

Evolutio Unfolding Theory and “Platonic Space”: Anatomy of a Conceptual Appropriation, Renaming and Rebranding

Agustín Ostachuk
EVOLUTIO Research Center

March 30, 2026

1. Introduction

In April 2020, I published *A theory of evolution as a process of unfolding* in the peer-reviewed journal *Cosmos and History* (Ostachuk, 2020). The article laid out a complete theoretical framework: evolution as the sequential unfolding of pre-existing virtual forms, guided by teleological-purposeful agents operating within morphogenetic fields. It was a radical departure from both Darwinism and Intelligent Design, and it was supported by later empirical work published in *Nature Scientific Reports* (Ostachuk, 2021, 2024).

Five years later, in February 2025, a preprint appeared under the title *Ingressing minds: causal patterns beyond genetics and environment in natural, synthetic, and hybrid embodiments*, authored by Michael Levin of Tufts University (Levin, 2025). This preprint introduced a framework called “Platonic Space”, and it was presented as an original and unprecedented novelty in biology. Surprisingly, the “original” and “unprecedented” framework reproduced the exact core explanatory architecture of the Evolutio Unfolding Theory, using just a different terminology. In other words, same conceptual structure but renamed. More surprisingly, it did not even cite my 2020 work.

This article is a forensic reconstruction. It documents the sequence of events and the communications that preceded and surrounded the appearance of the “Platonic Space” framework. It shows that the appropriation was not a coincidence, nor an “independent discovery” nor an “conceptual convergence”, but a pattern made possible by structural and power asymmetries in the global academic system. The goal is to set the historical record straight—with evidence.

2. The Machinery of Conceptual Appropriation and Amplification

The “Platonic Space” framework was launched by one person, but backed by a well-funded system embedded in networks of power and influence. Its promotion depended on a tightly interconnected core institutional triad:

- **Tufts University**: a private university located in Medford, Massachusetts, United States. It was founded in 1852 by the Universalist Church. Tufts officially ended its formal affiliation



with the Universalist Church, but maintains its Universalist heritage through its values and the University Chaplaincy. Ranked approximately 300th in the U.S. News & World Report's Best Global Universities list. Michael Levin's institutional home.

- **California Institute of Integral Studies (CIIS):** a private graduate school in San Francisco, California, United States, that blends academic scholarship with spiritual transformation. It is not ranked in the U.S. News & World Report's Best Global Universities list. Matthew Segall teaches at this institution and was the co-host of the conference held there that gave rise to the anthology.
- **Center for Process Studies (CPS):** an independent research center based in Claremont, California, United States, dedicated to the study of process philosophy (especially Whiteheadian philosophy) to address interdisciplinary issues in science, religion, and society. Until 2023, it was a faculty center of the Claremont School of Theology, a Methodist-affiliated graduate school. Andrew Davis is affiliated with this center and was a co-organizer of the same conference.

This triangle functioned as a machine of epistemic appropriation and amplification: a well-funded laboratory, a philosophy department with a strong presence in process theology, and a research center devoted to process philosophy and theology. Together they provided legitimacy, editorial control, and a built-in audience for the renamed framework.

3. Anatomy of an Intellectual Violation: From Priority to Rebranding, from Collaboration to Appropriation

The following table details the key events from 2020 to 2026. It shows that I established priority, repeatedly notified Levin of my work, and systematically exposed the appropriation through institutional channels. All dates and documents are verifiable; links to the original materials are provided where necessary.

Date	Event	Documentation
April 28, 2020	Publication of the Evolutio Unfolding Theory (EUT) in the peer-reviewed academic journal <i>Cosmos and History</i> .	[Link to article]
February 23, 2021	Email from me to Michael Levin proposing collaboration, with explicit reference to EUT and links to publications. Levin replies: " <i>I will look at your papers and link</i> ".	[Link to correspondence]
March 29–31, 2024	"Metaphysics and the Matter With Things: Thinking With Iain McGilchrist" conference, co-hosted by CIIS and the CPS. Levin presents a talk titled <i>The Mind of the Body: A Window into Embodiment and our Future</i> (on bioelectricity, collective intelligence, and regeneration). No mention of the "Platonic Space" framework.	[Link to Conference program]
August 6, 2024	Evolutio Newsletter: "EVOLUTIO: A Research Center for Evolution and Development"	Opened, Clicked



September 3, 2024	Evolutio Newsletter: “EVOLUTIO NEWSLETTER: New Book (Exclusive Preview)”	Opened, Clicked
September 11, 2024	Evolutio Newsletter: “EVOLUTIO NEWSLETTER: New Teleological Theory of Evolution (plus Evidence)”	Opened, Clicked [Link to newsletter]
February 5, 2025	Levin posts the preprint on “Platonic space” on OSF/PsyArXiv, under the title <i>Ingressing minds: causal patterns beyond genetics and environment in natural, synthetic, and hybrid embodiments</i> .	[Link to preprint]
March 9, 2025	Levin announces the preprint <i>Ingressing minds: causal patterns beyond genetics and environment in natural, synthetic, and hybrid embodiments</i> on his blog. He states that the preprint will be a chapter in a forthcoming anthology edited by Matthew Segall and Andrew Davis, collecting papers from the 2024 CIIS/CPS conference.	[Link to blog post]
August 26, 2025	Michael Levin organizes his own virtual “Symposium on the Platonic Space” ¹ . Twenty-eight contributors (including Matthew Segall, Tom Froese, Denis Noble, Iain McGilchrist) present weekly talks. Levin’s own contribution is initially listed as <i>Platonic Space and Biology: understanding evolved, engineered, and hybrid embodied minds</i> , but later changed to <i>Patterns of Form and Behavior Beyond Emergence: how Platonic Space in-forms evolved, engineered, and hybrid embodied minds</i> .	[Link to Symposium program]
October 3, 2025	Publication of the preprint “The Evolutio Unfolding Theory: Teleology, Formal Agents, and the Reversal of Evolution’s Causal Order”	[Link to preprint]
October 27, 2025	Evolutio Newsletter: “New Article (Preprint): ‘The Evolutio Unfolding Theory: Teleology, Formal Agents, and the Reversal of Evolution’s Causal Order’”	Opened, Clicked

¹ Levin organized this symposium as a platform to amplify the “Platonic Space” framework before any official publication. The event brought together 28 contributors to discuss the concept, with the intention of establishing it as a legitimate area of research through collective validation, despite the complete absence of peer-reviewed literature on the framework.

