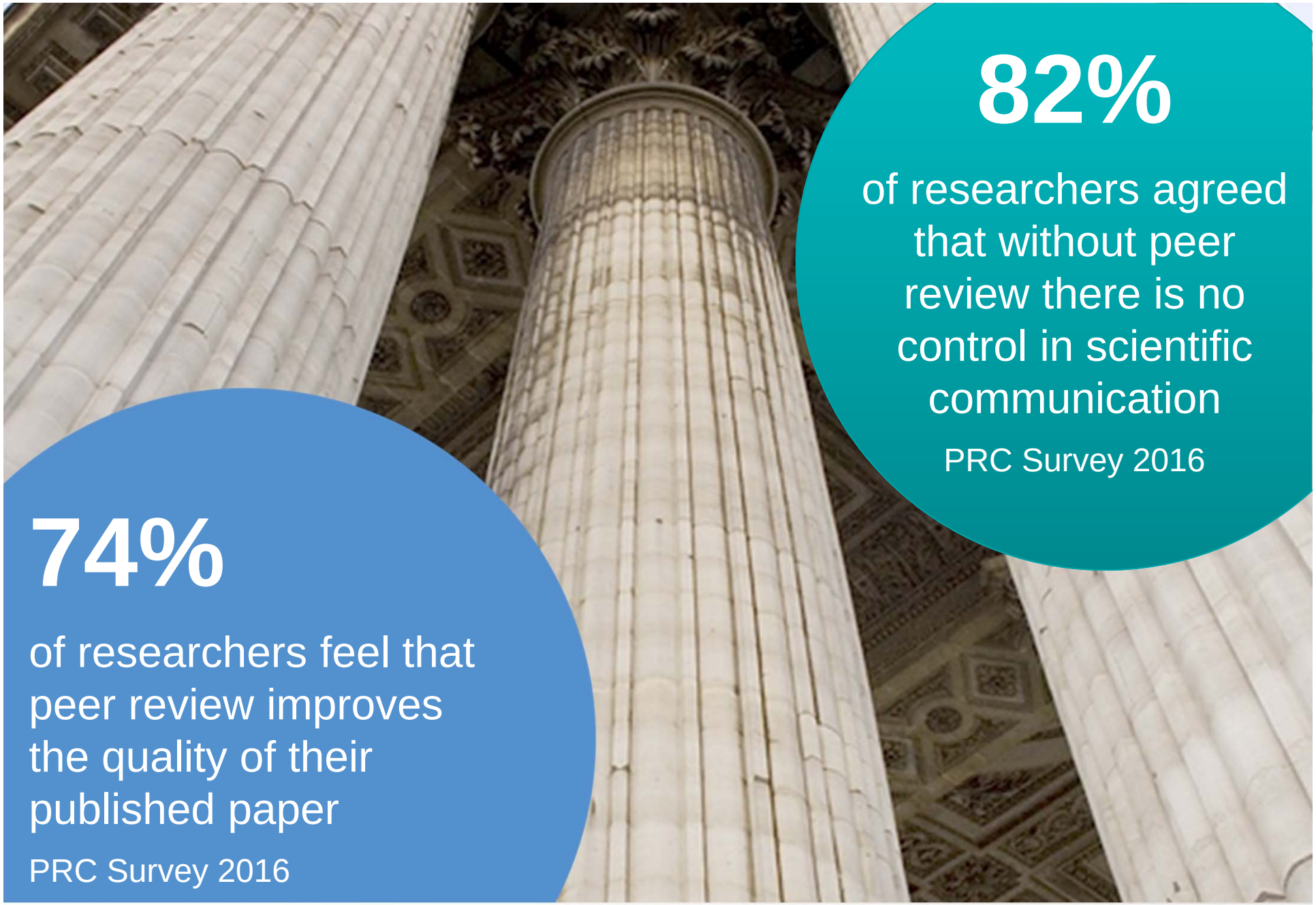
WILEY

Peer Review – current perceptions and issues

Dr Andrew Robinson, SVP & MD, Society Services


82%
of researchers agreed that without peer review there is no control in scientific communication
PRC Survey 2016
74%
of researchers feel that peer review improves the quality of their published paper
PRC Survey 2016

