



Wikimedia and public engagement for scientists

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WIKIPEDIA
The Free Encyclopedia



User:MartinPoulter

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

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“Imagine a world in which every single human being can freely share in the sum of all knowledge. That's our commitment.”

Not just an encyclopaedia

Wikipedia's sister projects

Wikipedia is hosted by the [Wikimedia Foundation](#), a non-profit organization that also hosts a range of other [projects](#):



Commons

Free media repository



Wikiquote

Collection of quotations



Wikiversity

Free learning materials and activities



Wikibooks

Free textbooks and manuals



Wikisource

Free-content library



Wiktionary

Dictionary and thesaurus



Wikinews

Free-content news



Wikispecies

Directory of species



Meta-Wiki

Wikimedia project coordination



The Wikimedia projects

- Multilingual (in more than 280 languages)
- Free (as in free speech)
- Created by volunteer labour
- Run by the Wikimedia Foundation, a US charity
- Supported in the UK by Wikimedia UK, a charity
- No ads, no commercial influences, no government targets

Supported by donations



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A personal appeal from
Wikipedia founder Jimmy Wales

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Scopophobia

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

Scopophobia or **scoptophobia** is the unreasonable fear of being seen or being stared at.

A 1906 journal in what is called now *psychiatry* writes:^[1]

Then, there is a fear of being seen and a shamefacedness, which one sees in asylums.<...> We called it scopophobia — a morbid dread of being seen. In minor degree, it is morbid shamefacedness, and the patient covers the face with his or her hands. In greater degree, the patient will shun the visitor and escape from his or her sight where this is possible. Scopophobia is more often manifest among women than among men.

Later, on p. 285 scopophobia is defined as "a fear of seeing people or being seen, especially of strange faces."^[1]



So far

- One billion contributions in ten years
- Nearly 100,000 regular contributors
- Reached 400 million visitors per month in 2010, aiming for 1 billion per month in 2015
- About 20 million articles, 11 million media files
- About 0.5% of English articles are Good Article quality, 0.09% are Featured Article quality

Some article hit rates

Article	Monthly hits
Asperger Syndrome	426,803
Volcano	160,940
Lymphoma	226,934
Dependent and independent variables	220,831
Speed of light	247,930
Oxygen	164,842
Chromosome	103,269
Carl Sagan	141,791



- “Dear Wikipedia, I want to thank you and to compliment you on your service. I often use it, especially also for technical information in physics and astronomy. Just now I was impressed by the density of information in your article on QCD, the theory of the strong interaction, in particular, its history.”
 - Jack Steinberger, Nobel Laureate, Physics, 1988

Open review processes



Confirmation bias is a [featured article](#); it (or a previous version of it) has been *identified* as one of the best articles produced by the [Wikipedia community](#). Even so, if you can update or improve it, [please do so](#).



This article appeared on Wikipedia's [Main Page](#) as [Today's featured article](#) on July 23, 2010.

Article milestones [\[hide\]](#)

Date	Process	Result
September 29, 2009	Good article nominee	Listed
May 24, 2010	Peer review	Reviewed
July 6, 2010	Featured article candidate	Promoted
July 23, 2010	Today's featured article	Main Page

Current Status: **Featured article**

- "I request that the public fund my research through their tax and charitable contributions; in return I consider it my responsibility to provide them with accurate, up-to-date and free access to the scientific progress they pay for."
 - Darren Logan, *Wellcome Trust Blog* 18 May 2011 ["Being a scientist in the age of Wikipedia"](#)

The Famous Frog



“Frog diamagnetic levitation” by Lijnis Nelemans, via Wikimedia Commons. Licence: GNU FDL

So far

- Cancer Research UK: presentation day and workshop
- Medical Research Council: 2 training workshops so far
- Institute of Physics: magazine article and training workshop
- Exploring possibilities with British Psychological Society and others
- Extensive partnerships with Galleries, Libraries, Archives & Museums



Options

- Training workshop
- “Train the trainers” workshop
- Public workshop
- Sharing content
- Wikipedian in residence
- Joint publication



Thanks

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