

Information exchange among researchers of various fields using Twitter

OGUCHI, Takashi^{1*}, HAYAKAWA, Yuichi S.¹

¹Univ. Tokyo

Although the JpGU has significantly enhanced mutual interactions and understanding among geologists, mineralogists, geographers and geophysicists in Japan, interactions between geoscientists and researchers of other disciplines such as physics, chemistry, biology, and engineering are still relatively limited. Social media contribute to this kind of broader scientific exchange. This paper introduces a case of discussion using Twitter, concerning how to write units and numbers in scientific publications. The discussion began with a tweet of a geoscientist, followed by numerous comments from researchers with various backgrounds. The discussion revealed differences in common sense among disciplines. Use of social media enables fast discussion without depending on conventional academic societies and conducting workshops or alike. Particularly the retweet function of Twitter is effective. It is necessary for geoscientists to facilitate the use of social media for broad scientific exchange.

Keywords: social media, Twitter, interaction among different disciplines, mutual understanding