The 9th Munin Conference on Scholarly Publishing 2014

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Presentations and posters
Keynote: Björn Brembs, professor Neurogenetics, Institute of Zoology, Universität Regensburg:

When decade-old functionality would be progress – the desolate state of our scholarly infrastructure.

Abstract:

Even (or maybe especially?) if you are not a professor at a university, you are familiar with web-technology of the last decade. You have seen “customers who have bought this item also bought this item” - it is ubiquitous. Ten years ago, Facebook was founded and four years later they bought the ‘like’ technology from Friendfeed, now also ubiquitous on other platforms. None of these technologies are available for scholarly work. Even a technology from the web’s earliest days, access counters, are only now, more then 20 years later, starting to become available for our literature. Probably most embarrassingly, a technology first showcased in 1968 - hyperlinks - still remains to be efficiently and pervasively implemented in scholarly works of today. With a literature that would only minimally lose functionality if it were carved in stone, photographed and the pictures then posted online, effectively implementing technology that is ten, twenty or thirty years old would constitute a massive improvement in scholars’ daily working lives. But we should not only look back in anger, we should also look forward with fervor and vision: right in front of us, within reach, lies a utopia that is easily realizable with the ten billion US$ we annually waste on publishers. This is a call to reappropriate the public good that is scholarship and to use subscription funds to develop our infrastructure.

Biography:

Björn Brembs, professor Neurogenetics at Institute of Zoology, Universität Regensburg. He studies how brains initiate spontaneous actions and how experience with the consequences of these actions shapes future behavior. Brembs is a strong-voiced Open Access evangelist, with thought provoking strong views on publishers’ place and role in the ecosystem of scientific and scholarly communications. He is also a leading practitioner of Open Science.
Publisher: BioMed Central, Megan Friedman, Sales Executive:

Cost of Open access publishing in the light of global developments in scholarly publishing: Springer’s Open access initiative

Abstract:

BioMed Central is the open access publisher who pioneered this publishing model and has been part of Springer since 2008. We launched our first journal in the year 2000, and have since seen several positive global developments which have helped establish open access as an important trend in the evolution of scholarly communication. We have consequently observed a steady increase in awareness of open access and specifically, of our wide range of specialist as well as broad interest titles which is reflected in our growing submission numbers.

BioMed Central as one of the main open access publishers has helped to establish open access as a new way of making academic research available to researchers and the public, and to introduce a change of the subscription business model in academic publishing and libraries. While BioMed Central also offers a solution for the Green Route of open access (“Open Repository”) the main part of our publishing activity is centred around our fully or “gold” open access journals. BioMed Central and SpringerOpen practise the “author pays” model, whereby the author is asked to pay a fee to cover the publisher's cost of publishing and distributing the article. While the awareness of open access is growing among the academics, there is still uncertainty among many of how open access works and why they are asked to pay a fee. To cover that fee can still be a major obstacle for a researcher attempting to publish an article in an open access journal, as the SOAP report stated in 2011.

I will present an analysis of the most recent open access developments and studies globally; as well as the effect that this has had on a number of factors that play a role in scholarly publishing, such as Impact Factors, citations and awareness of open access among academics. I will give an update on BioMed Central and Springer's own development in the arena of open access and visibility of research, including experimenting with alternative methods of evaluating research such as Altmetric and the SCImago Journal & Country Rank. I will conclude with an overview of how we are working with research organisations and universities to offer financial support to their researchers in order to cover the fee for publishing in BioMed Central and SpringerOpen journals in the context of our institutional membership program.

Biography:

Megan Friedman, BioMed Central, graduated with a BA in English Literature from University of California, Berkeley and a MSc from University of Edinburgh. Since joining BioMed Central, Megan has been promoting open access publishing in Northern Europe, the Baltic States, Australia, New Zealand, Czech Republic, Hungary, Israel and Kazakhstan. Megan is responsible for creating institutional open access partnerships which have proved an integral role in the communication and advancement of open access to a global audience.
The Research Council of Norway: Implementing a new model for financing gold-OA

Abstract:

The Research Council of Norway has recently revised its policy on Open Access and has decided to follow up the policy by implementing a new model for financing APCs. The new financing scheme, called STIM-OA, is directed towards the already existing publication funds at the Norwegian research institutions. The funds will from 2015 be able to apply STIM-OA for up to 50 % of their OA-expenses the previous year. STIM-OA will make a substantial contribution to the publication funds. Furthermore the scheme aims at structuring the financial and administrative handling of APCs at the institutional level. The goal of STIM-OA is to contribute financially in a transitional period, but in the future the Research Council expects to finance APCs as normal indirect cost for the research institutions, the same way as subscription fees are handled today.

