

Serving as Peer Reviewers: Prepare Review Comments for Research Articles

Kaisen Lin
Air Quality Research Center, UC Davis

Motivation

- Conducting peer review is an important way for junior researchers to contribute to their scientific communities.
- However, it is not easy to get started as a junior researcher because (1) there is limited training on this for graduate students and postdocs, and (2) less attention being paid to early career researchers.
- Thus, there is an urgent need among junior researchers to learn how to finish a quality review comment and find review opportunities.

Project Goal

- The overall goal of my PFTF project is to get students and postdocs familiar with the peer review process and provide them with recourses that are available online. This way, students and postdoc get ideas on what to expect after they accept a review invitation, have recourses to refer to during the review process, and can confidently finish quality review comments in the future.

Workshop Details

Speakers



Dr. Marcel Holyoak
Professor in Environmental Science and Policy



Dr. Kaisen Lin
Postdoc in Air Quality Research Center

Date and Time

This workshop was held from 10-11:30am on Thursday April 28th, 2022.

Location

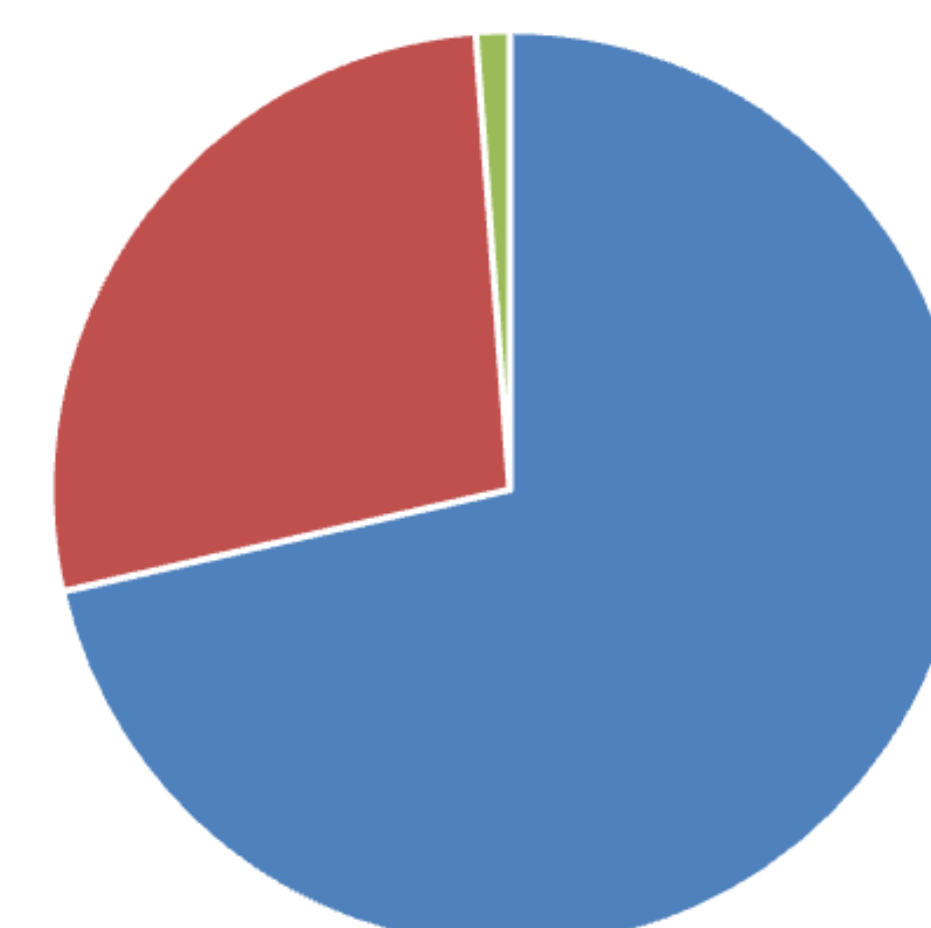
This workshop was held on Zoom.

Number of Attendees

84 attendees registered the event on Eventbrite and ~35 attended.