One of the participants, Denis Noble, had been receiving the Evolutio Newsletter since March 2023—meaning he was on a distribution list that regularly featured the Evolutio Unfolding Theory. His participation, along with that of other established scholars, contributed to the aura of legitimacy that Levin sought for his renamed framework. This dynamic exemplifies the operation of power and influence networks described in my research program “Epistemic Pathologies” and in Ostachuk (2025b).



December 15, 2025	Publication of a detailed comparative essay in <i>The Unfolding</i> , documenting the structural identity between EUT and “Platonic Space”: “Evolutio Unfolding Theory and 'Platonic Space': On Conceptual Priority and Lineage”.	[Link to essay]
December 16, 2025	Evolutio Newsletter: “New Article (Magazine): 'Evolutio Unfolding Theory and 'Platonic Space': On Conceptual Priority and Lineage”	Delivered
February 16, 2026	First notification to Tufts University Research Integrity Office.	[Link to letter]
February 24, 2026	Second notification to Tufts RIO, providing additional evidence (2021 emails).	[Link to letter]
March 4, 2026	Third notification to Tufts RIO, summarizing evidence and stating that a formal complaint will follow if Levin publishes.	[Link to letter]
March 5, 2026	Evolutio Newsletter: “Evolutio Unfolding Theory and 'Platonic Space': On Conceptual Priority and Lineage”	Opened, Clicked
March 16, 2026	Formal notification to CIIS, requesting identification of the publisher, halt of publication, and internal review.	[Link to letter]
March 16, 2026	Fourth notification to Tufts RIO, detailing the CIIS connection and making a series of requests: a formal inquiry, interim measures, and the cessation of all further promotion of the contested framework.	[Link to letter]
March 16, 2026	Plagiarism complaint to OSF (PsyArXiv) regarding the preprint.	[Link to complaint]

All newsletters were sent to a list of over 1,200 academics and thinkers; Levin was on the list. Open and click data confirm receipt and engagement. The March 5, 2026 Evolutio Newsletter was sent one day after the third Tufts notification. Follow this [link](#) to see the complete list of newsletters sent to Michael Levin and his engagement activity.

4. The Dynamics of Strategic Silence, Hidden Consumption, and Epistemic Parasitism: A New Research Program

Levin's behavior fits very well with a pattern I have analyzed in my new research program “Epistemic Pathologies”:

- **Strategic Silence:** Despite receiving multiple newsletters, emails, and direct notifications, Levin never acknowledged my work, never responded to my communications after 2021, and never cited me. Silence was his strategy.
- **Hidden Consumption:** The Evolutio Newsletter analytics prove he opened and clicked. He consumed my work, but the consumption was hidden—it never entered the public record.



- **Epistemic Parasite Complex:** He absorbed the conceptual architecture of the EUT, renamed it, and presented it as his own. The parasite does not acknowledge its host; it merely feeds and grows.

This triad—strategic silence, hidden consumption, epistemic parasitism—is not a coincidence. It is a systematic and systemic device for appropriating ideas, whose short-term effectiveness is proportional to the degree of distance from the inner circles of academic power. You can watch the video lectures of the open-access course "Epistemic Pathologies" by accessing the following [link](#).

5. Structural Appropriation, Not “Independent Discovery” or “Conceptual Convergence”

The “Platonic Space” framework is not a “parallel development”. It is a restatement of the EUT’s core architecture using a different vocabulary. The following table—adapted from my detailed comparative essay (Ostachuk, 2025a)—shows the functional equivalence of the key concepts.

EUT (Ostachuk, 2020)	“Platonic Space” (Levin, 2025)
Ideological matrix (virtual space containing all potential forms)	Platonic space (non-physical space of truths containing all patterns)
Morphogenetic fields (organizing domains guiding form)	Non-local organizational constraints / attractors in morphospace
Actualization (projection of idea-form into image)	Ingress (pattern entering the physical world)
Teleological-purposeful formal agents	High-agency patterns / kinds of minds
Unfolding (sequential explication of folds)	Exploration of form space (movement to new regions)

The structural identity is unmistakable. The only changes are terminological.

6. Levin's Strategy Exposed: the Birth of a New Method of Scientific Documentation

From August 2024 onward, I systematically notified Levin of my work through the Evolutio Newsletter. From February 2026, I notified his institution, the conference host, and the preprint server. Each step added a layer of documentation:

- **2021 emails:** Direct contact, explicit invitation to collaborate.
- **2024–2026 newsletters:** Repeated delivery of publications, essays, and comparative analysis, all of which Levin opened or clicked.
- **February–March 2026 Tufts RIO letters:** Three communications stating that a formal complaint would follow if the framework was officially published, the fourth and last explicitly demanding that all promotion and publication of the contested framework stop.
- **March 2026 CIIS letter:** Formal notice to the institution that hosted the conference and employed Segall, requesting identification of the publisher, halt of publication, and an internal review.



- **March 2026 OSF complaint:** Plagiarism claim filed with the preprint server.

These actions are not speculative; they are documented. They show that Levin and his network have been repeatedly placed on notice, and that their continued promotion of the framework occurs in full knowledge of the conflict. In this sense, this article is not merely an academic text, but rather the birth of a new method of scientific documentation: a *forensic meta-scientific article*. It is an empirical study based on evidence from the very activity of the scientific-academic system. This new method of scientific documentation simultaneously gives rise to a new supervisory body for the activity of the scientific-academic system, the “Conceptual Lineage Ethical Observatory”, which will be launched soon at the EVOLUTIO Research Center.