Biography:

Johannes W. Løvhaug, senior adviser in The Research Council of Norway. He is working on issues concerning Open Access both on a policy level and with implementing funding schemes to support Open Access-publishing.
New directions in scholarly publishing: journal articles beyond the present

Abstract:

The primary goal of scholarly communication is improving human knowledge and sharing is the key to achieve this goal: sharing ideas, sharing methodologies, sharing of results, sharing data, information and knowledge. Although the concept of sharing applies to all phases of scholarly communication, most often the only visible part is the final publication, with the journal article as a most common type. The traditional characteristics of the present journals allow only limited possibilities for sharing the knowledge. Basic functions, registration, dissemination, certification, and storage, are still present but they are no more effective in the network environment. Registration is too slow, there are various barriers to dissemination, certification system has many shortcomings, and used formats are not suitable for the long term preservation and storage. Although the journals today are digital and various powerful technologies are available, they are still focused on their unaltered printed versions. This presentation will discuss possible evolution of journal article to become more compliant with users’ needs and to enable “the four R’s of openness” – reuse, redistribute, revise and remix (Hilton, Wiley, Stein, & Johnson, 2010).

Several aspects of openness will be presented and discussed: open access, open data, open peer review, open authorship, and open formats. With digital technology which has become indispensable in the creation, collection, processing and storage of data in all scientific disciplines the way of conducting scientific research has changed and the concept of “data-driven science” has been introduced (Ware & Mabe, 2009). Sharing research data enhances the capabilities of reproducing the results, reuse maximizes the value of research, accelerating the advancement of science, ensuring transparency of scientific research, reducing the possibility of bias in the interpretation of results and increasing the credibility of published scientific knowledge. The open peer review can ensure full transparency of the entire process of assessment and help to solve many problems in the present scholarly publishing. Through the process of the open peer review each manuscript can be immediately accessible, reviewers can publicly demonstrate their expertise and could be rewarded, and readers can be encouraged to make comments and views and to become active part of the scholarly communication process. The trend to to describe the author’s contribution is also present, which will certainly lead to a reduced number of “ghost”, “guest” and “honorary” authors, and will help to establish better standards for author’s identification.

Various web technologies can be used also for the semantic enhancement of the article. One of the most important aspects of semantic publication is the inclusion of the research data, to make them available to the user as an active data that can be
manipulated. It is possible to integrate data from external sources, or to merge the data from different resources (data fusion) (Shotton, 2012), so the reader can gain further understanding of the presented data. Additional options provide merging data from different articles, with the addition of the component of time. Other semantic enhancement can include enriched bibliography, interactive graphical presentations, hyperlinks to external resources, tagged text, etc.

Instead of mostly static content, journals can offer readers dynamic content that includes multimedia, “living mathematics”, “executable articles”, etc. Videos highlighting critical points in the research process, 3D representations of chemical compounds or art works, audio clips with the author's reflections and interviews, and animated simulations or models of ocean currents, tides, temperature and salinity structure, can became soon common part of every research article. The diversity of content and media, operating systems (GNU / Linux, Apple Mac OSX, Microsoft Windows), and software tools that are available to researchers, suggests the usage of the appropriate open formats. Different formats have their advantages and disadvantages and it would be necessary to make multiple formats available, some of which are suitable for “human” reading (including printing on paper), and some for machine reading that can be used by computers without human intervention. Characteristics and possibilities of several formats will be discussed, including XML as the most recommended format, which can enable granulate document structure as well as deliver semantics to the human reader or to the computer.

Literature:


Biography:

Jadranka Stojanovski, assistant professor at Department for Information Sciences, University of Zadar/University of Zagreb, teaching courses reflecting new technologies influences in the field of library and information sciences. Librarian and information specialist with broad experience in all aspects of library management, new services development and changing role of libraries in the academic community. Specializing in open access to scholarly information, database search and retrieval, digital libraries, information services, bibliometrics. Interested in open access and open repositories, information services architecture, data mining, web site analysis, semantic web.
Keynote: Cameron Neylon, Advocacy Director at PLOS:

Managing the Transition to an Open Scholarly Literature

Abstract:

The question of radical change in the scholarly literature has shifted in the past 12 months from ‘if’ to ‘how’. There is growing consensus on the need for change alongside increasing action from funders and institutions aimed at driving those changes. However there is less consensus on what the ultimate end state will look like and how to get there. In particular two challenging collective action problems exist: how to manage the diversion of money from subscription budgets into the development, maintenance and running of a web-native communications infrastructure, and how to simultaneously encourage the cultural changes required in the research community to take advantage of the opportunities that infrastructure will bring. These two challenges are both tightly coupled with each other and with our vision of the ideal state of scholarly communications infrastructure. I will seek to chart out the various visions of the future alongside a model of how to drive the cultural and economic changes that can realise those visions in practice.

