

## Wrap-up report: *Being an Effective Peer Reviewer*

The Nature Research *Academies* team was delighted to hold a virtual peer reviewer workshop for the Okinawa Institute of Science and Technology (OIST) on 4 & 9 February 2021. The Nature Research *Academies* peer reviewer workshops are designed to give researchers the foundations to properly review manuscripts in line with editorial expectations and communicate their concerns clearly to editors and authors in their reports. To achieve these objectives, we used a combination of short lectures, open discussion and practical exercises.

Participants were asked to complete an online feedback form at the end of the workshop to report their overall satisfaction, with 28 feedback forms completed. This document contains the summary of this feedback.

### The training was led by:



**Jeffrey Robens, PhD**; Editorial Development Manager

### Background

The workshop participants were researchers from OIST from either life sciences (68.0%) or physical sciences (32.0%).

The virtual workshop comprised two 2-hour webinars, one conducted on each day.

- **Webinar 1:** Responsibilities & Assessing Relevance
- **Webinar 2:** Manuscript Evaluation & Reviewer Reports

Participant Feedback (n = 28)

100% of the respondents felt the overall quality of the workshop was either excellent (73.3%) or good (26.7%)

Figure 1: 100% of the attendees strongly agreed that the trainer was knowledgeable.

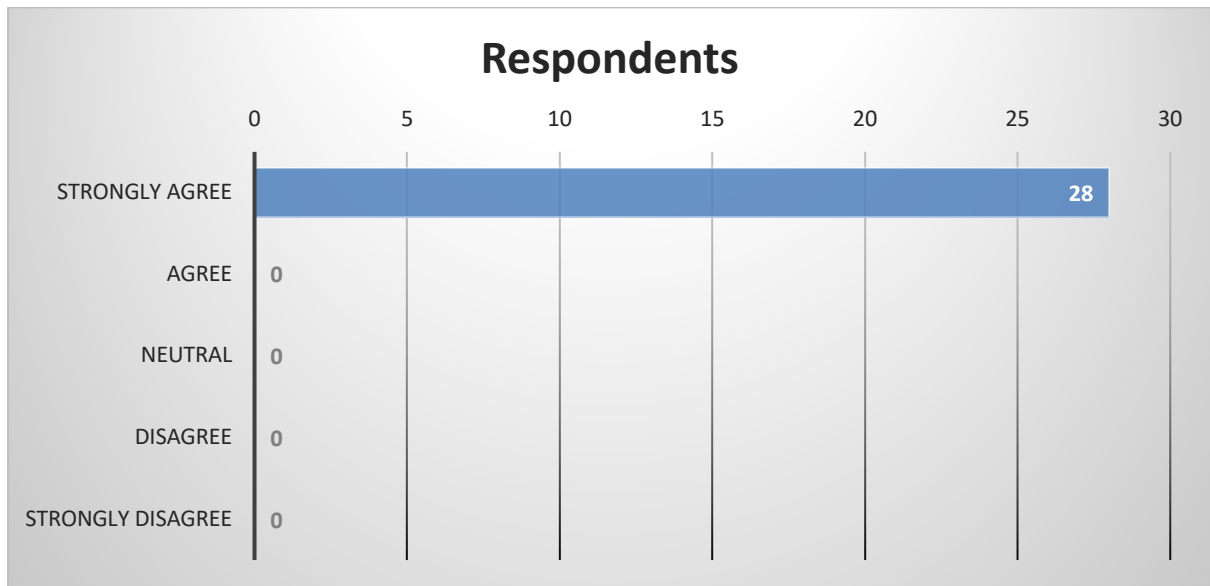
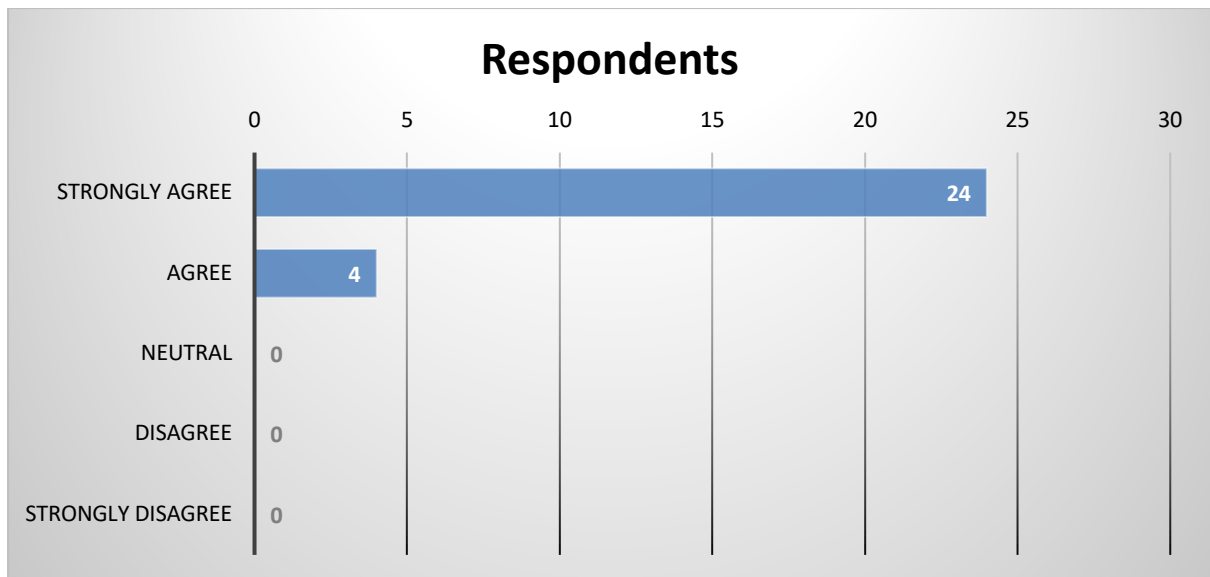
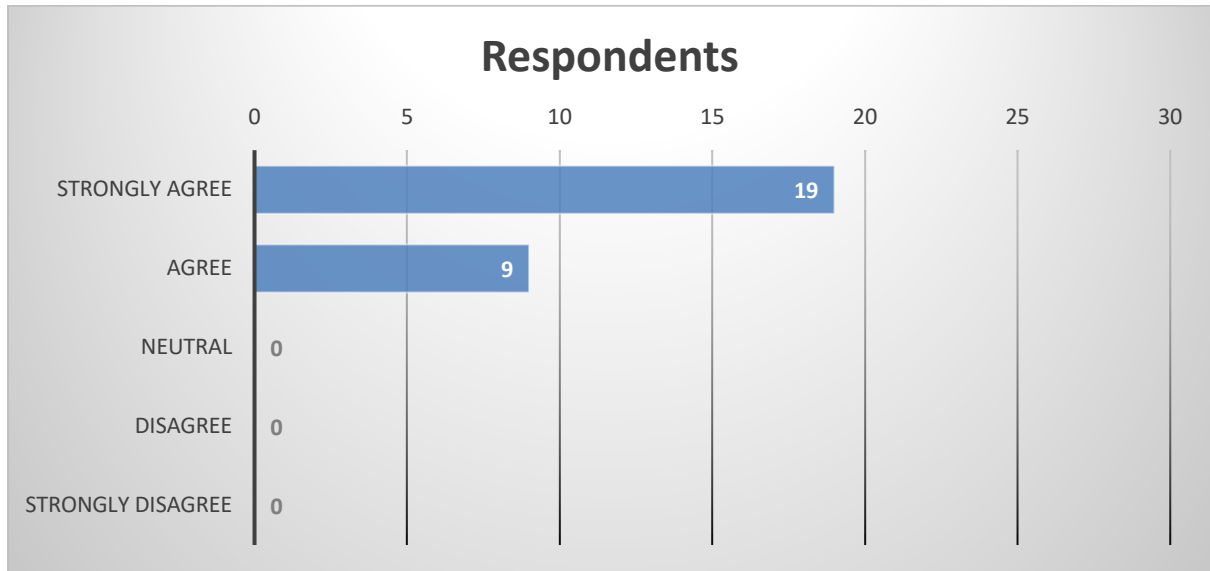


