Share the dead ends too: a hands on argument for sharing your failures

- **Speaker**: Trevor Johnson
- **Room**: 250
- **Time**: Friday, Oct 23rd 15:00 – 15:20

- **Format**: Talk (20 min)
- **Difficulty**: Beginner
- **Track**: Community
- **Additional Tags**: Open Hardware, 3D Printing, Knowledge Sharing, Conductive Filament, Open Source
- **Experience**: Builder and problem-solver who develops open-source software and hardware under the Johnson Farms name and publishes reproducible research with the Idea Fields Institute.

Description:

Open hardware and open source run on shared knowledge, but we mostly share the things that worked. The dead ends and half-broken attempts stay private, even though they often save the next person the most time. This talk makes the case for sharing those failures as well.

Using the example of a flashlight 3D-printed from conductive filament, the speaker will walk through the evolution of the project—from a first version that was a “limited success” to a second version that worked. By providing real measurements and a straight answer on the strengths and weaknesses of the filament, the session demonstrates how cheap, printable, open hardware makes it low-risk to share the messy parts of the creative process.

Project URL: https://ataary.com/3d-printed-flashlight-with-conductive-filament/

Target Audience:

- Open hardware and 3D printing enthusiasts
- FOSS developers and documentation writers
- Makers interested in the philosophy of open, reproducible research

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