Biography:

Cameron Neylon, Advocacy Director at PLOS (Public Library of Science). He is a biophysicist who has always worked in interdisciplinary areas and is an advocate of open research practice and improved data management. He currently works as Advocacy Director at the Public Library of Science. Along with his work in structural biology and biophysics his research and writing focuses on the interface of web technology with science and the successful (and unsuccessful) application of generic and specially designed tools in the academic research environment. He is a co-author of the Panton Principles for Open Data in Science and writes regularly on the social, technical, and policy issues of open research at his blog, Science in the Open.
Terry Bucknell, Product Sales Manager for Digital Science’s figshare and Altmetric products in the UK, Ireland, and Scandinavia:

Making sense and making use of Altmetrics in research evaluation

Abstract:

Monitoring and measuring the success of published research has long been a problematic area for institutions, funders and publishers. Recent government reviews, such as the Research Excellence Framework in the UK, have placed increasing demands on authors to provide substantial evidence of the academic and wider impact of their work. Over reliance on indices such as the Impact Factor has led to questionable tactics – with researchers seemingly choosing to submit work produced in the format that is most likely to have accrued impact demonstrated in the form of citations (i.e. published articles). But what about other outputs, and the other attention the work has received, and its application in real-world practices?

Altmetrics, or alternative metrics, have evolved in the last few years as an alternative to only using the Impact Factor, and offer a much richer picture of how a piece of research has been received. Instead of only looking at how the work is received within academia (most often via a citation count) altmetrics track the sharing and discussion of research in a much wider range of online sources – including global traditional and social media, post-publication peer-review forums, and public policy documents.

A focus on the qualitative data rather than the quantitative enables a better understanding of where and why the work is being discussed and potentially put into practice. It also offers a chance to focus on an individual article instead of making an assumption based on the perceived quality of the journal it is published in – a key pain point for those involved in research evaluation.

A relatively new field, there is still much work to be done into what, why, and how the attention surrounding a paper should (or should not) be measured. There is already a justified concern that they will simply become another number by which a researcher can be judged, and a danger that they will be used to indicate quality where in reality they can offer nothing of the sort.

What they do provide, however, is a valuable insight into the wider reception of research, and in a much more immediate way than citation counts alone are able to give. New tools are being developed at a rapid pace to enable institutions and funders to more easily track where the research their authors publish is being picked up – to help identify success stories and to further validate their knowledge of their audiences.

We will give a brief overview of the progress within the field of altmetrics to date, including tangible use cases amongst academics and institutional managers, and explore how by pulling together academic impact (the more traditional bibliometrics) and the wider societal impact (altmetrics) it is possible to benefit from delving deeper into the context and engagement surrounding research.
Biography (Terry Bucknell):

Terry Bucknell is the Product Sales Manager for Digital Science’s figshare and Altmetric products in the UK, Ireland, and Scandinavia. Terry was previously Electronic Resources Manager (and later Head of Collections, Content and Discovery) at the University of Liverpool where he managed their collections of e-journals, databases and e-books, and the tools through which they were managed and accessed. Prior to that he was Engineering Librarian at the University of Leeds. After acquiring degrees in Physics from the universities of Manchester and Birmingham, he gained his MA in Librarianship at the University of Sheffield. Terry has a particular interest in improving the conduct and communication of research through the development and deployment of innovative tools, services and standards. He has served as a member of the UKSG and COUNTER Executive Committees, a member of the editorial board of The Serials Librarian, and on many publishers’ Library Advisory Boards.
Keynote Geoffrey Boulton, Regius Professor of Geology Emeritus, University of Edinburgh:

Open Data and the Future of Science

Abstract:

Open Science is not new, it was the bedrock on which the scientific revolutions of the 18th and 19th centuries were built. Its open publication of scientific concepts and the evidence (the data) on which they were based allowed scrutiny of the logic of an argument and replication of observations or experiments or their refutation. It has been the basis of so-called “scientific self-correction”. But the technological revolution of recent decades has produced an unprecedented explosion in the human capacity to acquire, store and manipulate data and information and to instantaneously communicate them globally, irrespective of location. It has produced fundamental changes in human, social and economic behaviour and has implications for research and learning that are far more profound and pervasive than those that followed Gutenberg’s invention of the printing press, including the way that science engages with the wider community. But the explosion of data is also undermining self-correction through the difficulty of making large volumes of supporting data concurrently available in a scrutinisable form, risking both the method of science and its credibility. This poses a major challenge for modern science to stimulate open release and sharing of data in ways that also facilitate new modes of collaboration and that increase creativity through interaction of many brains and many communities unbounded by institutional walls. We need to challenge and re-define many of the habits and norms of researchers and their institutions if the research community if it is to exploit technological opportunities, maintain self-correction and maximize the contribution of research to human understanding and welfare. Fortunately the response to these imperatives is growing, through the enunciation of principles for open science, the development of procedures and tools and the engagement of researchers, universities, funders, publishers, learned societies and governments.

Biography:

Professor Geoffrey Boulton OBE FRS FRSE is Regius Professor of Geology Emeritus and former Vice Principal at the University of Edinburgh. He chairs the Royal Society’s Science Policy Centre and was the lead author of its recent report on Science as an Open Enterprise. He is a member of the UK Government’s Research Transparency Board and until recently he was a member of the UK Prime Minister’s Council for Science and Technology. His research, for which he has received many national and international awards, is in the fields of environmental geology and glaciology. He has worked widely in Polar regions including Svalbard and Antarctica.
Karlheinz Pappenberger, subject librarian, University of Konstanz Library, Germany:

**bwFDM Communities – a Research Data Management Initiative in the County of Baden-Wuerttemberg, Germany**

**Abstract:**

On 29th July 2014 the Ministry of Science, Research and the Arts of Baden-Wuerttemberg, Germany, has launched an e-science initiative to build up a powerful, efficient and innovative information infrastructure for all universities, research institutions and universities of applied science of the county of southwest Germany. With the overall budget of 3.7 million euro action plans within the five areas licensing, digitalization, research data management, open access and virtual research environments shall be worked out within the next years.

