Talking about priority of publication - should posting of a manuscript be a legitimate claim to priority.

There can be agreement in the time stamp issue, but is it complete

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 How do we establish precedent

​? Differentiate proof needed for patents vs discovery.

What is the level of data required to establish priority.   What does this preprint do?  Are most discoveries singular?  How do we deal with credit - we don't have a mechanism for discredit.  It's usually a body of work

​ that establishes credit and priority​

.  The people who have innovated a field have a record.

Priority, good science, accessibility

​, speed​

​: these are the primary reasons for preprints​

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​People also try to influence our read of history.  For example, ​

Eric Lander's CRISPR paper was written to influence prize committee.  The people who discovered the repeats didn't really know wha they were discovering.  Prize committees recognize the question when awarding prizes.

There is little work that is completely surprising.

​Typically, the researchers around the table have

 heard about work for a couple of years at meetings before the work comes out.

The problem with the current system is it takes so long - people need a way to show productivity for grants and promotion.  Have preprints coordinated with submission.

HHMI will accept a preprint of a submitted paper.  Not everyone who claims to be a scientist is "worthy".  Papers often aren't cited.  Credit aspect - this is the "unassuaged" document before it has gone to Nature.

Harvard Lawyer - be careful of the discipline you are discussing. Econ and social sciences are all operating on the idea of working paper repositories - MBR has a membership model.   These working papers can be enough for a PhD or entry level hire.  In CS they only publish in conference proceedings.

Priority: the time stamp and the granularity of the piece.  The claim to priority for discovery is set socially.

What is unique about the set of players that operate in the life sciences.  History sorts out who is going to be cited.  But priority comes to the front in being scooped.

Priority - need to decide what is the unit for submission, is it linked to a time for submission?

​This is an important issue, related to establishing some principles for the community. (I believe this is necessary because researchers who are first generation or not "in the in-group" may not actually understand the rules.  Having explicit principles - even if they change - helps the community.)​

What is the expectation for referencing preprints?  It is expected that preprints are essentially publications and should be cited. People could explain why they don't cite particular papers.  However, if preprints can be cited, then there is loss of value for the journals.

​(For this reason, I suggested that we pay attention to the path we are taking.  I don't see a reason to eliminate journals, even if it were possible.  They have served important roles, even if they are imperfect and may have shut out some important science through bias.)​

Priority is seen as one of the impediments to preprints. If they can be cited, then this reduces the "value" of peer review for promotion.  Some journals (AACR) won't allow preprints.

​(Thus, whether they can be cited and getting journals to accept them are issues to be solved.)​

These could be cited but as a second-class paper.  Will you need peer review in the long term?  Maybe not.