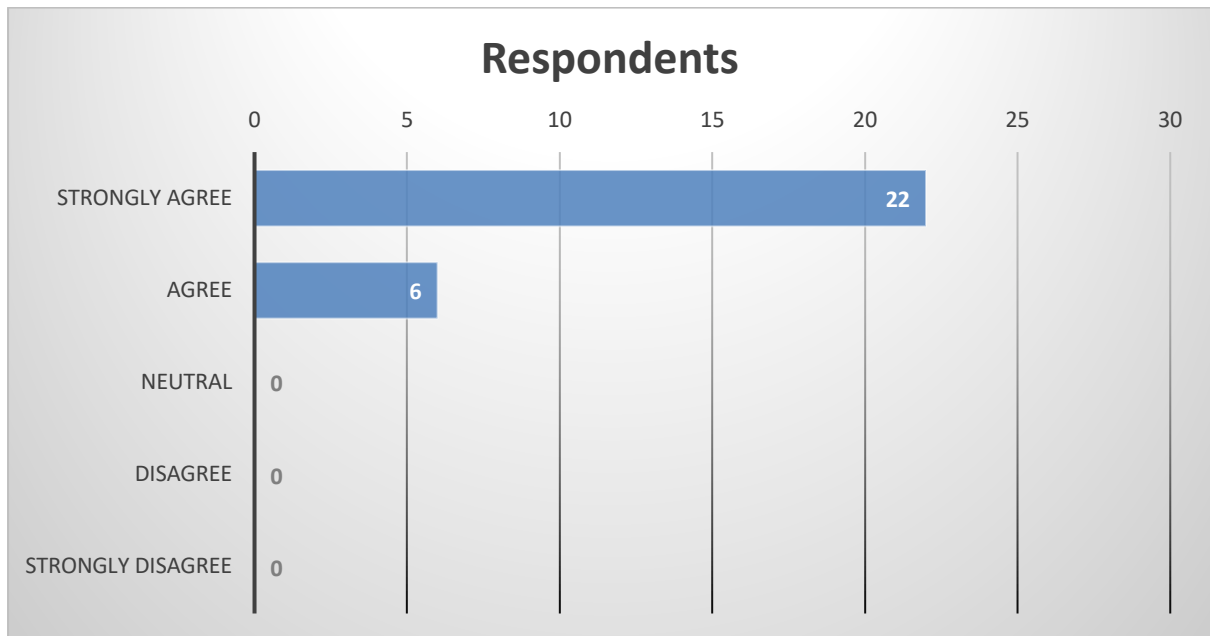
Figure 2: 100% of the attendees either strongly agreed (85.7%) or agreed (14.3%) that the topics were relevant.



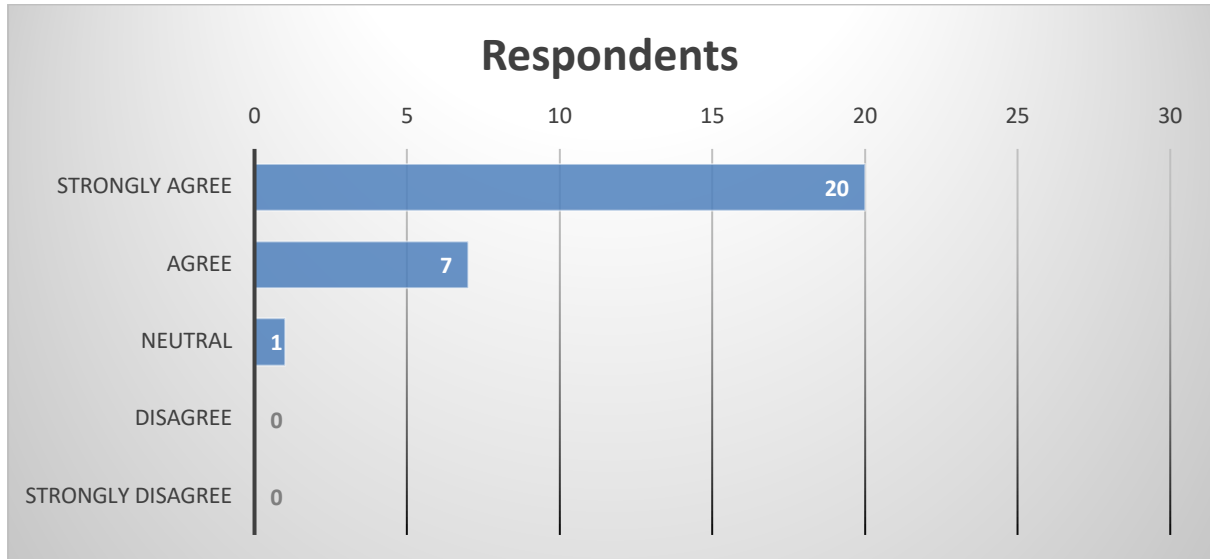
**Figure 3:** **100%** of the attendees either strongly agreed (67.9%) or agreed (32.1%) that the webinar was *clear* and *engaging*.