Within this framework an 18-month project has been launched at the beginning of 2014 to evaluate the needs of services and support libraries and IT service centres should offer for researchers in the area of research data management. In this “bwFDM communities” named project full time key accounters have been established at all 9 universities of the county (Freiburg, Heidelberg, Hohenheim, Karlsruhe, Konstanz, Mannheim, Stuttgart, Tuebingen and Ulm; among them national and international highly ranked universities). The task of the key accounters is to identity concrete needs and requirements of all research groups working with research data (in a broad sense including all areas of science, social science and humanities) at each of the nine universities as well as possible solutions by conducting semi-structured personal interviews and documenting them in the form of user stories. As a result issues of importance and requirements will be identified, categorized and finalized to recommendations for concrete action plans.

The presentation will give an overview of the first results of the project, thereby also highlighting the roles libraries and IT service centres are expected to play from the researcher´s point of view. Furthermore the presentation will point out the response of the University of Konstanz Library to the rising awareness of the importance of research data within the University Executive, showing the special efforts the University of Konstanz Library undertakes to support researchers in their research data management so far and to build up more and more expertise in the area of research data management. One step had been the set-up of a disciplinary data repository in the field of ornithology (Movebank data repository).

**Biography:**

Karlheinz Pappenberger is Subject Librarian for Economics and Statistics at the Communication, Information, Media Centre (KIM) Library Services, of the University of Konstanz, Germany, since 1996. Since several years, he is also expert for research data management and for usage statistics of electronic library services at the University of Konstanz. He has been involved in several third party funded national
and European projects all in the area of open access and research data management (information platform open-access.net; Open-Access Subject Repositories; OpenAIRE; OpenAIREplus; Open-Access Publishing; MovebankVRE; bwFDM). He works within the open access group at the Library of the University of Konstanz dealing with the institutional repository and promoting publishing open access and hosting open access journals at the University. He is member of the European library network NEREUS working on services for research data and open access in the field of economics. Pappenberger studied Economics and Political Science at the University of Regensburg, Germany, and has been Research Assistant in Public Economics at the University of Passau, Germany.
Laura Janda, professor of russian linguistics, UiT The Arctic University of Norway

Open Data for Linguists

Abstract:

The field of linguistics has taken a quantitative turn in recent years (Janda 2013). The majority of conference presentations, articles, and books in our field now involve some kind of quantitative analysis of language data, and results are often measured using statistical methods. However, best practices in terms of quantitative analysis in linguistics are still under development. Public archiving and sharing of data and statistical code are needed in order to move the field forward by providing standards and examples that can be followed.

The Tromsø Repository of Language and Linguistics, also known as “TROLLing”, at http://opendata.uit.no/ is designed to meet this need. TROLLing is an international archive of linguistic data and statistical code that is provided as a free professional service to the worldwide community of linguists. TROLLING shares the platform of the Harvard Dataverse; assigns a permanent URL to each post (currently a “handle” URL, but will convert to DOI during summer 2014); collects metadata that are searchable through the site; and is professionally managed by the university library in Tromsø and an international Steering Committee.

Authors of books and articles published in linguistics journals are welcome to deposit their data in TROLLing, along with citations of their articles. Conversely, authors can reference their data by citing their TROLLing posts in their publications. Additionally, researchers are welcome to archive completed studies on the TROLLing site regardless of whether or not the results are published in scholarly venues. TROLLing went live for public use in the summer of 2014. We are currently working on spreading the word to our colleagues by asking editors of major scholarly journals to recommend it to authors, holding workshops at meetings of professional organizations, and using listservs.

This presentation will demonstrate how TROLLing works, what kinds of metadata it collects, how that data can be harvested and searched, and what kinds of data can be archived at this site.


Biography:

Laura A. Janda (BA 1979 Princeton U., PhD 1984 UCLA) has been professor of Russian linguistics for 30 years (1 year at UCLA, 6 at U of Rochester, 17 at UNC Chapel Hill, and since 2008 at UiT). Her primary research interests involve cognitive linguistics and the Slavic languages, especially Russian. She has published 17 books and over 100 articles. More information is available at http://ansatte.uit.no/laura.janda/.
Paolo Budroni, managing director of e-Infrastructures Austria, Vienna University, Library and archive services, Austria

About Convergence of Knowledge. The Project e-Infrastructures Austria, an interdisciplinary case study

Abstract:
In January 2014, the kick-off of the funded three-year university-structuring project “e-Infrastructures Austria: Structure and Development of a Repository Infrastructure”, for which 22 Austrian Universities, the National Library and two other academic institutions all over in Austria jointly submitted an application for the development of national e-infrastructures for research and academic teaching. The initiative is coordinated by the University of Vienna.

