

Dissemination Ideas

Life Itself Research: Dissemination Ideas

Options

Journal: something like academic Journal.

This could be comparable to (and could be allied with) the recently founded [Metamodern Theory and Praxis](#) (which IIRC is explicitly open to those without institutional affiliation).

Assessment: Moderate effort, moderate reach if successful - Effort would depend on the number of submissions and editorial review process. More shaped to an academic audience, therefore reduced reach?

A forum like Lesswrong/Alignment forum.

A successful forum that includes blog-length posts can be an effective medium for disseminating quality research and building community, as Lesswrong/AF has shown.

Assessment: High effort, high reach if successful. This would be great but may take some effort/time to develop the right kind of forum and build up the user base. More suited to non-academic audience.

A listing of individual publications

An example would be the list of 'work' currently found on <https://lifeitself.org/research>.

Assessment: Low effort, low reach, does not scale well. Suitable for both academic and non-academic work.

Centralised substack/newsletter/blog.

A platform like Substack could be used to promote works by individual members of the group (potentially with editorial selection, similar to a journal) either by

- a. Reposting existing posts on other substacks or blogs (works better for articles originally posted on substack)
- b. A submissions system whereby selected submissions are posted on the substack
- c. Allowing selected users to post using the central substack, potentially after an editorial review of the draft.

Assessment: Low-moderate effort, moderate-high reach if successful.

Substacks are easy to set up and existing substacks (e.g. Little Wiser) could be repurposed. Marketing efforts could exploit substack ecosystem. More suited to non-academic audience.

Overall recommendation

These are not mutually exclusive options. I would suggest possibly starting with 4 (substack), while working on developing 2(forum). Since the audience is probably different, we could also decide to do 1(journal) in addition to 2 and 4, especially if there is an appetite for presenting research in a more academic style. 3(listing) could be covered by a combination of the Wiki and by the person page on the website.

	Effort	Reach	Priority	Notes
Substack	Low-Medium	Medium-High	1	
Forum	High	High	2	
List of publications (landing page)	V Low	Low	3 (+)	This is more as part of the landing page building credibility, ease of access and a referenceable catalog of work
Journal	High	Medium	4	

Substack processes

Life Itself Research Substack: Publication Process

The following process for disseminating research outputs via a dedicated substack is being proposed, further to the original idea proposed [here](#).

Life Itself Research Substack

A new [Life Itself Research](#) substack has been set up to enable better dissemination of Life Itself Research outputs.

Proposed Process

1. Written articles

- Any member of the research collective can submit written articles for publication in the 'Writings' section of the new substack.
- They can do so by emailing or otherwise contacting the Substack editor (currently Jonah Wilberg - anyone interested in being part of the editorial team should also contact Jonah).
- Articles from active attendees of the community calls will typically be accepted but may be subject to restrictions to ensure a balanced representation of different views on the substack. Further restrictions may be imposed in future if the volume of submitted articles becomes high.
- If the author wishes the article can be cross-posted in full on the substack

- If the article is also being published elsewhere, e.g. on the author's own blog or substack, the author may choose to post an excerpt of the full article, with an introduction and link to the full article elsewhere.

2. Recordings of Presentations or other meetings of the Life

Itself Research collective

- Presenters or hosts of the Life Itself Research collective can choose to have the recording of their presentation and subsequent discussion published on the 'Recordings' page of the substack.
- Research presentations will typically be accepted. Other meeting formats may be published if agreed by participants, and if the content is appropriate for wider publication.

3. Main page features

- Occasionally recordings or writings above may be featured on the main page of the substack. This will be at the discretion of the Substack Editor, with a view to having an appropriate reflection of key ideas and outputs on the main page.
- It should be noted that main page featuring is not a significant boost relative to publication on the 'recording' or 'writing' page, since new items will usually be disseminated to all current subscribers irrespective of which section or page it is published.

Appendix:

Original idea from [Dissemination Ideas](#):

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