SciFlow: A Useful Tool for Scientific Writing and Formatting

Thursday 23.03.2023 13:00, Zoom

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Science Library
What is SciFlow?

Short introduction

- Browser-based online text editor for scientists and students
- German company
- Already in use at several other research institutions
Why to use SciFlow?

What it aims at simplifying

- Formatting is time consuming (52h per person and year\(^1\)) and can be frustrating

- Collaboration is complicated:
  - Many manuscript versions are sent around via email
  - Co-authors use different tools for text editing and literature management

- Backup management needs extra efforts

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\(^1\)LeBlanc et al. 2019: [https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0223116](https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0223116)
**How does it work?**

- All tools in one place for writing, citing and editing
- Templates for theses and papers
- Integrated spell checker
- Allows for LaTeX equations
- Good help functions incl. chat-box
- ~5000 journal templates available. If not: template will be added upon request.
- (Re-)Formatting on one click
- Quick changes between different styles and formats
- Allows for real-time collaborative writing
- Transparent track changes
- Direct connection to major literature management systems.
- Automated backups
- No installations needed.
- Everyone with access to internet can join
- Compatible with all operating systems.
- Pro-version open to all members of Bern University
- Data are securely stored in Germany, no commercial use of user data.

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A concise and factual abstract is required. The abstract should state briefly the purpose of the research, the principal results and major conclusions. An abstract is often presented separately from the article, so it must be able to stand alone. For this reason, references should be avoided, but if essential, then cite the author(s) and year of publication. Non-standard or uncommon abbreviations should be avoided, but if they must be defined at their first mention in the abstract itself.

Refer to the author guidelines for possible length limitations.
Getting started
Access to SciFlow at University Bern

https://sciflow.net/de/unibe/start ➔ Register to get an account

Universität Bern
Zum Schreiben, Verbessern und Formatieren Deiner wissenschaftlichen Texte mit der SciFlow Authoring Platform

Registriere Dich mit deiner institutionellen E-Mail-Adresse.
Getting started

Live Demo
For new SciFlow users
Tips and take home messages

• Regularly save revisions: as backup and for tracking changes
• Fill in your author profile and adjust your preferences
• Actively use the support function
• Ask for journal templates if they do not exist yet
• Let us know if anything does not work appropriately
More information about SciFlow

Next workshops and courses

Workshop

March 31, Uni Mittelstrasse: https://agenda.ub.unibe.ch/de/event/153

Webinars

• For students at the University of Bern: Wed, June 7, 11:00
• For scientists at the University of Bern: Wed, June 14, 11:00

Details will soon be announced.

General webinars on SciFlow homepage (incl. screencasts): https://sciflow.net/de/all/webinars
Thank you for listening

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Thanks for your attendance

Next Coffee Lectures:

Research Support Services
Science and Medical Libraries
University Library Bern
frnat.ub@unibe.ch
support_med.ub@unibe.ch
Thanks for your attendance

Slides and Screencast:

Science Library
Medical Library

Research Support Services
Science and Medical Libraries
University Library Bern
frnat.ub@unibe.ch
support_med.ub@unibe.ch
Thanks for your attendance

Now there is time for...

Questions & Discussion

Research Support Services
Science and Medical Libraries
University Library Bern
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support_med.ub@unibe.ch