

SLOW - SCIENCE.org

THE SLOW SCIENCE MANIFESTO

We are scientists. We don't blog. We don't twitter. We take our time.

Don't get us wrong—we do say *yes* to the accelerated science of the early 21st century. We say yes to the constant flow of peer-review journal publications and their impact; we say yes to science blogs and media & PR necessities; we say yes to increasing specialization and diversification in all disciplines. We also say yes to research feeding back into health care and future prosperity. All of us are in this game, too.

However, we maintain that this cannot be all. Science needs time to think. Science needs time to read, and time to fail. Science does not always know what it might be at right now. Science develops unsteadily, with jerky moves and unpredictable leaps forward—at the same time, however, it creeps about on a very slow time scale, for which there must be room and to which justice must be done.

Slow science was pretty much the only science conceivable for hundreds of years; today, we argue, it deserves revival and needs protection. Society should give scientists the time they need, but more importantly, scientists must *take* their time.

We do need time to think. We do need time to digest. We do need time to misunderstand each other, especially when fostering lost dialogue between humanities and natural sciences. We cannot continuously tell you what our science means; what it will be good for; because we simply don't know yet. Science needs time.

—Bear with us, while we think.

THE SLOW SCIENCE ACADEMY

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SLOW SCIENCE ACADEMY · BERLIN,
GERMANY · ACADEMY@SLOW-SCIENCE.ORG