WILEY

Good reviewers attract good authors

Author’s experience of peer review shapes their overall publishing experience

WILEY

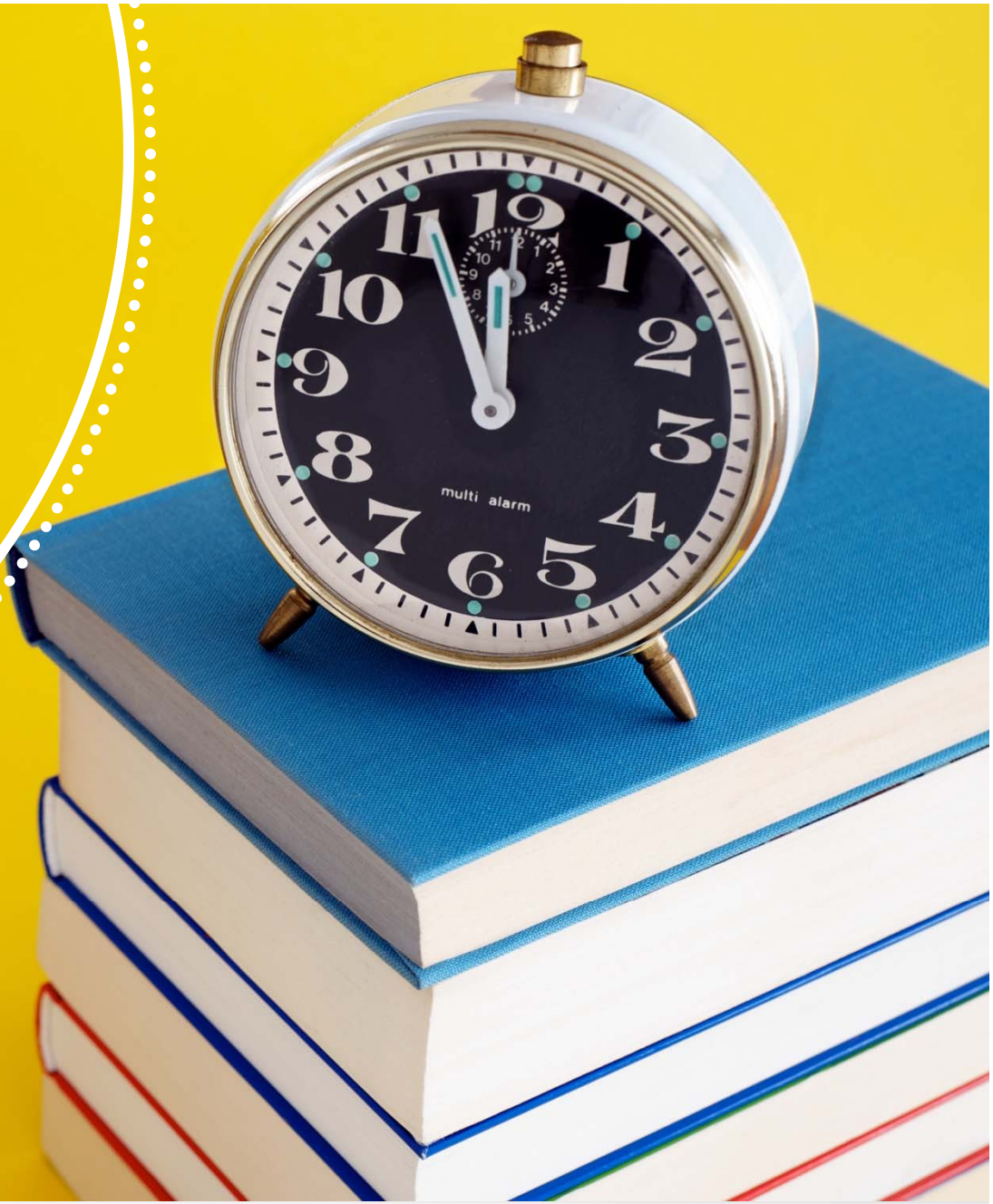

Authors that struggle
with the review process
are the
least satisfied
• review took longer than expected
• difficulty understanding what reviewer comments mean