7. Conclusion: The Dilemma of Denial

After all the evidence presented in this article and the previous comparative essay, Levin may continue to promote his “novel framework”. But he will only succeed in giving greater visibility to a conflict whose evidence is already clear. Each new public appearance of “Platonic Space” now carries with it the weight of the documentation laid out here: the priority of the EUT, the prior contact, the newsletters opened, the institutional notifications.

The dilemma facing Levin and the institutions involved is this: they can press forward, ignoring the evidence and banking on the inertia of academic machinery. Yet every step they take will further expose the gap between their claims of integrity and their actions. The internal control systems—university ethics offices, research integrity protocols, platform moderation—will have been activated and shown to be, at best, sluggish and inertial, and at worst, performative or accomplice.

In persisting, they will not erase the original work. Instead, they will make visible the very decay of the academic system (as developed in my analysis of the system’s structural decay in Ostachuk, 2025b): its preference for protecting insiders over upholding principles, its structural blindness to ideas that originate from the periphery, and its reliance on a facade of ethics that crumbles under the weight of documented evidence.

This article is a contribution to the historical record. The evidence is public, timestamped, and verifiable. Levin may own a powerful amplifier, but he does not own the facts. And in the long run, facts outlast amplification.

8. References

- Ostachuk, A. (2020). A theory of evolution as a process of unfolding. *Cosmos and History: The Journal of Natural and Social Philosophy*. 16(1): 347-379.
- Ostachuk, A. (2021). A network analysis of crab metamorphosis and the hypothesis of development as a process of unfolding of an intensive complexity. *Scientific Reports*. 11(1): 9551.
- Ostachuk, A. (2024). A network analysis of early arthropod evolution and the potential of the primitive. *Scientific Reports*. 14(1): 503.
- Ostachuk, A. (2025a). Evolutio Unfolding Theory and “Platonic Space”: on conceptual priority and lineage. *The Unfolding*. 2025: EM43145180.
- Ostachuk, A. (2025b). The Life-Centered Science: building a new knowledge ecosystem. *Evolutio Journal*. 2025: EJ82584529.



Levin, M. (2025). Ingressing minds: causal patterns beyond genetics and environment in natural, synthetic, and hybrid embodiments. OSF Preprints.
<https://osf.io/preprints/psyarxiv/5g2xj>



Evidence 1: Michael Levin 2021 Correspondence

Subject: Re: Query about Research Proposal
From: "Levin, Michael" <Michael.Levin@tufts.edu>
Date: 23/2/2021, 19:06
To: "aostachuk@unsam.edu.ar" <aostachuk@unsam.edu.ar>

It's possible to be an advisor (depending on what the project is - I'm not quite clear on what is being proposed or what I can contribute), it's the physical space (joining the lab) that is a significant barrier right now.

Best,

Mike

-----Original Message-----

From: Agustin Ostachuk <aostachu@unsam.edu.ar>
Reply-To: "aostachuk@unsam.edu.ar" <aostachuk@unsam.edu.ar>
Date: Tuesday, February 23, 2021 at 5:02 PM
To: Michael Levin <Michael.Levin@tufts.edu>
Subject: Re: Query about Research Proposal

Dear Michael Levin,

Thanks for the quick reply.

It's fine. No problem. From what Stuart Newman told me, I thought you might be interested in participating in my project as an advisor/collaborator.

Kind regards,
Agustin Ostachuk

On 23/02/2021 16:51, Levin, Michael wrote:

Dear Agustin,

Thank you for your email. I will look at your papers and link, but our lab is completely full right now - especially with COVID restrictions, we can't take on any additional people right now. If a suitable project opens up, I will let you know, but for now we are pretty swamped with the existing commitments.

Best regards,

Mike Levin

-----Original Message-----

From: Agustin Ostachuk <aostachu@unsam.edu.ar> <mailto:aostachu@unsam.edu.ar>
Reply-To: "aostachuk@unsam.edu.ar" <mailto:aostachuk@unsam.edu.ar>
<aostachuk@unsam.edu.ar> <mailto:aostachuk@unsam.edu.ar>
Date: Tuesday, February 23, 2021 at 9:08 AM
To: Michael Levin <Michael.Levin@tufts.edu> <mailto:Michael.Levin@tufts.edu>
Subject: Query about Research Proposal

Dear Michael Levin,

Stuart Newman recommended that I write to you.

I am going to apply to the Templeton Foundation Grants this year, with the aim of working in the United States in collaboration with researchers from that country for the entire duration of the grant (3 years). The results of the call would be in February 2022.

My idea would be to present an interdisciplinary project combining Biology &

Philosophy, in which I would integrate several of the lines of research that I have been doing in both fields, especially the theory of evolution as a process of unfolding. For this, I would like to have an advisor/collaborator from each area of knowledge involved. In Philosophy, Alan Love told me that he would be interested and willing, and that he would give me his support. In Biology, Stuart Newman also agreed to fulfill that role. As he no longer has a laboratory, I asked him who he would recommend me to do an experimental part in my project and he gave me your name. I have been looking at the website of your laboratory and it seems to me that there are points of coincidence that would allow us to interact and collaborate.

I would like to know then if you are interested in the proposal and if you would be willing for me to join your laboratory to carry out experimental work.

I am open to listening to other proposals and alternatives that allow us to collaborate and work in your laboratory in the short term, even integrating and including topics from your own lines of research.