The overall objective is the coordinated establishment and development of repository infrastructures throughout Austria. The project is structured in three parallel-running subprojects, which extend into each other thematically and/or build on each other:

Sub-project A: Construction of Repositories and Publication Services: Development of know-how and technology transfer to enable repositories (institutional repositories in the narrower sense) at universities as well as to advise and support in the development of local repositories in organizational, technical, legal and content-based issues.

Sub-project B: Design and Construction of Repositories Infrastructures for Research Data, Multimedia, e-Learning Content and other complex data sets

Sub-project C: The structure of the knowledge network e-Infrastructures Austria, intended to ensure the convergence of knowledge. This third focus is the development of a competence network for research data and data from research-based courses of study of heterogeneous origins with varying levels of accessibility.

Convergence of knowledge

The basic ideas behind the network are transparency, communication and a collaborative way of working. The skills and knowledge network are developed on a partnership basis by pooling available expertise and resources, using a trans-disciplinary approach and including many stakeholders (librarians, academics and researchers, IT managers, funding agencies, and so on), which are either within the organization or located outside the institutions. The result is an active exchange of experience in technical, organizational, legal and material respects. The project topics covered include management and organization of repositories, policies, legal & ethical Issues, share and release data, publish data, Open Access, long-term archiving, marketing, training and so on.

A consistently significant feature in this context is the anchoring of this content in the organizational structures of libraries and their environments. In the course of the project, individual groups and persons acquire an expertise in very specific areas and can act as contact persons and experts after the project has ended. The know-how is always documented. Results can be translated into practical guidance, surveys, case studies, use cases, best practices, reference lists, reports and so on. It is important that
these results be published by the project partners under free licenses and are freely and publicly available. Reference: www.e-infrastructures.at

Biography:

Paolo Budroni, started working at the University of Vienna (Centre for Scientific Documentation) in 1991. Since 2005, he has worked at the University Library. He graduated with a Dr. Phil. in 1986, specialized in Foreign Trade at Vienna University of Business and Economics in 1988, and in 1997 he gained a Postgraduate Degree in European Integration for Public Administration. He is currently the managing director of Phaidra (Permanent Hosting, Archiving and Indexing of Digital Resources and Assets, start: April 2007), a digital asset management system with long-term preservation functionalities. He is also the managing director of the project “e-Infrastructures Austria” (start: January 2014) a nation-wide project with 25 partners (involving all Austrian universities as well as the National Library) which aims to create an Austrian Network of competencies in the field of Universities Repositories and research data.

During his time as editor of the university trilingual magazine “The University - La Universidad - The University” was this selected and awarded in February 1997 by the European Commission as the best Austrian contribution to the fight against pedophilia on the internet. During a multi-year waiting period (2001-2005), he worked first as the Head of Marketing for an Italian Business Intelligence Company as well as a professor in marketing at the Università degli Studi di Perugia (Scienze della Comunicazione, corsi di master) and then as the Strategic Business Development Manager for a German telecommunications company.
Sven Vlaeminck, project manager European Data Watch Extended (EDaWaX), German National Library of Economics:

Data policies and data archives as prerequisites of reproducible published research in economics journals

Abstract:

In economics - as in many other branches of the social sciences- collaboratively working on data and sharing data is not very common, yet. This is also reflected in the professions’ journals, where policies on data management and data sharing currently exist for a small minority of journals only.

I would like to introduce the presentation with some empirical results of a survey, in which economists working for the project EDaWaX (European Data Watch, a project funded by the German Research Foundation) analysed the data sharing behaviour of 488 US and European applied economists.

Subsequently we give an overview on data policies of journals in economics and business studies. In the course of the EDaWaX project, the data policies in a sample of more than 300 economics journals have been analysed. The talk suggests guidelines for data policies aiming to foster replication of published research and presents some characteristics of journals equipped with those data policies as well as the status quo in disseminating underlying research data of empirically based articles.

Against this analytical background the talk identifies some challenges associated with the current e-infrastructure for providing publication-related research data by journals. The presentation also shows a technical solution for some of these challenges. In particular, the talk presents a pilot application for a publication-related data archive for scholarly journals in the social sciences, which has been developed in the first funding phase of the EDaWaX-project. The aim of this open source tool is to empower editors of scholarly journals to easily manage research data for empirically based articles in their journals. The application mainly targets open research data but is also capable of interlinking data and publications even in the case of confidential or proprietary data.

In conclusion the talk outlines the further development of our application and sketches other tasks of the project's second funding phase.

More information on the project is available on www.edawax.de

Biography:

Sven Vlaeminck, ZBW - German National Library of Economics / Leibniz Information Centre for Economics, is the project manager of the EDaWaX (European Data Watch Extended) project. After studying political sciences at Göttingen University, Sven started to work in national and European projects on research data management and digital preservation in 2008.