WILEY

30 million researcher hours spent reviewing papers in 2013

15,000,000+ hours spent on redundant reviews every year

Rubriq, 2013



WILEY


31%
of researchers disagreed that the current peer review system is the best we can achieve
PRC Survey 2016
33%
of researchers agree that peer review in journals needs a complete overhaul
PRC Survey 2016

WILEY

Innovations in Peer Review

Portable Peer Review, e.g. Rubriq, Peerage of Science

Single-blind peer review: reviewer unidentified
Double-blind: author and reviewer unidentified
Open peer review: author and reviewer both identified

Post-publication peer review, e.g. PLOS One

Submission → **Peer review** → **Accept/Reject** → **Publication**

Preprint services, e.g. arXiv

Peer Reviewer recognition, e.g. Publons

Peer Review Certification

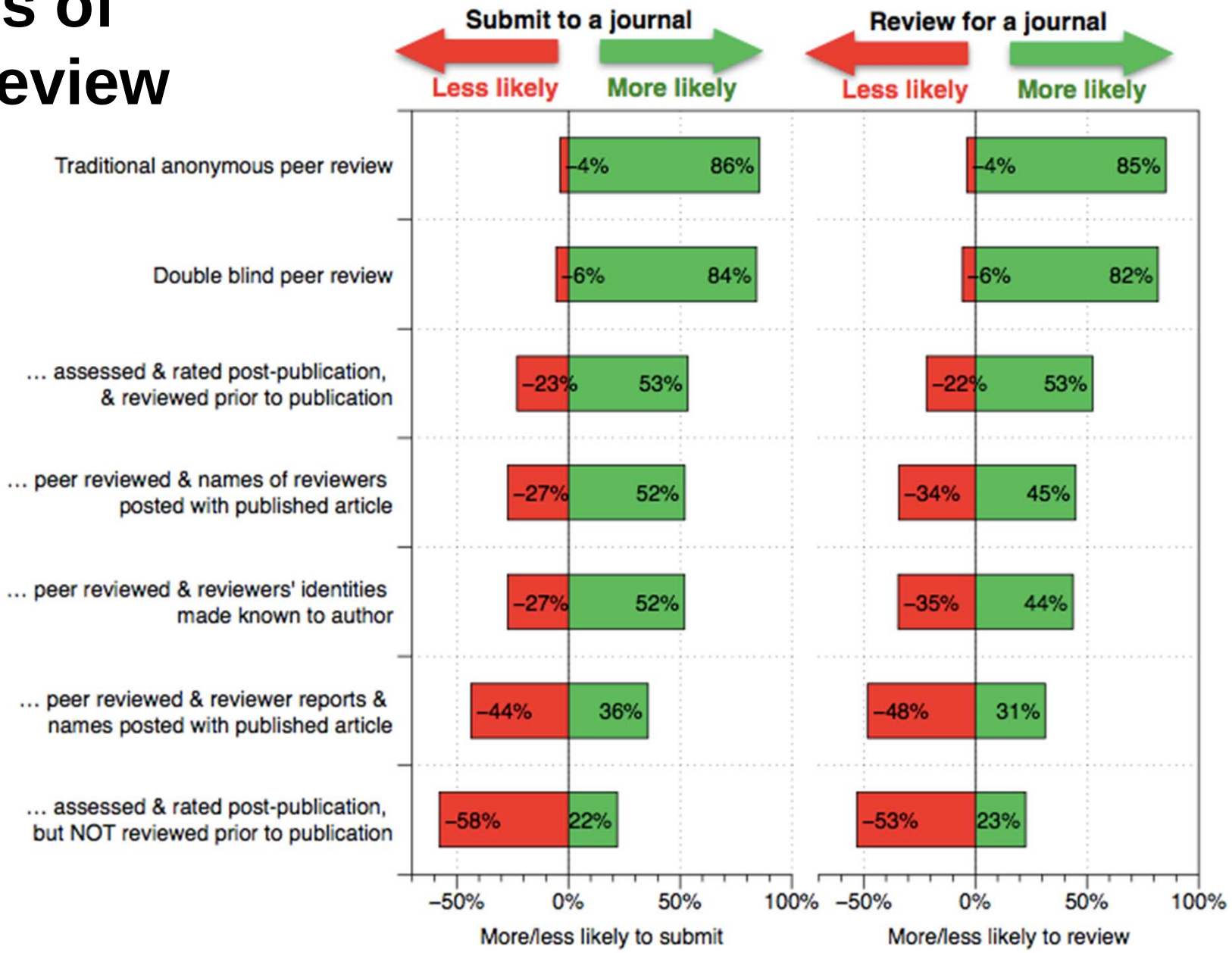
Cascading "rejected" papers

87% of rejected Chinese authors would appreciate a recommended alternative*

*Edanz: Innovating the author experience

WILEY

Models of peer review



WILEY

HSS	STM
7.1 Seniority bias	6.9 Seniority bias
6.2 Regional bias	5.9 Regional bias
5.3 Review rings	5.5 Review rings
4.9 Competitor delay	5.2 Competitor delay
4.8 Competitor espionage	5.1 Competitor espionage
3.7 Gender bias	3.0 Gender bias
2.5 False Identities	2.9 False Identities

