

Response to the Editor

Concerning the review of the manuscript “Towards family-friendly conferences in the geosciences: results from a first survey” by Elena Päßgen, Lisa Schielicke, and Leonie Esters submitted to Geoscience Communication (Preprint egosphere-2025-1200).

April 16, 2026

Dear Katharine Welsh,

Thank you very much for your review and feedback on our manuscript. We have carefully revised the manuscript according to your suggestions and hope that the new structure of the paper aligns well with your feedback.

In the following, the editor's comments are highlighted in **bold and blue**, and our responses are shown in black. The mentioned line numbers refer to the tracked changes document.

Ln 61/62 - clarify where 'here' is and clarify if this refers to all subjects or just geosciences

The sentence has been changed in the following way: *“76% of all male professors and 59% of all female professors are parents across all academic fields (BuWiK, 2025).”* (line 60/61). We have removed ‘here’ from the text and added that the numbers address all academic fields.

Ln84 -Please include the change that you have outlined: “Attending scientific conferences as a parent...” was changed to “Attending conferences as a parent...” as our arguments and cited literature are not specific to scientific conferences. In the 'tracked changes' version of the document, this change hasn't been made.

We thank the editor for making us aware of the missing alteration. The changes have been included now.

Ln 108 - Please check whether it is necessary to capitalize clinical psychology and psychotherapy

We thank the editor for this helpful observation. We reviewed the capitalization in line 105/106 and corrected clinical psychology and psychotherapy to lowercase, as these terms are used to specify the academic field rather than as an institutional title.

Underneath Figure 4 there is a "3.3" which needs to be removed from a previous draft.

The “3.3” beneath Figure 4 has been removed. This issue resulted from an error in the tracked-changes formatting of the previous draft.

L231 should this be 'Test C'?

We agree that it should read “Test C” and have corrected the text accordingly.

Ln 317 there is an additional and unnecessary full stop after the word 'careers'.

The full stop was removed.

Ln 343 the numbering moves from 5 to 3.3. Please check all section headings throughout the manuscript are numbered correctly throughout. It might be better to renumber the sections 1-5 in the results as A-E to reduce confusion.

We thank the editor for highlighting this inconsistency in the formatting.

The relevant subsection numbering has now been changed to range from 3.2.1 to 3.2.5. In that way, the formatting is less confusing. We decided to not renumber the section as A-E, as this could create confusion with the chi-squared test labels (A,B,C) that are already used in the manuscript.

Please also refer to the figure numbers in the text to direct readers to the correct figure at the appropriate time.

The references to the Figures have been checked and we replaced the references in lines 196/198, 244, 263/264, 292.

Section 3.4 - I'm not convinced that this section is effectively placed within the structure of the manuscript. You have indicated that you have made changes in section 3.5 but that section doesn't exist in the 'tracked changes' version of the manuscript and section 3.4 has only minor edits. Whilst some edits have been made to earlier sections as requested, this section still remains as reflecting mostly your own perceptions and literature with only two pieces of qualitative evidence presented. Essentially lines 395 to 435 appear to be based on your opinion rather than empirical evidence. Perhaps consider presenting the results within a results section and then your discussion/recommendations separately. Please revise this section to ensure that the evidence base for the recommendations are included perhaps through illustrative quotations.

Thank you for this valuable feedback. To address your suggestions we took the following steps:

- First, we have reorganized the manuscript structure so that the section “Composition of a guide for conference and workshop organizers” now appears as the first Discussion section, rather than within the results.
- Secondly, we added the sentence “*The recommendations are derived from our survey responses, and are interpreted by us to directly address real-world challenges and needs of families.*” in line 377 to clarify that this guide is based on our interpretation of the results.
- Third, following your suggestion, we added some illustrative quotes in lines 374/375, 383/384, 391/392, 395/396, 407/408 to motivate our conclusions and to show that our guidelines are derived from the survey results.

We hope that this revision more clearly demonstrates the evidence base underlying our recommendations.