Challenges and opportunities of new metrics in research evaluation

Anne Harvey, Euan Adie, TBC

1 Digital Science, Melbourne, Australia, a.harvey@digital-science.com
2 Altmetric, London, UK, euan@altmetric.com
3 TBC – Australian institutional representative

DESCRIPTION

Institutions and researchers are facing increasing pressures from management, funders, and governmental reviews to demonstrate the impact and engagement their research is achieving beyond academia. Traditional metrics such as citation counts and the impact factor provide little evidence or context to support this, and institutions are now looking to other tools to help them demonstrate the broader value of their academic output.

Alternative metrics, or ‘altmetrics’, are becoming an increasingly widespread tool for gathering this insight, and it is important that all stakeholders within an institution understand how they can best evolve strategy and working practice to maximise the advantages that such initiatives can provide.

In this session we’ll share case studies of institutions that have been using altmetrics, and representatives from the community will share their experience of exploring and applying such data within their own institutions. We’ll then move on to an interactive discussion that will consider, amongst other relevant points:

- if and how the data can be a useful component of research evaluation
- what behavioral changes the application of such insight might bring about
- how the growth of open access and alternative sources of academic endeavor, such as The Conversation, play a role in this dynamic

Learning Outcomes:

• Have a good understanding of the altmetrics and research evaluation landscape
• Be aware of some of the tools and strategies in place to maximize such data within an institution
• Brainstorm and leave with ideas for how this data is relevant within their own organizations

ABOUT THE SPEAKERS

Anne Harvey
Anne Harvey is the Regional Sales Director for Digital Science Asia Pacific with an overall responsibility of supporting clients with their research management objectives.

Anne has been involved in a number of projects including Big Data Computing (which refers to the ability of an organisation to create, manipulate, manage and analyze large data sets and its ability to drive knowledge creation), Australia’s ERA 2012 and 2010 (research assessment exercise).

Anne has a passion for information and research and previous positions include Regional Sales Manager Elsevier, Business Development Manager Thomson.

Euan Adie
Euan is the founder of publishing services company Altmetric.com, which captures and collects article level metrics and the online conversations around papers for publishers, funders and academic institutions. Altmetric was founded in 2011 and is supported by Digital Science. Euan frequently speaks at conferences on article level metrics and the practical uses of altmetrics in scientific publishing.
Euan was previously a senior product manager at Nature Publishing Group, where projects at one time or another included scientific blog aggregator postgenomic.com, Connotea, Nature.com Blogs and NPG’s mobile apps. Before joining the STM publishing industry he worked in academia as a bioinformatics researcher studying psychiatric genetics at the University of Edinburgh.

Australian institutional representatives TBC