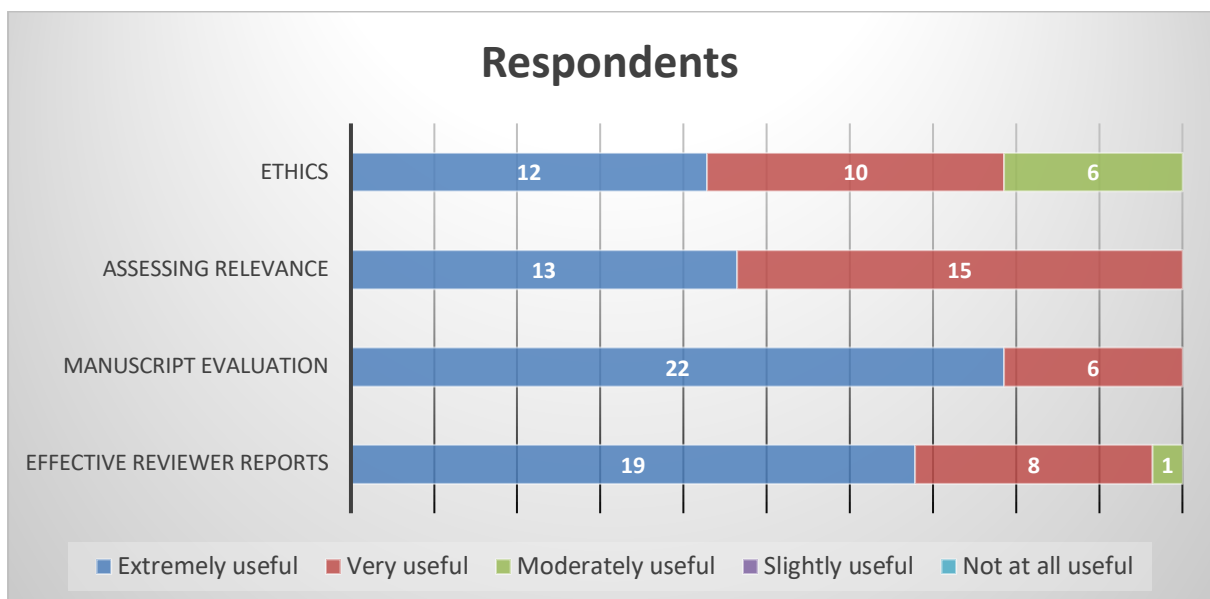
**Figure 4:** **100%** of the attendees either strongly agreed (78.6%) or agreed (21.4%) that they will be able to *apply* what they have learnt to their work.



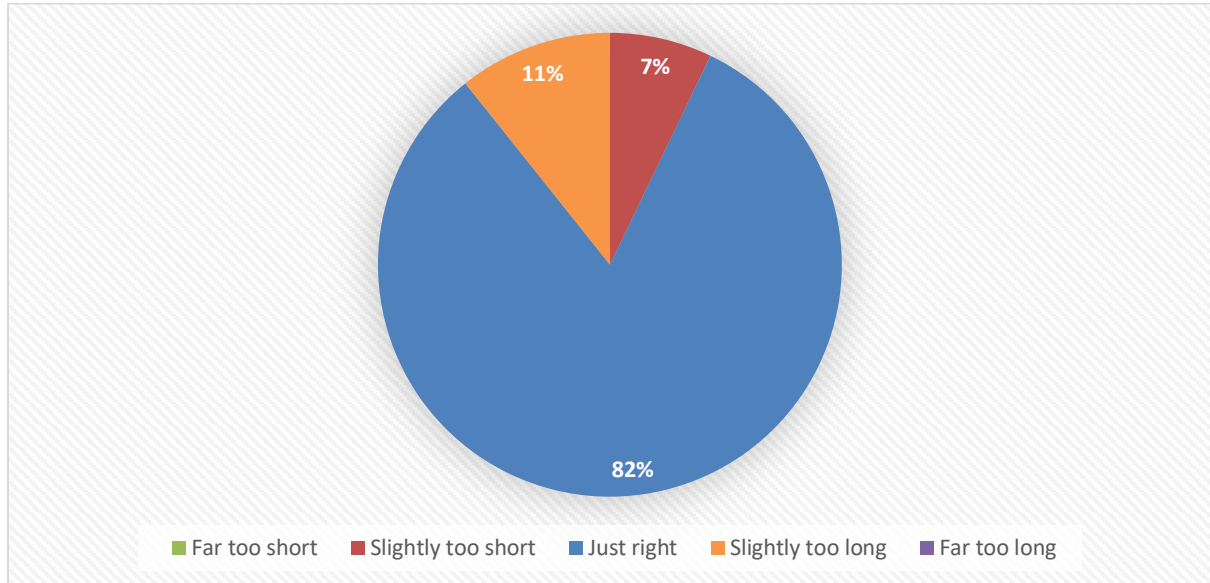
**Figure 5:** 96.4% of the attendees either strongly agreed (71.4%) or agreed (25.0%) that they feel more **confident** in their reviewing skills after attending this workshop.