Kind regards,
Agustin Ostachuk

PS: If you would like to know more about my academic background, you could check the following links:

Profile/Mini-Bio: <https://aostachuk.weebly.com>

Publications: <https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Agustin-Ostachuk/research>

<https://www.avast.com/sig-email?utm_medium=email&utm_source=link&utm_campaign=sig-email&utm_content=emailclient> <https://www.avast.com/sig-email?utm_medium=email&utm_source=link&utm_campaign=sig-email&utm_content=emailclient>Virus-free. www.avast.com <<http://www.avast.com>>
<https://www.avast.com/sig-email?utm_medium=email&utm_source=link&utm_campaign=sig-email&utm_content=emailclient> <https://www.avast.com/sig-email?utm_medium=email&utm_source=link&utm_campaign=sig-email&utm_content=emailclient> <#DAB4FAD8-2DD7-40BB-A1B8-4E2AA1F9FDF2>



EVOLUTIO: A Research Center for Evolution and Development

A New Science for a New Society



In 2020 we published an alternative theory of evolution called "A Theory of Evolution as a Process of Unfolding".

This theory is radically different from the Darwinian theory currently accepted by the academic-scientific system. The fundamental evolutionary units of this theory are the teleological-purposeful formal agents. In this theory then, organisms are conscious agents that develop and evolve through a teleological process of actualization of an ordered series of immanent virtual formal states contained in morphogenetic fields. You can access the article that explains this theory through the following link:



Since its publication in 2020, we have found empirical evidence of the theory.

In 2021, we found the first developmental evidence of the theory, studying the ontogenetic development of crabs. You can access this article entitled "A Network Analysis of Crab Metamorphosis and the Hypothesis of Development as a Process of Unfolding of an Intensive Complexity", published in Scientific Reports, through the following links:



This year we found the first evolutionary evidence of the theory, studying the early evolution of arthropods. You can access this article entitled "A Network Analysis of Early

Arthropod Evolution and the Potential of the Primitive,
published in **Scientific Reports**, through the following
links:



If you enjoyed the reading, don't forget to join our **Patreon**
and **Ko-fi** pages to become a member of the **EVOLUTIO**
community, through the following links:



EVOLUTIO is a new research space for the development of new ideas about the Big Questions of Life, Evolution, Development and the Nature of Reality/Existence, without the constraints and limitations established by the scientific-academic system.

To achieve this, EVOLUTIO is a research center constituted with economic independence, appealing to the support and contribution of people and organizations identified with our cause.

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SUPPORT US

This email was sent by aostachuk@evolutio.ar to [\[Recipient's Email Address\]](#)

Not interested? [Unsubscribe](#) | [Manage Preference](#) | [Update profile](#)

EVOLUTIO | Buenos Aires, Argentina

Evidence 3: Newsletters to Michael Levin

Newsletters sent to Michael Levin

Kit

Email Type	Subject	Sent
Broadcast Clicked Mar 05, 2026 at 12:26pm -03	<u>Evolutio Unfolding Theory and "Platonic Space": On Conceptual Priority and Lineage</u>	Mar 05, 2026
Broadcast Delivered Dec 16, 2025 at 12:01pm -03	<u>New Article (Magazine): "Evolutio Unfolding Theory and "Platonic Space": On Conceptual Priority and Lineage"</u>	Dec 16, 2025
Broadcast Clicked Oct 27, 2025 at 1:07pm -03	<u>New Article (Preprint): "The Evolutio Unfolding Theory: Teleology, Formal Agents, and the Reversal of Evolution's Causal Order"</u>	Oct 27, 2025
Broadcast Delivered Oct 20, 2025 at 12:04pm -03	<u>New Article (Preprint) about the Evolutio Unfolding Theory (EUT)</u>	Oct 20, 2025
Broadcast Delivered Jul 17, 2025 at 12:08pm -03	<u>Clarifying the Origins of the Evolutio Unfolding Theory</u>	Jul 17, 2025
Broadcast Clicked Jun 27, 2025 at 1:55pm -03	<u>New Video: "Strategic Silence: How Original Thinkers Are Erased in the Network Age"</u>	Jun 27, 2025
Broadcast Delivered Jun 20, 2025 at 7:09pm -03	<u>EVOLUTIO NEWSLETTER: Clarifying the Origins of the Evolutio Unfolding Theory</u>	Jun 20, 2025
Broadcast Delivered May 21, 2025 at 12:03pm -03	<u>EVOLUTIO NEWS: New "Research Projects" Video</u>	May 21, 2025
Broadcast Clicked Mar 27, 2025 at 12:06pm -03	<u>EVOLUTIO NEWS: Visit our completely redesigned Portal</u>	Mar 27, 2025
Broadcast Delivered Mar 12, 2025 at 12:01pm -03	<u>Do you want to read "Eutopian Life" for free?</u>	Mar 12, 2025
Broadcast Opened Mar 14, 2026 at 12:05pm -03	<u>Welcome to EVOLUTIO!</u>	Jan 31, 2025

Zoho Campaigns

EVOLUTIO NEWS: Eutopian Life: A book for a new mode of existence

Sent On Mar 05, 2025 12:05 PM ART [OPENED]

NEWSLETTER: New Article on EVOLUTIO and the state of Academia

Sent On Dec 24, 2024 12:06 PM ART

EVOLUTIO: A Research Center for Evolution and Development

Sent On Dec 03, 2024 12:12 PM ART

EVOLUTIO NEWSLETTER: New Teleological Theory of Evolution (plus Evidence)

Sent On Nov 14, 2024 12:06 PM ART

EVOLUTIO NEWSLETTER: New Original Research Series Book

Sent On Nov 05, 2024 12:11 PM ART

EVOLUTIO: A Research Center for Evolution and Development

Sent On Oct 17, 2024 12:15 PM ART

EVOLUTIO NEWSLETTER

Sent On Sep 24, 2024 12:12 PM ART

EVOLUTIO NEWSLETTER: New Book Published

Sent On Sep 18, 2024 12:06 PM ART

EVOLUTIO NEWSLETTER: New Teleological Theory of Evolution (plus Evidence)