In 2010 he joined the Leibniz Information Centre for Economics (ZBW) in Hamburg.
When starting his job at ZBW he was engaged in the field of digital preservation first. In late 2011 he became the project manager for the European Data Watch Extended project, which is funded by the German Research Foundation (DFG). The aim of this project is to develop a publication-related data archive for scholarly journals in economics.

Beside his tasks for the EDaWaX project, Sven also works in the broader context of economic research data management. For instance he is active in the context of DataCite, where he is involved in da|ra - the German DOI-registration agency for social and economic data.
Ross MacIntyre, Mimas service manager, UK National Data Centre at the University of Manchester:

**IRUS-UK: Improving understanding of the value and impact of institutional repositories**

**Abstract:**

Many educational institutions have repositories for research outputs. The number of items available through institutional repositories is growing, and is expected to continue to do so due to requirements for outputs from public-funded research to be open access. But how much usage are institutional repositories and their individual items getting?

Jisc-funded service IRUS-UK is designed to help institutions understand more about the usage of their institutional repositories. It follows on from the successful PIRUS2 project, which demonstrated how COUNTER-compliant article-level usage statistics could be collected and consolidated from publishers and institutional repositories.

IRUS-UK collects raw usage data from participating repositories and processes these into COUNTER-compliant statistics. This provides repositories with comparable, authoritative, standards-based data and opportunities for profiling and benchmarking. It enables institutions to run reports at both repository level (e.g. total download figures) and at item level. IRUS-UK has developed a taxonomy of 25 item types which all items are mapped to so that usage across specific item types (e.g. Article, Book Section) can be consistently compared.

IRUS-UK currently has data from 63 UK institutional repositories, and has recorded over 17 million downloads since July 2012. The data from IRUS-UK can be used to provide information for management reporting, for usage monitoring, and for external reporting (such as annual SCONUL statistics for UK academic libraries). Data can be viewed within the online portal, or downloaded for further analysis.

IRUS-UK recognises that institutional repository usage statistics may not represent total usage, and is investigating ways to combine usage to support institutions in their overall usage statistics. One development is usage figures for electronic theses and dissertations; IRUS-UK has demonstrated the possibility of consolidating usage statistics from institutional repositories and from the British Library's Electronic Theses Online Service (EThOS) to show total usage.

IRUS-UK is a community-driven development, responding to user needs. User feedback has always been core to the service, and continues to develop with the establishment of a Community Advisory Group. Excellent feedback has been received from users on the ease and speed of set-up, and the value of having consistent, standards-based usage statistics and benchmarking opportunities.

**IRUS-UK:** http://irus.mimas.ac.uk/

**PIRUS2:** http://www.cranfieldlibrary.cranfield.ac.uk/pirus2/tiki-index.php
Biography:

ROSS MacINTYRE currently works within Mimas, the UK National Data Centre at the University of Manchester. Ross is the Service Manager for the ‘Web of Knowledge Service for UK Education’, ‘Europe PubMed Central plus’, ‘Zetoc’, ‘JUSP’ (Jisc’s Journal Usage Statistics Portal) and IRUS-UK (Institutional Repository Usage Statistics for the UK). He is also responsible for Digital Library-related R&D services and had formal involvement with Dublin Core and OpenURL standards development. He was heavily involved in the development of NESLi (National Electronic Site Licence Initiative), the JSTOR mirror service and the implementation of ‘Shibboleth’ for Mimas’ range of services. Ross was elected Chair of UKSG in 2012 and was the Education Officer (2003-6). He is a member of the Technical Advisory Boards of COUNTER and the UK Access Management Federation.
Community Driven Open Science

Abstract:

The Royal Society of Chemistry is committed to supporting open science in the UK and at a global level. Our recently launched Chemical Sciences Article Repository provides a subject-specific repository for hosting research outputs, including 'green' open access articles from our own authors, and published 'gold' articles. We are working with institutional repositories and other publishers to include links to articles on their own sites, ensuring maximum visibility and usage of their own content. Our aim is to ensure compliance with open access mandates is as simple as possible for researchers in the chemical sciences and related disciplines. This complements our Gold for Gold initiative launched in 2012. We plan to expand the Chemical Sciences Repository to include other types of publications, research data and tools. Currently we are building a data repository for the UK academic community as part of our EPSRC funding for hosting the National Chemical Database Service (an EPSRC mid-range facility). This will allow researchers to deposit, access and share data, but allow the flexibility to only share data privately if preferred. Using our expertise from developing ChemSpider, our flagship free chemical database, search functionality and accessibility of the data within the repository will be optimised for the chemical scientist.