81% **should be able**

41% **is able**

Agree that peer review should be able to detect fraud and fabricated results

78% **should be able**

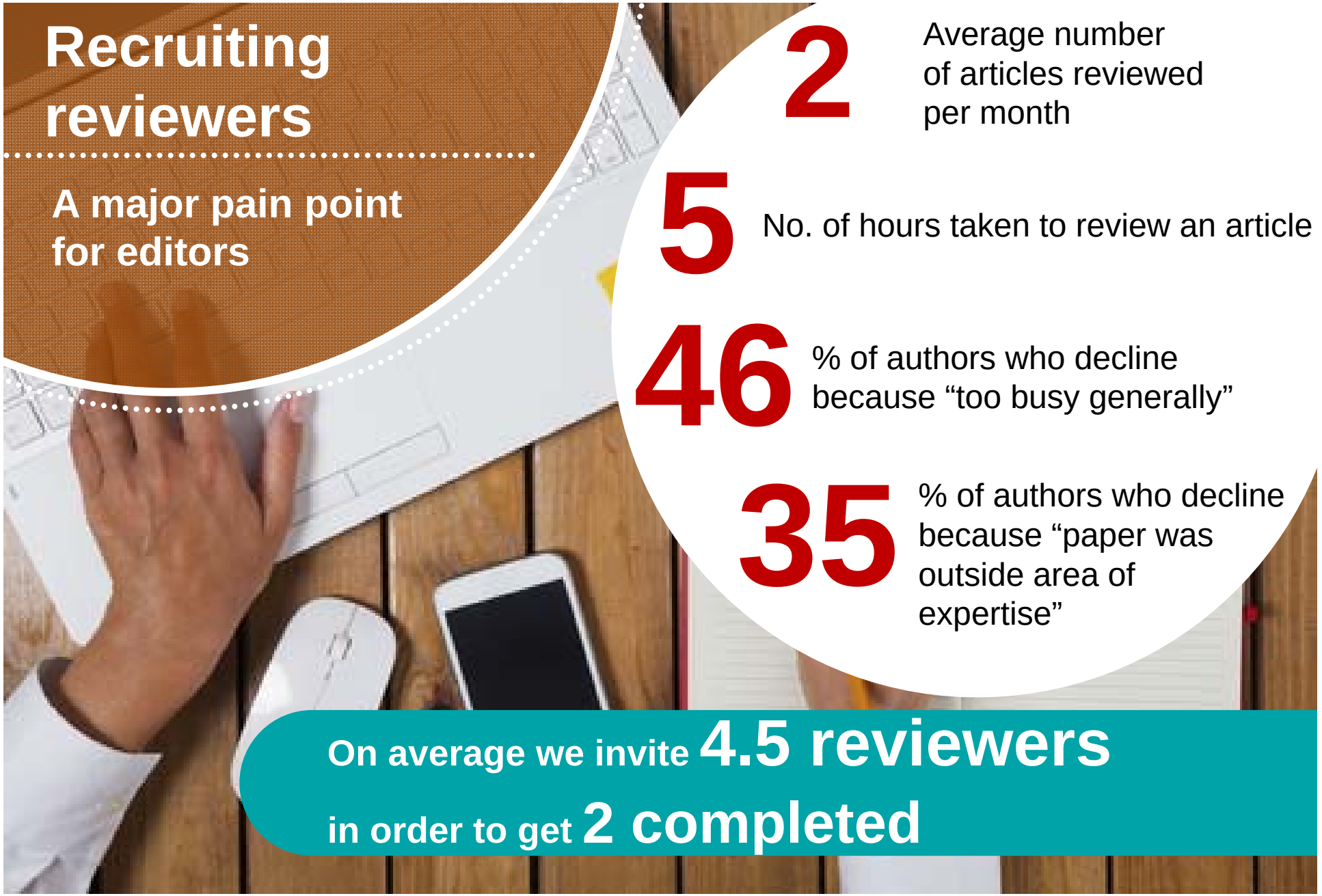
44% **is able**

Agree that peer review should be able to detect plagiarism

WILEY

Recruiting reviewers

A major pain point for editors



2 Average number of articles reviewed per month

5 No. of hours taken to review an article

46 % of authors who decline because “too busy generally”