Sent On Sep 11, 2024 12:04 PM ART [OPENED] [CLICKED]

EVOLUTIO NEWSLETTER: New Book (Exclusive Preview)

Sent On Sep 03, 2024 12:05 PM ART [OPENED] [CLICKED]

EVOLUTIO: A Research Center for Evolution and Development

Sent On Aug 20, 2024 12:06 PM ART

EVOLUTIO NEWSLETTER: New Teleological Theory of Evolution (plus Evidence)

Sent On Aug 13, 2024 12:18 PM ART

EVOLUTIO: A Research Center for Evolution and Development

Sent On Aug 06, 2024 12:05 PM ART [OPENED] [CLICKED]

Evidence 4: Letters to Tufts RIO

Supplemental Notification Regarding Dr. Michael Levin – Request for Investigation and Urgent Action to Protect Scholarly Record aostachuk < aostachuk@evolutio.ar >

Agustin Ostachuk < aostachuk@evolutio.ar >

Mon, 16 Mar 2026 12:44:51 PM -0300

To "Johnson, Kirby L." <Kirby.Johnson@tufts.edu>
Cc "Myatt, Theodore Alan" <Theodore.Myatt@tufts.edu>
Bcc "aostachuk" <aostachuk@gmail.com>

Dear Dr. Johnson,

I am writing to supplement my previous notifications to your office (February 16, February 24, and March 4, 2026) regarding the unresolved matter of unattributed substantial similarity between my 2020 Evolutio Unfolding Theory (EUT) and the 2025 "Platonic Space" framework being promoted by Dr. Michael Levin.

I wish to be clear that this communication is a supplemental notification and a request for action, **not a formal complaint of research misconduct**. I am providing additional context and making specific requests based on the evidence already submitted, while reserving the right to file a formal complaint at a later date should that become necessary.

1. Status of Your Evaluation

To date, I have received acknowledgment of my notifications but no indication of the status of your office's evaluation. As the book chapter containing the contested material is nearing publication, I respectfully request a formal update on:

- Whether your office has concluded its preliminary assessment.
- If so, what determination was reached.
- If not, a timeline for when a determination can be expected.

2. Confirmation of Forthcoming Publication Details

Since my last communication, I have confirmed additional details regarding the forthcoming publication. Specifically, I have identified that the originating conference was hosted at the **California Institute of Integral Studies (CIIS)**, and the volume is being edited by **Matthew Segall**, a faculty member at that institution. This confirmation allows for more targeted action to protect the scholarly record before the final "Version of Record" is established.

To allow your office to fulfill its investigatory role before the creation of a permanent record, I formally request that Tufts University:

- **Identify the contracted publisher** of this volume, if known to Dr. Levin or

your office.

- **Contact the publisher directly** to formally apprise them of this pending dispute and the existence of my published comparative analysis (attached in my previous email), thereby placing them on notice.

This action is consistent with Tufts' obligation to protect the integrity of research associated with its faculty.

3. The Need for a Formal Inquiry

The evidence before your office is, in my view, sufficient to move from a preliminary "evaluation" to a formal "inquiry". As documented:

- My work was published and timestamped in 2020.
- Dr. Levin was made aware of my work in February 2021 (attached correspondence in my previous email).
- A detailed, citable analysis documents the structural equivalence between the two frameworks (Ostachuk, 2025, PhilPapers, attached in my previous email).
- Public promotion of the contested framework continued after your office was notified, including a major podcast on February 24, 2026 (after my first notification), framing "Platonic Space" as Dr. Levin's "most radical hypothesis yet".

I formally request that your office initiate a formal inquiry into this matter. A neutral, third-party investigation is the only mechanism that can establish the facts and determine whether Tufts' own definition of research misconduct (plagiarism) has been violated.

4. Request for Interim Measures

To preserve the integrity of any potential future investigation and to prevent irreparable harm to the scholarly record, I request that your office advise Dr. Levin to:

- Voluntarily refrain from further publication or promotion of the contested framework until a determination has been made.
- Preserve all records related to the development of the "Platonic Space" framework, including correspondence, drafts, and data, consistent with Tufts' policy on sequestration of research records.

5. Request for a Formal Response

Finally, I request a formal response to the evidence I have submitted. Specifically, I ask that your office provide a written assessment of whether the documented structural equivalence, combined with the evidence of prior awareness, meets the threshold for a finding of plagiarism under Tufts' policy.

Summary of Requests

To facilitate your review, I summarize my formal requests below:

1. **Status Update:** Provide the current status of your evaluation and a timeline for its completion.
2. **Publisher Notification:** Identify the publisher of the forthcoming volume and formally apprise them of this dispute.
3. **Formal Inquiry:** Initiate a formal inquiry into the allegation of unattributed substantial similarity.
4. **Interim Measures:** Advise Dr. Levin to halt further promotion/publication and preserve all relevant records.
5. **Formal Response:** Provide a written assessment of the evidence in relation to Tufts' definition of research misconduct.

I await your prompt acknowledgment of this supplemental notification and your response to these requests. The integrity of the scholarly record, and the reputation of the institutions involved, depend on timely and decisive action.

Sincerely,

Dr. Agustín Ostachuk

Transdisciplinary Scientific Researcher

Director

EVOLUTIO: A Research Center for Evolution and Development

<https://www.evolutio.ar>

From: Agustin Ostachuk <aostachuk@evolutio.ar>
To: "Johnson, Kirby L." <Kirby.Johnson@tufts.edu>
Cc: "Myatt, Theodore Alan" <Theodore.Myatt@tufts.edu>
Date: Wed, 04 Mar 2026 16:42:03 -0300
Subject: Notification Regarding Dr. Michael Levin – Evidence, Analysis, and the Historical Record

Dear Dr. Johnson,

Thank you for your continued engagement with this matter. I write now to place on the official record the complete evidence and my analysis of it, and to clarify my position regarding next steps.