Biography:

Brian O’Connor has worked at the Royal Society of Chemistry for the last two years. He is currently the account manager for Northern Europe which includes: the UK, Ireland, and, the Scandinavian, Benelux and Baltic countries. Brian manages all purchases and subscriptions within this region to the Royal Society of Chemistry’s journals, including a number of very high-impact journals; databases and; ebooks. The Royal Society of Chemistry is a not-for-profit organisation where projects underpin Open Innovation and promote facilitating access to data, technology and communities. The Royal Society of Chemistry contributes to the scientific community as a reporter and distributor of scientific content, as a network for scientists and others in the community, and as an innovator.
Publishers: Elsevier, Mike Taylor, Informetrics group:

Open methods: bringing transparency to research metrics

Abstract:

Digital technologies, growth and globalization of the research community, and societal demand to address the Grand Challenges of our times, are driving changes in the dynamics of research, an evolution sometimes referred to as “Science 2.0”. They impact the entire research workflow, from securing resource, through conducting research, to disseminating the results using more routes than ever before, to peers, industry and society. This broad transmission of the results and benefits of research also paves the way for citizens and civil society organizations to be much more directly and actively involved as “agenda gatekeepers”, with a role in steering research, and perhaps even as funders themselves.

These changes result in a more complex research ecosystem, populated by more stakeholders with ever higher expectations. The resources to support this ecosystem are not infinite, and these changes also drive the development of additional approaches into evaluating research alongside the well-established practices of peer review, and of securing expert opinion and narratives. This has driven a growing interest in the use of research metrics, alongside qualitative inputs, in making allocation decisions.

In just the same way as the changes leading to Science 2.0 are driven bottom-up, Elsevier believes that the most effective way to embed quantitative insights along the existing qualitative is by endorsing a community-built solution. We are bringing our technical expertise and global reach to bear to facilitate democratic initiatives. One example of this is our engagement with the Snowball Metrics program [1], in which universities agree amongst themselves on metrics that give them useful strategic insights, rather than accept metrics that funders find useful and which are often, in effect, imposed. The initiative tests the methods on all available data sources to ensure they are robust and commonly understood and will support apples-to-apples benchmarking, and publish the metrics “recipes” for free so that they can be used by anyone, for their own purposes and, if applicable, under their own business models.

Such engagements have shaped Elsevier’s position on research metrics and their use in research assessment. We recognise the need for a much broader range of research metrics than has traditionally been available: publication and citation metrics remain valuable, but must be complemented by those in other areas such as collaboration, deposition and reuse of research data, and benefit to society. Our vision is to be able to provide quantitative information about the entire research workflow, and we are engaging on several fronts to make this vision a reality.

At the same time, we have also learnt about how the research community expects research metrics to be used in a responsible way, and our approach embraces this [2]. We recognize that metrics never reflect 100% of research activity, and that they should always be used together with qualitative inputs: peer review, expert opinion...
and narrative. The methods underlying any metric should be open to build trust, and to stimulate debate and improvement where needed, so that these same methods can be applied to all data available, whether they are open or proprietary. This consistent approach will bring the greatest benefit to the research community.

References


Biography:

Mike Taylor has been working on metrics and alternative metrics at Elsevier for several years. A great advocate of community projects and open development, he was until recently a research specialist in Elsevier’s Research and Development facility. Mike has just been appointed to work in the Informetrics group, where he’ll be researching and developing metrics for Elsevier’s platforms. He has published several papers in the area of metrics, which can be found at his ORCID, http://orcid.org/0000-0002-8534-5985
Stephan Buettgen, Director of Sales of Plum Analytics in Europe:

*Altmetrics in Practice*

**Abstract:**

Citation counts have long been the standard measure of academic research usage and impact. Specifically, published articles in prominent journals citing other published articles in other prominent journals equate to prestige and tenure. Metrics can now be harvested and applied to research around usage, captures, mentions, and social media, in addition to citations, giving a much more comprehensive and holistic view of impact. These new metrics are also much more timely than citation metrics and can keep pace with new formats much faster than the entrenched, legacy practices. In this session, we will highlight some practical ways institutions are using these new metrics today and what the future holds.

**Biography:**

Stephan Buettgen is the Director of Sales of Plum Analytics in Europe. Before this he worked in various roles in the publishing and information industry e.g. at Thomson Reuters and Elsevier and has a proven track record in the analytical space. He holds degrees in Economic Science and Psychology and currently lives near Berlin, Germany.
Nils T Hagen, professor, University of Nordland, Norway:

*Publication metrics: Improved accuracy is necessary and attainable*

**Abstract:**

The primary purpose of metrics is to measure publication performance. Individual, institutional and national players involved in knowledge production all want to know how well they are doing in relation to others. Their shared concern is to avoid being misguided by flawed metrics. Nevertheless, a common flaw is that contemporary metrics ignore differential coauthor contribution, by allocating equal publication credit to all coauthors irrespective of their actual contribution. The ensuing equalizing bias (EqB) skews bibliometric assessments, and accounts for a massive shift of credit from primary to secondary authors.

Biased equal credit scores produce distorted publication performance rankings that are fundamentally different from rankings obtained from estimates of actual coauthor credit (Hagen 2014a). Furthermore, the powerful distortional effect of EqB is inevitably compounded in derived bibliometric indices and indicators. EqB may also provide an incentive for unethical behaviour, including unwarranted claims for “honorary authorship” or “institutional plagiarism”. Nonetheless, EqB is still universally unaccounted for in modern metrics-based research evaluation.