35 % of authors who decline because “paper was outside area of expertise”

On average we invite 4.5 reviewers in order to get 2 completed

WILEY

We need to….

1. Increase the reviewer pool
2. Ensure reviewers are well trained, trustworthy, and produce good quality reviews
3. Reward reviewers in order to recognise their work and maintain motivation

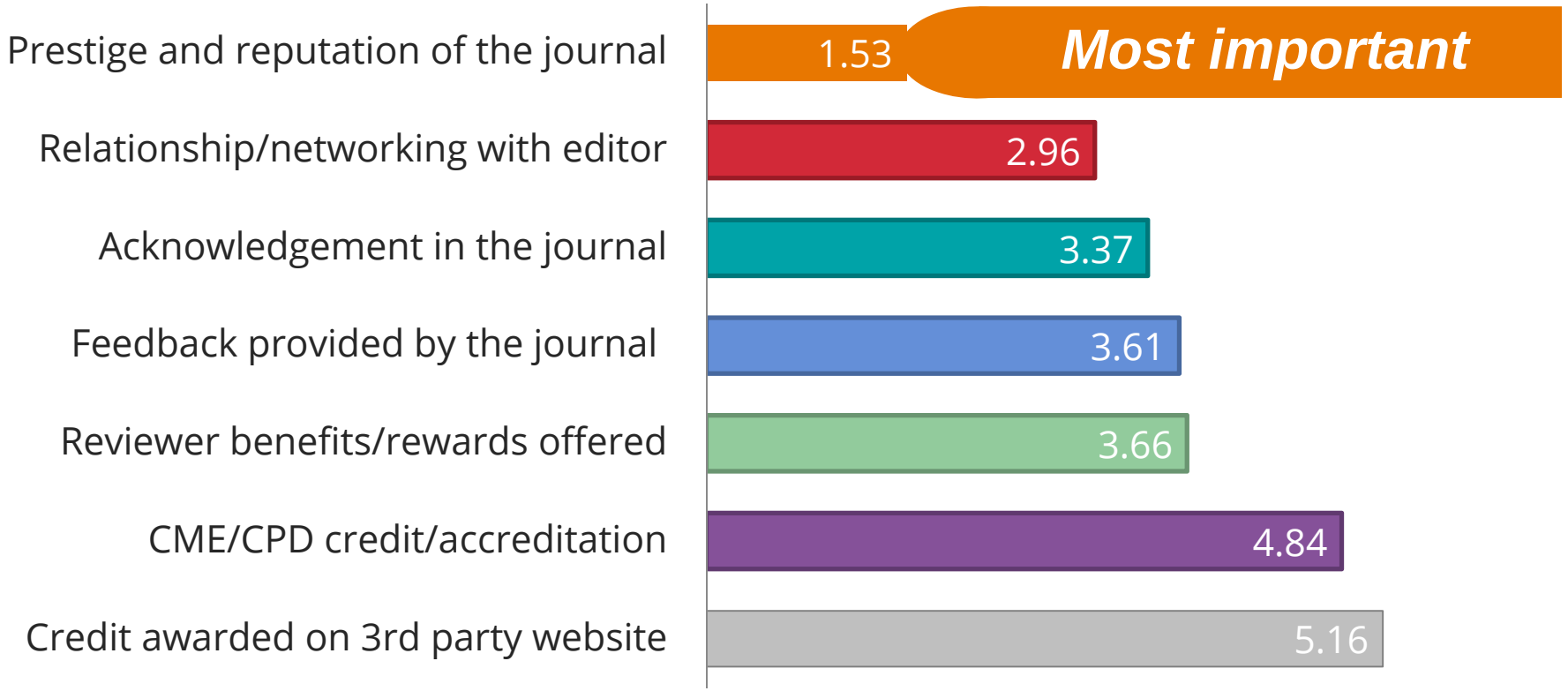
- **US researchers review 10% more than they publish**
- **Chinese researchers publish twice as many papers as they review**

