Laying the Groundwork for a New Library Service: Scholar-Practitioner & Graduate Student Attitudes Toward Altmetrics and the Curation of Online Profiles

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bit.ly/lac2014
Scholarly Profile
Social Media + Traditional Metrics

Altmetrics

New metrics based on the Social Web for analyzing, and informing scholarship (altmetrics.org)
Altmetrics Tools

- http://scholar.google.ca
- http://www.mendeley.com
- http://impactstory.org
- http://www.plumanalytics.com
- http://orcid.org
- http://altmetric.com
- http://article-level-metrics.plos.org/alt-metrics/
- http://citedin.org/
- http://klout.com/home
- http://www.carboncapturerreport.org/
Impact Story

Carl Boettiger

Products (102) with metrics (78) this week (66)

Article

Is your phylogeny informative? Measuring the power of comparative methods
(2012) Boettiger, Coop, Ralph. Evolution

fishbase: exploring, manipulating and visualizing FishBase data from R

Tipping points: From patterns to predictions

Treebase: An R package for discovery, access and manipulation of online phylogenies

Early warning signals and the prosecutor’s fallacy

Quantifying limits to detection of early warning for critical transitions

Modeling stabilizing selection: expanding the Ornstein-Uhlenbeck model of adaptive evolution
Abstract
A content analysis of articles published between 1999 and 2008 in the area of information behavior yielded results directly comparable to previous research and demonstrated little change in research methods employed, relative interest in particular user groups, or attention to affective variables. However, interdisciplinarity of the literature has increased, and it appears that the proportions of researchers and practitioners contributing to the literature in this area have reversed, now a majority of authors are researchers. This suggests an increase in scholarly activity in the area, a finding consistent with other recent reviews. © 2010 Elsevier Inc.

Related papers
Context in Information Behavior Research
Christina Courtright in Annual Review of Information Science and Technology (2007)
Save reference to library
67 reads

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Courtright Christina in Annual Review of Information Science and Technology (ARIST) (2007)
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Models of Information Behavior Research
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Context in Information Behavior Research
C. Courtright in Annual review of Information Science and Technology (2007)
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Courtright Christina in Annual Review of Information Science and Technology (ARIST) (2007)
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Readership Statistics
43 Readers on Mendeley
by Discipline
47% Social Sciences
40% Computer and Information Science
7% Business Administration
by Academic Status
28% Ph.D. Student
23% Librarian
12% Professor
by Country
9% Canada
5% Germany
2% United Kingdom
Tags

What Altmetrics Aren’t:

- Be all and end all of impact measurement
- Useful to compare between individuals
- Throwing out traditional metrics
Why VIU/RRU?

- Applied scholarship
- Professional grad programs
- Faculty role, teaching and scholarship non traditional
- Faculty who apply scholarship to practice in the community (knowledge mobilization)
- Library engagement with emerging models of scholarly communication
Research Questions

- What issues do scholar-practitioners & grad students face when trying to establish, grow, & measure scholarly presence on the web?

- How do scholar-practitioners & grad students perceive & negotiate issues related to scholarly presence on the web?

- How can librarians assist scholar-practitioners to create, discover & manage online reputation using traditional & emerging tools?
Methods

- 22 participants
- 45 min interviews with each participant
- Faculty were selected via VIU’s Annual Report on Research & Scholarly Activity, presence in altmetrics tools
- Students were referred by interested faculty
Issues & Themes

- Factors that influence participation/interest
- Perceived benefits/drawbacks of tools
- How to make decisions about degree/nature of sharing
- Discipline-related themes
- Library role/value added
“I’ve Searched For Myself in Google...”

- All participants had at least run their names through Google for professional purposes.
- Some already knew of Google Scholar profiles, some didn’t. Some very strategic.
- General awareness of impact in relation to the concept of journal impact factor.
- Different disciplines favour different tools and services.
How Participants Saw Themselves

- Stage of career
- Field of scholarly activity
- Value that institution may/not place on research & publishing in faculty role
- In/formality of institutional requirements around research in promotion
- Relative emphasis on research, teaching, service
- Dependence on traditional impact measures to obtain, retain funding
How Participants Approached Publishing

- Disciplinary dependent
- Publishing as formula, game, or ritual hazing
- Idea of disseminating research beyond academe – knowledge mobilization & community impact
- Accountability to institution, profession, funder
- Knowledge of, interest in Open Access initiatives
Engagement with Tools

- Awareness of tools
- Time
- Time (again)
- Which tools to use for what purpose
- Stage of development of those tools
- How the tools are viewed within their field
- Advantages and disadvantages of engaging with or reporting out results from social media
Participant Response

- “I would book an appointment tomorrow”
- “I think I got more out of this than you did”
- Some tools more mature than others
- Cool factor
- Skepticism
- How to make comparisons across disciplines
- Caution about being reduced to just numbers
- Promise of measuring value they’ve not been able to capture
Managing Scholarly Profile

- Broad awareness of strategies, tools complements field-specific understanding that scholars may have
- Guides, self help
- Workshops – department, faculty
- Integration with research methods grad curriculum
- Custom consultation
Thanks for Listening

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