The key to more reliable publication metrics is accurate accreditation of coauthors, based on all relevant byline information in bibliometric source data. This task is facilitated by the harmonic formula, which provides a transparent and verifiable quantification of the byline hierarchy. The harmonic formula provides accuracy and parsimony by adhering to three simple ethical criteria for the equitable distribution of authorship credit, and also accommodates additional byline information indicating the equality of some or all coauthors, or the presence of a senior author.

A recent study found that the harmonic formula explained nearly 97% of the variation in a composite empirical dataset (Hagen 2013). In contrast, biased equal credit explained less than 40% of the variation, while EqB accounted for the approximately 60% discrepancy between the equal and harmonic estimates. A follow-up theoretical analysis showed that the amount of EqB increases as the number of coauthors increases, and suggested that most conventional credit scores are likely to be dominated by EqB when the number of coauthors exceeds 12 (Hagen 2014b). The implication is that a quantum leap in the accuracy of publication metrics is readily attainable, with minor source-level modification of existing information retrieval technology.

**References (Open access)**


Biography:

Nils T. Hagen, professor, University of Nordland, Bodø, Norway. His primary research area is outbreak dynamics and phase transitions in benthic marine ecosystems. He has identified inflationary and equalizing bias as major sources of distortion in bibliometric credit allocation, and is currently quantifying the effect of such bias on metrics-based research evaluation.
Factors that influence the use of Open Access publishing among Norwegian researchers, and interventions universities and research institutes can implement to achieve the Ministry of Education and Research’s goal of increased access to Norwegian research.

Abstract:

Open Access (OA) is a democratic way of publishing research and making data freely available for everyone to use. Studies have shown that OA articles enjoyed higher citation rates, and were downloaded and read more frequently than non-OA published articles. OA publications have the potential to reach a wider audience and benefit specialists and laypeople in a variety of professions, such as the law and health sector. Still, the amount of research made available in OA could be a lot better. Additionally, some disciplines use OA more than others. According to a status report published in 2011 by UiT The Arctic University of Norway (UiT), it is not the availability of OA archives that is lacking. Rather, the challenge lies with the amount of research made accessible in these archives. Several factors might influence the decision to make research available in OA, and the proposed study aims to uncover which these may be, among Norwegian researchers. In addition to standard measures of attitudes and attitude change, interdisciplinary and discipline specific focus group interviews will provide the material to develop a questionnaire for the pilot study. The main study should ideally collect data nationwide, in as many universities, colleges and research institutes as possible. The data collected will subsequently be used for the development of interventions designed to boost OA use. One such intervention could be a marketing campaign geared towards increasing awareness of OA, possibly with some incentives to researchers for making research openly and freely available. Interventions will initially be implemented locally (UiT), but if successful on a national scale. Success could be measured by an increase in publications in OA journals and data repositories. Furthermore, a follow-up study will be conducted to ascertain any attitude change after the interventions have been implemented. Given the scale of the proposed study, the results have the potential to be highly generalizable, and have a positive effect on Norwegian researchers’ use of Open Access publishing.
Advisory board

Caroline Sutton, Co-founder/Sales & Marketing Director Co-Action publishing, Director Infrastructure Services for Open Access (IS4OA), former President Open Access Scholarly Publishers Association - OASPA (2008-2013).

Sutton received her PhD from Uppsala University, Sweden. Prior to Co-Action Publishing Caroline held the position of Editorial Manager and later Publisher with a major international academic publisher. She served as the first President of the Open Access Scholarly Publishers Association (OASPA) and is a member of the present board. Earlier she served on the board of SPARC Europe (2010-2013), the Lund University Library Board (2008-2010), the Advisory Board for Linköping University Press and the Advisory Board for OAPEN. She is a recognized advocate and expert on Open Access publishing, has acted as Rapporteur for the European Commission, took part in the Budapest Open Access Initiative talks in 2012, and regularly speaks and holds workshops on Open Access publishing.


Prosser is an information professional, widely experienced in all areas of the provision of scholarly information, from the development of new models and strategies for scholarly communication through to the creation of tools and services, with well-established contacts in academia, libraries, publishing and government.

As well as issues surrounding the economics of publishing, the use and re-use of academic material and long-term preservation, he is particularly interested in the relationship between public policy and scholarly communications.

Curt Rice, professor at UiT The Arctic University of Norway, head of board CRISTin - Current Research Information System in Norway, Representative for permanent faculty on university board (Member of Board), Norway’s Gender Balance in Research Committee (Leader). Former Vice Rector for Research & Development at UiT The Arctic University of Norway (2009-2013) and founding director of a Norwegian Center of Excellence, the Center for Advanced Study in Theoretical Linguistics (2002-2008).

Rice is an active participant in the Open Access debate – and on gender (in-)equality in academia, and use his speaking and writing engagements to reach audiences on the topics that excite him the most: gender balance, open access, leadership issues and more, see http://curt-rice.com/
The organizing committee:

Jan Erik Frantsvåg

Lars Figenschou

Leif Longva

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Welcome back to the 10th Munin Conference in November 2015!