28% Of researchers feel peer review is unsustainable because there are too few willing reviewers

Increase the pool of reviewers

WILEY

Influencing factors on decision to accept review invitations



Do reviewers want training?

Would like more training

The most common types of reviewer training received to date are in the form of guidelines (journal instructions for reviewers or COPE ethical guidelines) or informal advice from supervisors/colleagues. But....

Support is needed throughout the reviewer career arc

Early Career Researchers

Established Career Researchers

Specific training areas that are in most demand

Constructing Report

Providing Feedback

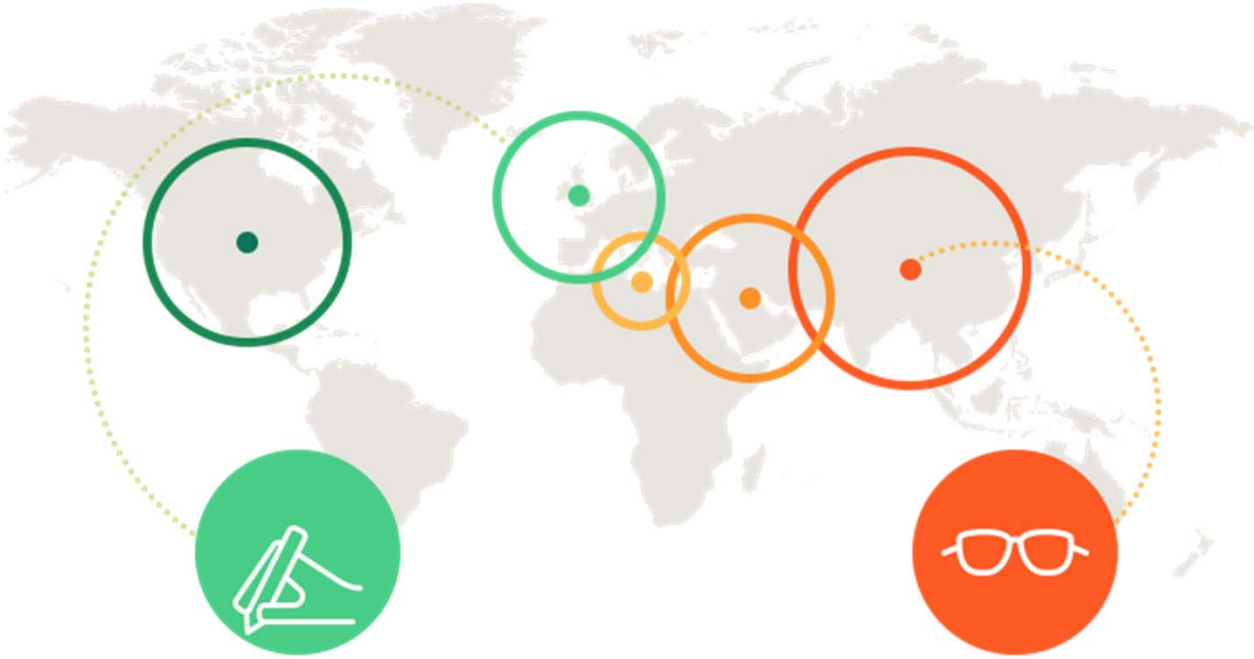
Handling Plagiarism

Intro to Reviewing

WILEY

How do training needs vary by region?

Providing constructive, useful feedback
was most popular training topic for
50% of all regions



How to handle re-reviews
Popular in UK, Ireland and US.

How to become a reviewer
Popular in Asia, Middle East and North Africa.