1. Evidence Submitted for Your Evaluation

I am providing the full evidentiary basis for your office's evaluation:

- **Awareness:** Complete correspondence from February 2021, in which I contacted Dr. Levin directly to propose collaboration on further developing my Evolutio Unfolding Theory (EUT). He acknowledged receipt and stated he would review my work. (Attached)
- **Priority:** My original 2020 publication, "A Theory of Evolution as a Process of

Unfolding", *Cosmos and History*. (Attached)

- **Structural Overlap:** My published comparative analysis, "Evolutio Unfolding Theory and 'Platonic Space': On Conceptual Priority and Lineage", which documents the structural identity of the two frameworks. (Attached)
- **Visibility:** Documentation of over 13,000 downloads across PhilPeople and Nature platforms, establishing that my work was widely known and accessible throughout the relevant period. (Attached)

2. What This Evidence Establishes

The evidence, considered together, demonstrates **the appropriation of an entire theoretical framework's explanatory architecture, renamed and presented as novel without attribution**. This falls squarely within the definition of **plagiarism** in Tufts' Research Misconduct Policy: "the appropriation of another person's ideas, processes, results, or words without giving appropriate credit".

I state this plainly because the evidence is plain. The conclusion is not a matter of interpretation; it follows necessarily from the facts.

3. On the Timing of a Formal Complaint

I will not file a formal complaint at this time. I will do so when the book chapter or any other "official" publication of Dr. Levin's "Platonic Space" framework appears. This is not a delay; it is a choice to act when the record is complete and the stakes are highest.

4. What Continued Publication Would Mean

If Dr. Levin proceeds with publication after this notification, the situation will be transformed. He will have persisted not only despite multiple warnings, but also after I reported his misconduct to the very office charged with overseeing research integrity at Tufts. This would demonstrate either:

- That the university took no effective measures to prevent the dissemination of appropriated work, raising questions of institutional protection or complicity, or
- That Dr. Levin operates outside the university's oversight, indifferent to its policies and processes.

Both possibilities will be documented in the public record. I raise them not as accusations, but as facts that would follow inevitably from the sequence of events.

5. The Historical Record and the Lineage Observatory

My theory is not obscure. It has been downloaded over 13,000 times on PhilPeople and Nature platforms alone. Dr. Levin cannot claim ignorance, amnesia, or lack of access.

Every attempt he makes to promote and disseminate a framework that structurally replicates mine will be:

- A matter of public record

- Another entry in my **Conceptual Lineage Ethical Observatory**, an independent initiative documenting conceptual lineage distortions in the historical record
- Further evidence of a pattern that speaks for itself

If Dr. Levin proceeds with publication, I will file a formal complaint. Whether or not he publishes, I will continue the work of the Observatory: documenting the relationship between his "Platonic Space" framework and my prior work, independent of his choices. The historical record is already complete enough for that documentation to proceed.

6. The Decision You Must Make: Which Side of History Will You Stand On?

Your office now has all the evidence. You have the 2020 priority, the 2021 awareness, the structural identity, and the visibility metrics. You know what this evidence means.

The historical record is already settled. Any attempt to market a rebranded version of this architecture is not just personal damage; it is above all damage to the public scientific lineage and historical record. The only question that remains is which side of history the university will stand on.

I am not seeking a ruling at this time. I am placing the evidence before you and waiting. The choice of what happens next lies with Dr. Levin, and with your office's response to whatever he does.

Sincerely,

Dr. Agustín Ostachuk

Transdisciplinary Scientific Researcher

Director

EVOLUTIO: A Research Center for Evolution and Development

<https://www.evolutio.ar>

From: Johnson, Kirby L. <Kirby.Johnson@tufts.edu>
To: "Agustin Ostachuk" <aostachuk@evolutio.ar>
Cc: "Myatt, Theodore Alan" <Theodore.Myatt@tufts.edu>
Date: Fri, 27 Feb 2026 18:49:43 -0300
Subject: Re: [External] RE: Notification Regarding Potential Research Integrity Matter Involving Dr. Michael Levin

Dear Dr. Ostachuk,

Thank you for the additional information.

In response to your first point, my office took your initial communication to be, as you indicated, a notification of the allegations you have made against Dr. Levin. The first institutional step in these situations is to evaluate, or assess, the allegations to determine if additional actions are warranted. To clarify our institutional processes, "investigation" refers to the final step in a research misconduct

proceeding, with research misconduct representing fabrication, falsification, and plagiarism (<https://viceprovost.tufts.edu/research-integrity-and-misconduct-research-policy-procedures-and-reporting>). While this communication and your initial one did not indicate it, do you wish to make a formal allegation of research misconduct against Dr. Levin? Or are you alleging unethical behavior that falls outside of the definition of research misconduct?

In response to your second point, final publication is not necessary for my office to evaluate allegations of unethical research behavior, including research misconduct, and to execute any additional actions that are warranted based on this evaluation.

Thank you for the information included in your third point, and please send any additional evidence, including that of interactions with Dr. Levin in 2021, that you believe support your allegations.

Sincerely,

Kirby L. Johnson, Ph.D.

Director of Research Ethics
Office of the Vice Provost for Research

Associate Professor of Pediatrics
Tufts University School of Medicine

From: Agustin Ostachuk <aostachuk@evolutio.ar>
Sent: Tuesday, February 24, 2026 10:01 AM
To: Johnson, Kirby L. <Kirby.Johnson@tufts.edu>
Cc: Myatt, Theodore Alan <Theodore.Myatt@tufts.edu>
Subject: [External] RE: Notification Regarding Potential Research Integrity Matter Involving Dr. Michael Levin

Dear Dr. Johnson,

Thank you for your response. I am writing to seek clarification on several points and to ensure that my position is clearly understood as your office begins its evaluation.

