The 'publish or perish'-pressure - beneficial to academic research?

Benjamin Planque

benjamin.planque@imr.no
Research, communication, evaluation

Publish or perish – beneficial to academic research?
2 universities

Explaining Australia’s increased share of ISI publications—the effects of a funding formula based on publication counts

Linda Butler

*Research Evaluation and Policy Project (REPP), Research School of Social Sciences, Australian National University, Canberra, ACT 0200, Australia*

Received 20 August 2001; received in revised form 7 November 2001; accepted 15 January 2002

Publication rate

Citation rate

*Publish or perish – beneficial to academic research?*
Fish will disappear by 2048!

Impacts of Biodiversity Loss on Ocean Ecosystem Services

Boris Worm,1* Edward B. Barbier,2 Nicola Beaumont,3 J. Emmett Duffy,4 Carl Folke,5,6 Benjamin S. Halpern,7 Jeremy B. C. Jackson,8,9 Heike K. Lotze,1 Fiorenza Micheli,10 Stephen R. Palumbi,10 Enric Sala,8 Kimberley A. Selkoe,7 John J. Stachowicz,11 Reg Watson12

(Fig. 3A). This trend is of serious concern because it projects the global collapse of all taxa currently fished by the mid–21st century (based on the extrapolation of

Publish or perish – beneficial to academic research?
More equations = less citations

Biologists have a reputation for avoiding mathematics, and a study of citation rates shows that this is not misplaced.

Tim Fawcett and Andrew Higginson at the University of Bristol, UK, examined whether the inclusion of equations affected the citation rates of papers published in 1998 in three leading ecology and evolution journals. The authors found that papers received 28% fewer citations overall for each additional equation per page of the main text; for citations in experimental papers, this rose to 35%.

The duo recommends that researchers use equations sparingly in their main article text to ensure that their ideas reach a wide audience.


After Fawcett and Higginson 2012- PNAS

Publish or perish – beneficial to academic research?
Institutional response

- IMR publishing strategy 2012
- Key recommendations:
  - Increase average number of publications/staff/year
  - Publish more in peer-reviewed journals
- 20 specific recommendations
  - Zero on research quality
Become author and editor

Subject: Call for Papers: Special Issue "Marine Biodiversity" - Diversity (ISSN 1424-2818)
Date: Thursday, October 11, 2012 11:07:44 AM Norway Time
From: Gruetter@mdpi.com
To: Dr. Planque

This Special Issue will be fully open access. Open access (unlimited and free access by readers) increases publicity and promotes more frequent citations as indicated by several studies. Open access is supported by authors.

Subject: Reminder: Call for Papers: Special Issue "Marine Biodiversity" - Diversity (ISSN 1424-2818)
Date: Monday, October 22, 2012 11:36:43 AM Norway Time
From: Gruetter@mdpi.com
To: Dr. Planque

Subject: Call for Papers: Special Issue "Bioactive Compounds from Marine Plankton" - Marine Drugs (ISSN 1660-3397)
Date: Tuesday, October 30, 2012 2:49:37 PM Norway Time
From: Gruetter@mdpi.com
To: Dr. Planque

The following Special Issue will be published in Marine Drugs (ISSN 1660-3397, http://www.mdpi.com/journal/marinedrugs/), and is now open to receive submissions of full research papers and comprehensive review articles for peer-review and possible publication.

Publish or perish – beneficial to academic research?
PhD students

- Pressure to publish is highest
- Capacity to resist is lowest
- ‘Publish or perish’ is mentally integrated
- PhD objectives:
  - Primary: publish three papers
  - Secondary: learn how to conduct research
Summary

- Publication & citation rates are used for the assessment and management of research
- Researchers and students adapt to publication and citation incentives,
- Institutes also adapt to publication and citation incentives,
- Publishers adapt to this new situation
- None of these adaptations have a focus on research quality
Who am I going to be?

- Marine biologist (zooplankton and fish)
- Climate and fishing effects on marine populations
- Numerical ecology
- Spatial ecology
- Food-web modeling
- Fish stock Assessments

Publish or perish – beneficial to academic research?
Thank you
Publish or perish – beneficial to academic research?
High Impact High Fraud

**TOP TEN RETRACTORS**
Journals with the most retractions attributable to fraud or suspected fraud, as recorded in PubMed.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Journal</th>
<th>Number of articles</th>
<th>2011 impact factor</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The Journal of Biological Chemistry</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>5.12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anesthesia &amp; Analgesia</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>3.07</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Science</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>32.45</td>
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<tr>
<td>The Journal of Immunology</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>5.86</td>
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<tr>
<td>Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>10.47</td>
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<td>Blood</td>
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<td>Nature</td>
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<td>36.24</td>
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<tr>
<td>The Journal of Clinical Investigation</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>15.43</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cancer Research</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>8.16</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cell</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>34.77</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**BAD COPY**
Most retracted papers listed in PubMed were withdrawn owing to fraud or suspected fraud.

- Fraud/suspected fraud: **43.4%**
- Duplication: **14.2%**
- Other: **11.3%**

**TOTAL RETRACTED ARTICLES: 2,047**

- Error: **21.3%**
- Plagiarism: **9.8%**

After Fang et al. 2012 - PNAS

Publish or perish – beneficial to academic research?
Subject: Call for Papers
Date: Tuesday, October 16, 2012 3:10:24 PM Norway Time
From: Editor, Aquatic Science and Technology
To: Planque Benjamin

Dear BENJAMIN PLANQUE,

I have had an opportunity to read your paper "Understanding what controls the spatial distribution of fish populations using a multi-model approach" published in "Fisheries Oceanography" and can tell from your work that you are an expert in this field.

I am Jiao Liu, editor of Aquatic Science and Technology (ISSN 2168-9148). Aquatic Science and Technology is a new journal published by Macrothink Institute in open access model.

Author Fees
This journal charges the following author fees.

Article Publication Fee - Aquatic Science and Technology: 100.00 (USD)