



Incentives for Academic Integrity: The Role of Funders

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AV invests in evidence-based solutions that

**maximize opportunity and
minimize injustice:**

- > Support rigorous causal research
- > Invest in scaling evidence-based programs
- > Advocate for evidence-based policy



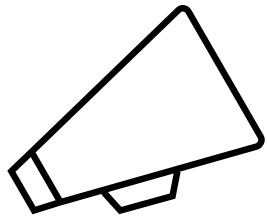
Integrity as a Systems Design Problem

- > Researchers value honesty and rigor
- > But academic systems often reward:
 - Novelty over replication and reliability
 - Speed over documentation and transparency
 - Positive and noteworthy results over accurate results

The Role of Funders in this System

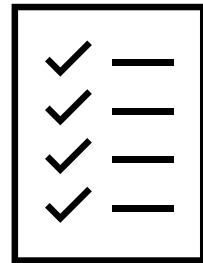
- > Funding acts upstream of most other system incentives
- > Funders influence research *before* results are known, shaping:
 - What gets studied (novelty vs. replication)
 - How research is conducted (speed vs. rigor)
 - Which results are discussed (positive vs. null)

Funder Levers to Increase Integrity



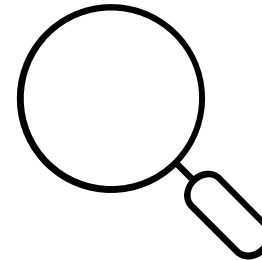
Signal

Emphasize and prioritize research integrity and replications



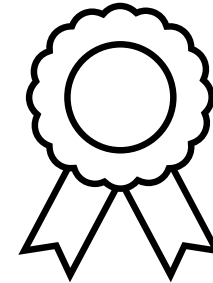
Plan

Build integrity and reproducibility activities into budgets and timelines



Verify

Normalize error checking throughout the grant lifecycle



Reward

Fund rigorous studies, conducted by researchers committed to open science

Examples of Funder Leverage

What AV does today:

- > Promote open science and require funded research to comply with best practices
- > Support research infrastructure promoting open science
- > Highlight results from pre-specified outcomes and models

More to do:

- > Greater emphasis on the importance of following the data wherever it leads
- > Fund researchers with strong open science, integrity and replicability track records
- > Coordinate funders, journals, schools/departments to better align incentives

Thank you!