WILEY

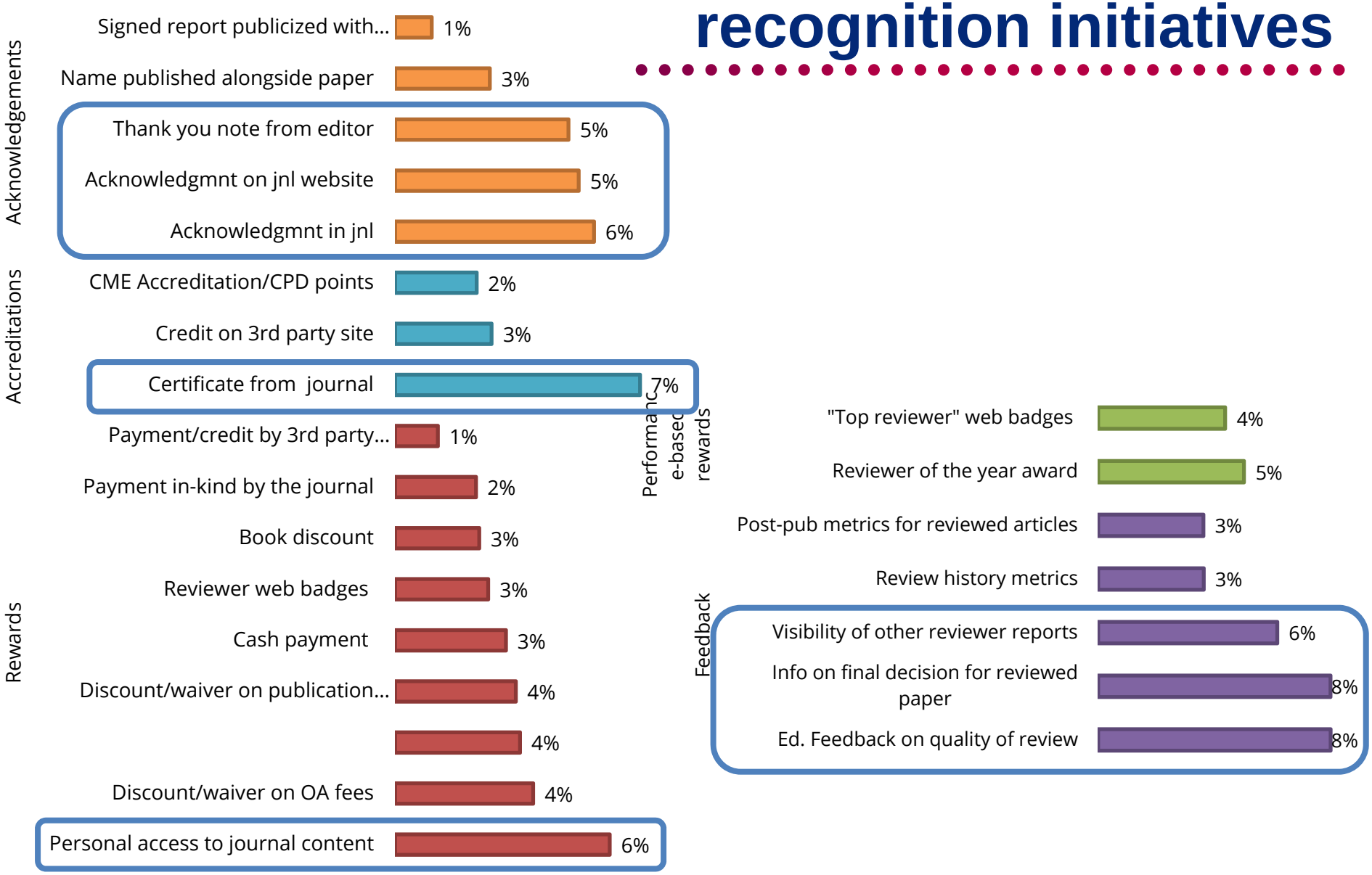
Credit where credit is due

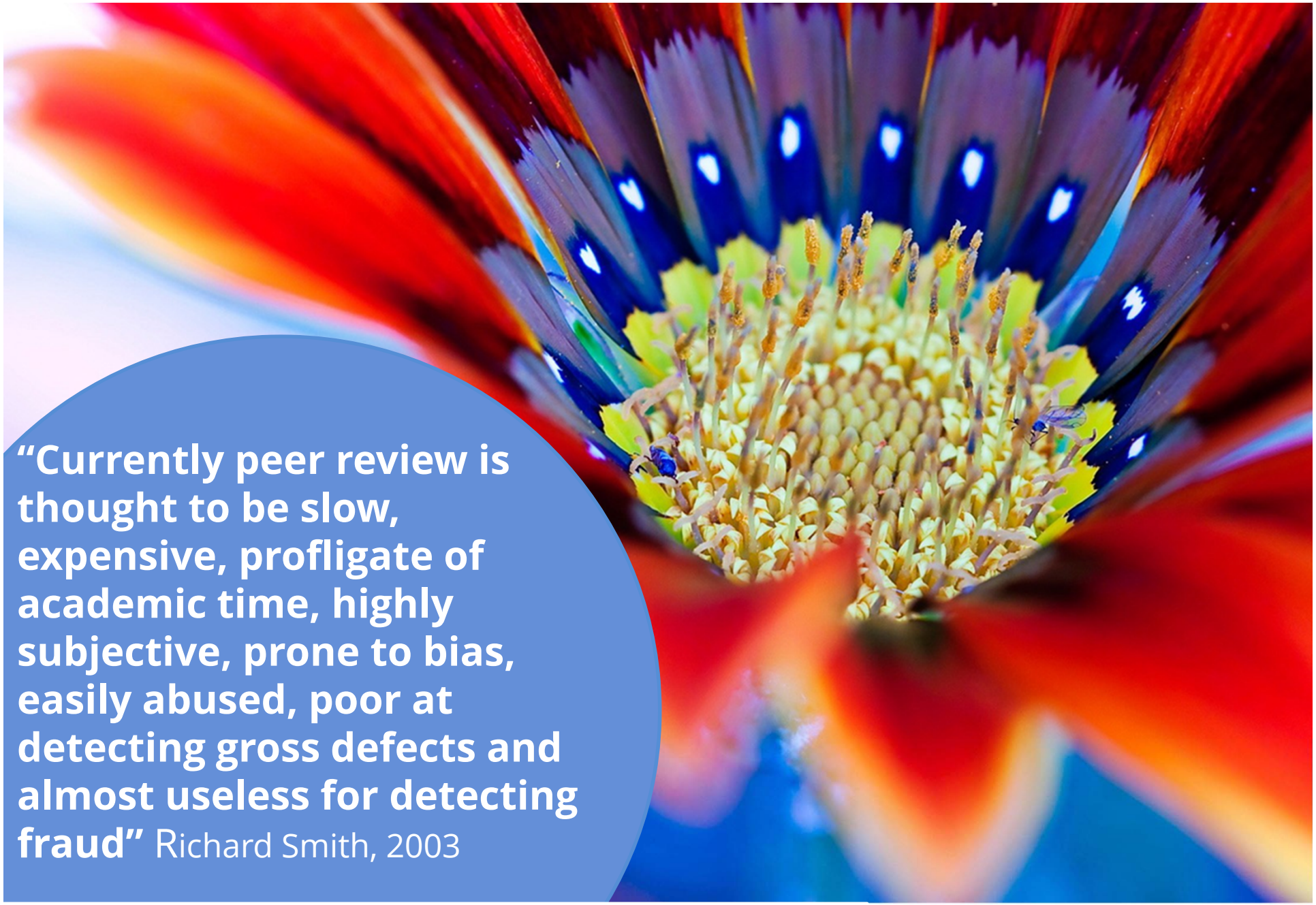
Reviewers would spend more time reviewing if it received better recognition as a measurable research output

WILEY

Recognition & reward

Preferred recognition initiatives




“Currently peer review is thought to be slow, expensive, profligate of academic time, highly subjective, prone to bias, easily abused, poor at detecting gross defects and almost useless for detecting fraud” Richard Smith, 2003

Sources of data

Wiley Peer Review Study 2015

3000 reviewers across all regions and subject disciplines

Publishing Research Consortium Peer Review Survey 2015

2004 responses reviewers across all regions and subject disciplines

問い合わせ先：ワイリー・パブリッシング・ジャパン株式会社

学会英文誌出版部

Tel　03-3830-1255

Email　jtominaga@wiley.com

WILEY