

Graz Advanced School of Science
PHYSICS COLLOQUIUM OF THE UNIVERSITY OF GRAZ AND
THE GRAZ UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY

Prof. Dr. Gianfranco Pacchioni

Department of Materials Science - University of Milano Bicocca

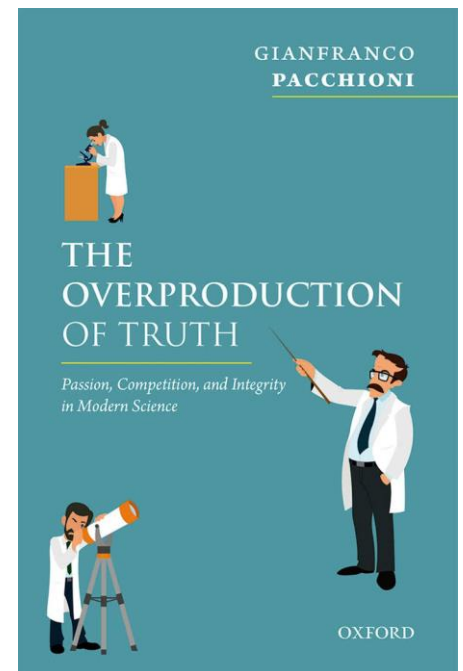
The Overproduction of Truth: Passion, Competition, and Integrity in Modern Science

Abstract:

The way science is done has changed radically in recent years. Scientific research and institutions, which have long been characterized by passion, dedication and reliability, have increasingly less capacity for more ethical pursuits, and are pressed by hard market laws. From the vocation of a few, science has become the profession of many -- possibly too many. These trends come with consequences and risks, such as the rise in fraud, plagiarism, and in particular the sheer volume of scientific publications, often of little relevance. The solution? A slow approach with more emphasis on quality rather than quantity that will help us to rediscover the essential role of the responsible scientist.

This work is a critical review and assessment of present-day policies and behavior in scientific production and publication. It touches on the tumultuous growth of scientific journals, in parallel with the growth of self-declared scientists over the world. The author's own reflections and experiences help understand the mechanisms of contemporary science.

Along with personal reminiscences of times past, the author investigates the loopholes and hoaxes of pretend journals and nonexistent congresses, so common today in the scientific arena. This work also discusses the problems of bibliometric indices, which have resulted in large part from the above distortions of scientific life.



- Date:** Tuesday, January 29, 2019, **16:00 – please note changed time**
- Location:** Lecture Hall 05.01, Institute of Physics, University of Graz, Universitätsplatz 5
please note changed time: 15:30 meet the speaker tea, Library of Experimental Physics
Institute of Physics, Universitätsplatz 5, 1st floor, room 122
- Host:** Prof. M. Sterrer – Institute of Physics – Experimental Physics – Surface Science