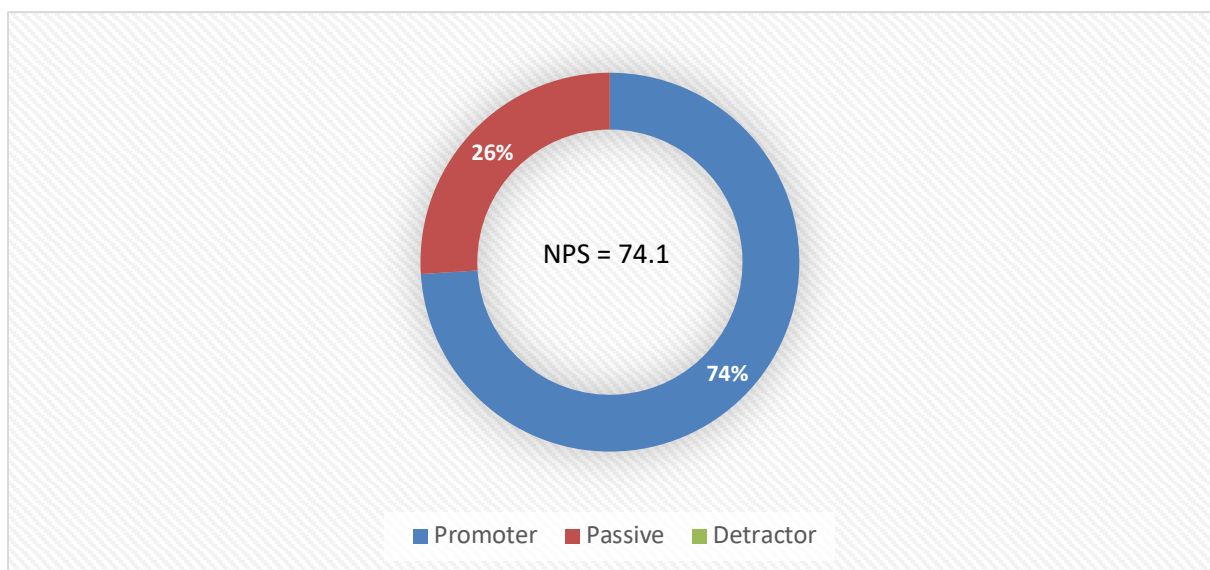
**Figure 6.** Attendees were asked to rate the usefulness of the modules from extremely useful to not at all useful. 'Manuscript Evaluation' was the top-rated module, although all modules were highly rated by the respondents. We understand that responsibilities and ethics is usually not a popular topic, but one we feel is important to discuss from an editorial perspective.



**Figure 7.** Attendees were asked to rate the appropriateness of the *workshop length*. 82% of the attendees felt the workshop length was just right, while 7% and 11% felt it was too short or long, respectively.



**Figure 8. Net Promoter Score (NPS).** Attendees were asked to rate how likely they would *recommend* this workshop to their colleagues on a scale of 1 to 10. Scores of 9 or 10 are considered 'promoters', scores of 7 or 8 are considered 'passive', and scores of 1–6 are considered 'detractors'. The NPS is calculated by subtracting the detractor percentage from the promoter percentage. An NPS >50 is considered good while an NPS > 70 is considered excellent. The NPS from this workshop was **74.1**.



*Selected attendee feedback*

The trainer is very engaging, presents well-structured and relevant material, offers insight. Most of the information is helpful and it fills a gap in the overall training of scientists.

High quality content that is relevant to our work as a researcher. very knowledgeable trainer.

This is very useful for being a reviewer and preparing manuscript for submission.

Well presented; focus can be maintained because of participation of the viewer via polls/questions etc.

Presented concise information on points to focus on while reviewing a manuscript.

Through this webinar, we get to understand the details that are required for not only reviewing and recommending a paper but also how to improve the quality of a paper as an author, especially for beginners.

I really like to attend these Nature Research Academies Webinars. They are very informative.

Very clear and to the point. Splitting in to two days was a good idea.

Very useful practical advice and good examples.

I like how the workshop has been structured, including the interactive activities.

I think such kind of interactive webinar is great and also fun; very useful and valuable information shared!