. Sharing scientific insights through accessible, audience-specific approaches is essential. Our commitment to inclusive and intentional communication—with careful consideration of the purpose of our communication and its effects on others—will help foster a society where people turn to science to make meaningful and impactful contributions to humanity and the planet.

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¹ The Responsibilities and Rights of Scientists

² AGU Supports Free and Open Communication of Scientific Findings