



# How to be a Symposium Chair/Host

*Journal clubs presented by authors around the world — free and open for all*

September 10, 2020  
Open Box Science Team





# Open Box Science?

- ❖ OPEN and FREE to ALL
- ❖ Presented by (first) authors
- ❖ Crossing institutional/geographical boundaries
- ❖ Facilitate scientific communication and collaborations





## Open Box Science: facts

- ❖ Science communications don't stop in pandemics
- ❖ First symposium took place on July 8, 2020
- ❖ As of today: 7 symposiums, 20+ speakers, ~400 participants





# What are you passionate about?

PUBLIC HEALTH  
MEDICINE CELL BIOLOGY DEVELOPMENTAL  
BIOMEDICAL ENGINEERING BIOLOGY  
PLANT SCIENCE CANCER BIOLOGY ECOLOGY GENETICS  
IMMUNOLOGY BIOCHEMISTRY COMPUTATIONAL  
BIOLOGY  
MICROBIOLOGY BIOPHYSICS NEUROSCIENCE  
STRUCTURAL BIOLOGY GENOMICS NEUROIMMUNOLOGY





# Why organize an online symposium?

1. Listen to the paper first-hand
2. Accumulate experience of hosting large-scale talks (think your CV!)
3. Network with like-minded scientists (eg. find jobs/talents)





# 1st: find a co-host.

- ✓ Trust us, you need 2 hosts.
- ✓ Ask your friends.
- ✓ If you have a symposium planned, but can't find co-hosts, tell us!





# How to Organize an Open Box Science Symposium?

**INVITE → PREP → PROMOTE → HOST**





**Invite** (first) authors of the recently-published papers that interest you.

- ✓ Email templates
- ✓ Aim: 2-4 speakers for one symposium







# Schedule a symposium.

- ✓ Consider speakers' time zones
- ✓ No more than 2 hours





# Prep the symposium.

- ✓ Search and ask for speaker information
- ✓ Use the templates to make flyers & share the edited folder with [OpenBoxScience@gmail.com](mailto:OpenBoxScience@gmail.com)

Open Box Science will:

- ✓ Provide flyer templates (in google drive)
- ✓ Create a Zoom meeting room link





# OPEN BOX SCIENCE

Online Symposium: *gnomAD: A catalogue of human variation*

September 16<sup>th</sup>, 2020

11 am-1 pm (Eastern time)

**11:05 am** Ryan Collins | *Harvard University (USA)*

A structural variation reference for medical and population genetics

*Nature 2020*



**11:35 am** Eric Minikel | *Broad Institute (USA)*

Evaluating drug targets through human loss-of-function genetic variation

*Nature 2020*



**12:05 pm** Beryl Cummings | *Maze Therapeutics (USA)*

Transcript expression-aware annotation improves rare variant interpretation

*Nature 2020*



Moderated by Drs. Jesús Gutiérrez & Sheng Chih Jin

<https://openboxscience.org/>

Twitter: @OpenBoxSci





# OPEN BOX SCIENCE

*Online Symposium: Function and Heterogeneity of Astrocytes*

September 22<sup>nd</sup> 2020

12:00-2:10 pm (EDT)

**12:05 pm** Adi Kol | *The Hebrew University of Jerusalem*

Astrocytes contribute to remote memory formation by modulating hippocampal–cortical communication during learning (*Nat Neurosci* 2020)



**12:35 pm** Kevin Guttenplan | *Stanford University*

Neurotoxic Reactive Astrocytes Drive Neuronal Death after Retinal Injury (*Cell Rep* 2020)  
Knockout of reactive astrocyte activating factors slows disease progression in an ALS mouse model (*Nat Commun* 2020)



**01:05 pm** Yu-Szu Anna Huang | *Baylor College of Medicine*

Region-specific transcriptional control of astrocyte function oversees local circuit activities (*Neuron* 2020)



**01:35 pm** Matthew Holt | *VIB Center for Brain & Disease Research*

Molecular heterogeneity of astrocytes: implications for development and function (reference: *Nat Commun* 2020)



**Moderated by Drs. Emanuela Pasciuto and Vered Kellner**







## OPEN BOX SCIENCE

*Journal clubs presented by authors around the world — free and open for all*

# Eyiyemisi Damisah

Assistant professor  
Yale University

**“Astrocytes and microglia play orchestrated roles and respect phagocytic territories during neuronal corpse removal in vivo ”**





## OPEN BOX SCIENCE

*Journal clubs presented by authors around the world — free and open for all*

# Eugenio Contreras Castillo

Graduate Student

National Autonomous University of Mexico

**Moderator of Open Box Science Symposium**

**“New Insights in Tissue-resident T cell Biology”**

1:00-3:00 pm (ET) August 6, 2020



*Tune in August 6th 2020 1:00 pm (ET) via Zoom to learn more!*



# Promote the symposium (make it known!)

- ✓ Promote in your institution & community
- ✓ Ask your friends/communities to share
- ✓ Re-share Open Box Science social posts

Open Box Science will help promote:

- ✓ Open Box Science Facebook and Twitter
- ✓ Open Box Science mailing list





# Host your symposium!

- ✓ Introduce Open Box Science and encourage sign-ups
- ✓ Introduce speakers and ask questions

Open Box Science co-host will help:

- ✓ Record the meetings
- ✓ Take screenshots for you and the speakers
- ✓ Maintain meeting order







## After the symposium...

You can:

- ✓ Send thank-you note and keep the relationship going!
- ✓ Prepare for the next symposium!

Open Box Science will help:

- ✓ Upload videos to OpenBoxSci YouTube
- ✓ Post screenshot records on Facebook and Twitter





## What is in the Host folder?

This folder includes:

- ✓ This presentation
- ✓ Invitation email templates
- ✓ Host checklist
- ✓ Template symposium folder
  - Flyer/poster templates
  - Zoom background template





INVITE → PREP → PROMOTE → HOST

*Questions and Comments?*



 **Open Box Science**

 **@OpenBoxSci**