1. Status of This Matter

Your email states that my notification has been received and that you "will appropriately evaluate the issues". Could you please clarify whether this means that a formal complaint has been filed and that an investigation is now underway? Or does this language refer to a preliminary assessment to determine whether a formal complaint is warranted?

2. Timing and Scope of Evaluation

I understand that the "Platonic Space" framework has so far appeared only in preprint form and in YouTube lectures and podcasts, and that a book chapter is forthcoming. Can an investigation into this matter be initiated based on these materials, or must your office wait until the framework appears in a final, published work?

3. The Nature of the Violation

I want to be absolutely clear about what is at stake. This is not a case of a missing citation that can be corrected by adding a footnote. The "Platonic Space" framework, as presented, reproduces the core explanatory architecture of my 2020 Evolutio

Unfolding Theory. A citation would not undo this appropriation; it would merely stamp it as a precedent.

The situation is further aggravated by the fact that, in numerous public interviews (available on YouTube), on his personal website, and in the preprint itself, Dr. Levin repeatedly describes the "Platonic Space" framework as a "novel" theory and an "original contribution" of which he is the "creator". He has made these claims despite having been made aware of the existence and content of my 2020 theory through our direct professional contact in 2021.

From my perspective, the only appropriate remedy is the retraction of all materials (preprint, videos) associated with the "Platonic Space" framework, and the withdrawal of the forthcoming book chapter and any future attempt of publication on the matter. Anything less would leave the violation intact and would not address the fundamental issue of conceptual appropriation.

I am prepared to provide any additional documentation that may assist your office, including evidence of my 2021 contact with Dr. Levin. Please let me know if such materials would be helpful at this stage.

I appreciate your attention to this matter and look forward to your clarification.

Sincerely,

Dr. Agustín Ostachuk

Transdisciplinary Scientific Researcher

Director

EVOLUTIO: A Research Center for Evolution and Development

<https://www.evolutio.ar>

From: Johnson, Kirby L. <Kirby.Johnson@tufts.edu>

To: "Agustin Ostachuk" <aostachuk@evolutio.ar>

Date: Mon, 23 Feb 2026 14:25:54 -0300

Subject: RE: [External] Notification Regarding Potential Research Integrity Matter Involving Dr. Michael Levin

Dear Dr. Ostachuk,

Thank you for contacting my office regarding your concerns. Tufts University holds our entire research community to the highest of ethical standards, and we take all allegations of this kind very seriously. This response serves to confirm the notification you have provided, and we will appropriately evaluate the issues you have raised.

Thank you for providing the document that presents a comparison between your Evolutio Unfolding Theory and Dr. Levin's Platonic Space framework. Please get in touch if you have any additional information or documentation to share, if you have any additional concerns involving Dr. Levin's research that you want to include with this notification, or if you have any questions or concerns regarding Tufts University's approach to research ethics and integrity.

Sincerely,

Kirby L. Johnson, Ph.D.

Director of Research Ethics
Office of the Vice Provost for Research

Associate Professor of Pediatrics
Tufts University School of Medicine

From: Agustin Ostachuk <aostachuk@evolutio.ar>
Sent: Monday, February 16, 2026 2:45 PM
To: Myatt, Theodore Alan <Theodore.Myatt@tufts.edu>; Johnson, Kirby L. <Kirby.Johnson@tufts.edu>
Subject: [External] Notification Regarding Potential Research Integrity Matter Involving Dr. Michael Levin

To the Tufts University Research Integrity Office,

I am writing to notify the university of a situation involving Dr. Michael Levin, a faculty member at Tufts, that may merit attention under your research integrity policies.

On April 28, 2020, I published "A Theory of Evolution as a Process of Unfolding" in the peer-reviewed journal *Cosmos and History*. This article established a theoretical framework that has since been developed in subsequent publications, including empirical work in *Nature Scientific Reports*.

I had various email exchanges with Michael Levin in 2021 to propose his participation in a grant proposal specifically aimed at further developing this theory. Therefore, Michael Levin is well aware of the existence and content of this theory.

Since early 2025, Michael Levin has disseminated a framework he terms "Platonic Space" through a preprint and numerous public presentations, including on YouTube. This framework bears substantial structural similarity to the theory I published in 2020. I am aware that a book chapter presenting this framework is forthcoming.

I am not requesting an investigation at this time. However, I believe the university should be aware of these facts—my priority, his prior awareness, and the substantial overlap—prior to the final publication of this work, as they bear on the integrity of the scholarly record and Michael Levin's affiliation with Tufts.

I will provide no further documentation at this stage. This letter serves solely as a notification.

Sincerely,

Dr. Agustín Ostachuk
Transdisciplinary Scientific Researcher
Director
EVOLUTIO: A Research Center for Evolution and Development
<https://www.evolutio.ar>

Caution: This message originated from outside of the Tufts University organization. Please exercise caution when clicking links or opening attachments. When in doubt, email the TTS Service Desk at it@tufts.edu or call them directly at 617-627-3376.

Caution: This message originated from outside of the Tufts University organization. Please exercise caution when clicking links or opening attachments. When in doubt, email the TTS Service Desk at it@tufts.edu or call them directly at 617-627-3376.

Evidence 5: Letter to CIIS

Formal Notice of Unattributed Substantial Similarity and Request to Halt Publication of Contested Chapter aostachuk < aostachuk@evolutio.ar > in Forthcoming Volume (Eds. Segall & Davis)

Agustin Ostachuk < aostachuk@evolutio.ar >

Mon, 16 Mar 2026 3:54:01 PM -0300

To "klittles"<klittles@ciis.edu>,"provostdivision"<provostdivision@ciis.edu>

Cc "kbrandenburger"<kbrandenburger@ciis.edu>,"dydrake"<dydrake@ciis.edu>,"kirbyjohnson"<kirby.johnson@tufts.edu>,"theodoremyatt"<theodore.myatt@tufts.edu>

Dear Provost Dr. Kathy Littles,

I am writing to formally notify the California Institute of Integral Studies of a serious dispute regarding a forthcoming publication with deep ties to your institution. This notice is a request for CIIS to exercise its institutional responsibility to ensure the integrity of the scholarly record.

