FALLING WALLS SCIENCE SUMMIT

"SCIENCE INTEGRITY IN THE AGE OF ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE"

SPRINGER NATURE

— Break the silos: align publishers, funders, industry, and academia to define real-world accountability.

AI is accelerating how research is created, reviewed, and published. That promise comes with pressure to keep quality high while moving faster, and to update integrity practices for tools most researchers do not fully understand. The panel's direction of travel was clear: embed AI within existing integrity frameworks, raise the bar on reproducibility, and organise accountability across disciplines and sectors.

Today's integrity baseline is not starting from scratch. The UK Concordat to Support Research Integrity, the European Code of Conduct for Research Integrity, and the Singapore Statement on Research Integrity already provide principle-based anchors. The task now is to apply them coherently to AI-enabled research, while at the same time using AI itself to detect fraud and strengthen editorial checks. Industry urged openness with code, data, and model checkpoints to make findings verifiable, and academia called for capacity-building so researchers can use AI well, not naively. Publishers emphasised cross-stakeholder collaboration to curb paper mills and align expectations.

THE PANEL CALL TO ACTION:

1 — Make AI use in research transparent and accountable.
Require authors, reviewers, and editors to disclose when and why AI tools are used, and align these disclosures with existing national and international integrity frameworks. This keeps principle-based accountability clear while allowing flexible application as tools evolve.

2 — Mandate reproducibility assets with every paper.
Publish code, data (or synthetic/secure access where needed), model checkpoints, and evaluation scripts alongside manuscripts so results can be independently verified, boosting trust regardless of whether text was drafted with AI. Use standard repositories to enable re-runs and extensions.

3 — Build cross-disciplinary and cross-sector governance for AI in science.
Convene researchers in STEM and the social sciences with philosophers, ethicists, publishers, and industry to define what accountability looks like in practice. Reduce bias and harms, and harmonise guidance so students and researchers receive consistent, usable rules.

4 — Default to open science where possible while protecting the sensitive.
Increase findability and lawful re-use of research outputs so AI can learn from high-quality material, using appropriate licensing and federated infrastructures. At the same time, apply safeguards for proprietary or sensitive data. This improves model quality and transparency without compromising obligations. between early research to real-world application.

PANELLISTS

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Co-Chair, UK Committee on Research Integrity

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5 — Use AI to fight misconduct at scale.
Deploy AI and computer-vision tools to detect fingerprints of paper mills, image manipulation, and fabricated or hallucinated references during editorial triage – paired with human oversight – to keep fake science out while helping well-meaning authors correct naive misuse.

This event is supported by Springer Nature and assembled in the framework of the Falling Walls Science Summit 2025 in Berlin. The Falling Walls Science Summit is a leading international, interdisciplinary, and intersectoral forum for scientific breakthroughs. It commemorates the fall of the Berlin Wall and aims to promote dialogue between science and society.