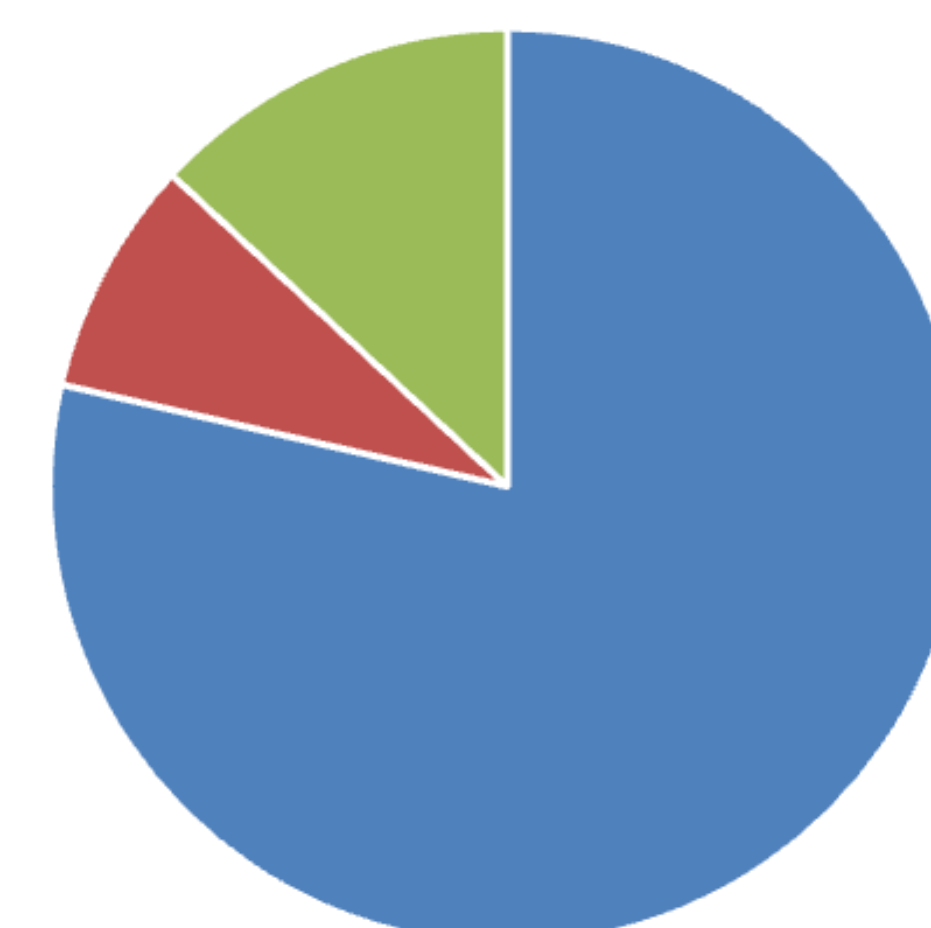
Workshop Details Continue

Career stage



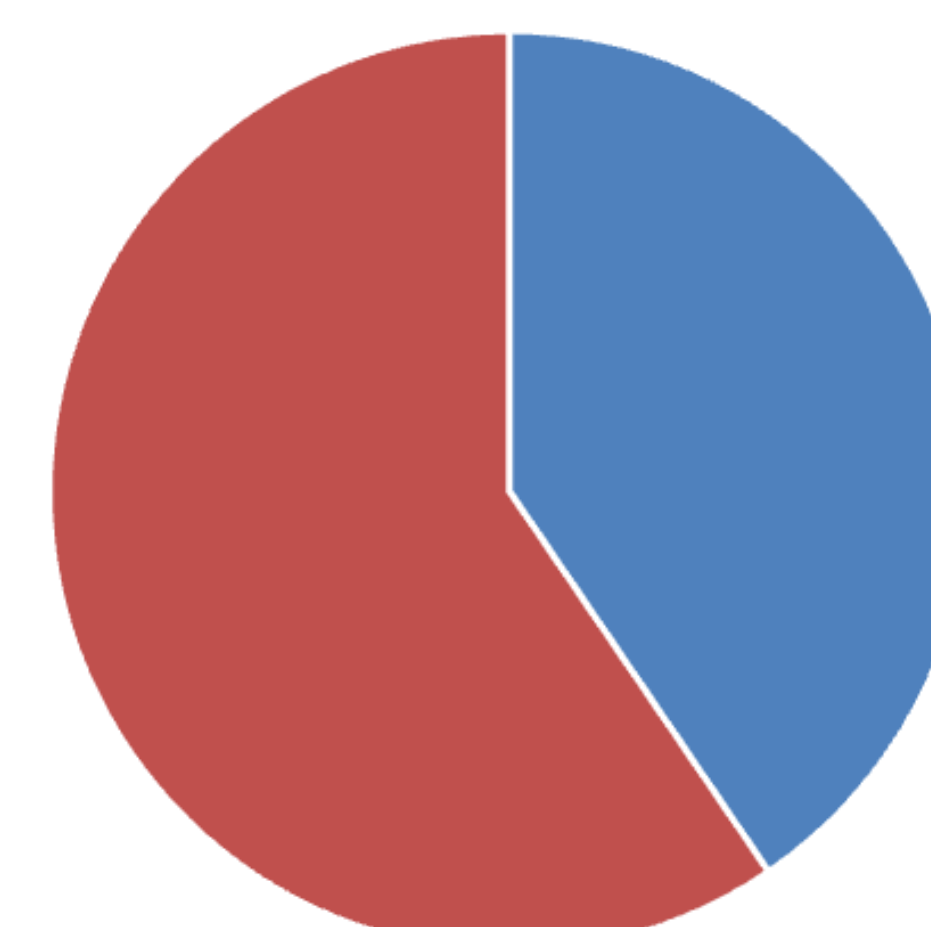
■ Graduate Student ■ Postdoc Scholar ■ Other

Training on peer review



■ Not at All ■ Not Formally ■ Yes

Previous review experience



■ No ■ Yes

Topics covered

- Why peer review?
- Typical review process
- What does a good review comment look like?
- Do's and Don'ts as a reviewer
- Conflict of interests
- Online training resources
- Ways to find review opportunities

Project Outcomes and Future Plans

- This workshop was recorded so that students and postdocs who had time conflicts will be able to access it later. The slides for both speakers were also made available to all registered attendees.



Workshop video



Holyoak slides



Lin slides

- A post-event survey was sent to attendees. The response rate was lower than expected. Only several attendees provided feedback.
- But all the feedback were extremely positive.
 - All of them found this workshop to be helpful, especially with the list of resources provided by speakers.
 - They also expressed the interests in attending future events on related topics.
- Students provided constructive feedbacks.
 - Include multiple presenters from different fields.
- Events such as panel discussion with editors, students, and professors from different fields, should be considered in the future.

Acknowledgements

- I'd like to thank Dr. Marcel Holyoak, who is very generous with his time to present and share his experience on peer review. He is dedicated in helping graduate students and postdocs for their career development.
- I really appreciate Drs. Teresa Dillinger and Ellen Hartigan O'Connor for organizing meaningful PFTF meetings and events. They really spent a lot of time putting this program together and make sure the program runs smoothly.
- I'd like to thank my fellow PFTF cohort, from whom I learned many great projects ideas and was inspired by their motivations.
- Lastly, I'd like to thank my advisor, Dr. Anthony Wexler, for his recommendation and support.