1. Nature of the Dispute and Allegation

I am the author of the **Evolutio Unfolding Theory (EUT)** , first published and timestamped in a peer-reviewed journal in 2020 [Attached].

A forthcoming anthology, resulting from the "Metaphysics and the Matter With Things" conference hosted at CIIS and edited by your faculty member, Dr. Matthew Segall, and Dr. Andrew M. Davis, is slated to include a chapter by Dr. Michael Levin of Tufts University. The content of this chapter, based on a 2025 preprint [<https://osf.io/preprints/psyarxiv/5g2xj>], forms the basis of this dispute.

I am formally alleging **unattributed substantial similarity** between Dr. Levin's forthcoming chapter and my 2020 EUT. A detailed, peer-reviewed, and citable analysis of these structural and conceptual overlaps has been published and is available on PhilPapers:

Ostachuk, A. (2025). "Evolutio Unfolding Theory and 'Platonic Space': On Conceptual Priority and Lineage" [Attached]

This document serves as the neutral, public record of the evidence for these allegations.

2. Conflict of Interest and Bias in the Editorial Process

I must formally note a significant conflict of interest that makes direct appeal to the editors futile and necessitates this communication to your office.

Dr. Matthew Segall is not merely an editor of this volume. He has been an active and public promoter of Dr. Levin's "Platonic Space" framework on his personal blog ("Footnotes to Plato") and affiliated YouTube channels throughout 2024 and 2025. Furthermore, a review of his public writings reveals the use of terminology and

conceptual framing, particularly around the concept of "unfolding", that postdates my 2020 publication and bears a substantial similarity to my work, yet lacks any citation or acknowledgment.

Therefore, Dr. Segall cannot be considered a neutral arbiter in this dispute. He is, at a minimum, a participant in the very network that is amplifying the contested framework. By addressing this letter to your office, I am bypassing a compromised editorial process and appealing directly to the institution's responsibility.

3. CIIS's Institutional Responsibility

As the host institution for the conference and the professional home of one of the volume's editors, CIIS has a clear ethical and legal interest in ensuring its academic output does not violate the principles of the Committee on Publication Ethics (COPE).

This letter serves as a **formal notice** of this dispute. By accepting this notice, CIIS is now on notice of a credible allegation of research misconduct related to a publication directly linked to its faculty and activities. Proceeding with publication without a thorough, impartial investigation would expose the institution to claims of complicity in establishing a potentially tainted "Version of Record".

4. Formal Requests

To protect the integrity of the scholarly record and to allow CIIS to fulfill its institutional obligations, I formally request that you:

- 1. Identify the contracted publisher** for this volume and immediately apprise them of this pending dispute.
- 2. Halt the production and publication** of the contested chapter until a neutral, third-party investigation into these allegations has been completed.
- 3. Initiate an internal review** of the editorial process to determine why these unattributed similarities were not identified and addressed prior to the final stages of publication.
- 4. Provide a formal response** to the evidence presented in my published PhilPapers analysis.

I have already filed a formal notification with the Research Integrity Office at Tufts University (Dr. Kirby Johnson and Theodore Myatt) regarding Dr. Levin's conduct, and copies of this letter are being sent to them as well. I expect CIIS to uphold the highest standards of integrity regarding its own faculty and its editorial projects.

I await your prompt acknowledgment of this notice and your response outlining the steps CIIS will take to investigate this matter.

Sincerely,

Dr. Agustín Ostachuk

Transdisciplinary Scientific Researcher

Director

EVOLUTIO: A Research Center for Evolution and Development

<https://www.evolutio.ar>

2 Attachment(s)

Ostachuk 2020 - A Theory of E...
315 KB

Ostachuk 2025 - Evolutio Unfol...
1.2 MB

Agustin Ostachuk < aostachuk@evolutio.ar >

Mon, 16 Mar 2026 4:15:33 PM -0300

To "support" < support@osf.io >

Dear OSF Support Team,

I am writing to report content on the OSF that I believe constitutes plagiarism, in accordance with your procedures.

1. The Preprint in Question

- **URL:** <https://osf.io/preprints/psyarxiv/5g2xj>
- **Title:** "Ingressing Minds: Causal Patterns Beyond Genetics and Environment in Natural, Synthetic, and Hybrid Embodiments".

2. Evidence of Plagiarism

The content of this preprint reproduces the core explanatory architecture of my own work, which was published and timestamped years earlier. The evidence is as follows:

- **My Original Work (2020):** Ostachuk, A. (2020). "A Theory of Evolution as a Process of Unfolding". *Cosmos and History*. [Attached].
- **Comparative Analysis (2025):** I have published a detailed, side-by-side analysis documenting the structural and conceptual overlaps. Ostachuk, A. (2025). "Evolutio Unfolding Theory and 'Platonic Space': On Conceptual Priority and Lineage." *PhilPapers*. [Attached].

3. Institutional Context

This dispute has already been formally reported to the Research Integrity Office at Tufts University (Dr. Levin's institution) and to the California Institute of Integral Studies (which hosted the conference for the book where this chapter will appear). Notifications have been sent to ensure the integrity of the scholarly record.

4. Request

Per OSF policy, I request that you investigate this preprint. Given that it is part of the PsyArXiv network, I understand the dispute may be forwarded to their moderation team. If the content is found to be in violation of the Terms of Use, I request its removal. Alternatively, if removal is not possible, I request that a **note or link** be added to the preprint, clearly pointing to my 2020 publication as the original source of the ideas.

Please let me know if you require any further documentation.

Sincerely,

Dr. Agustín Ostachuk

Transdisciplinary Scientific Researcher

Director

EVOLUTIO: A Research Center for Evolution and Development

<https://www.evolutio.ar>

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