AltMetrics

Carl G. Mattacola, PhD, ATC
College of Health Sciences,
University of Kentucky, Lexington KY

Perception

• Naïve Faculty Member & Scholar
• Administrator
• Editor

Altmetrics

• Data and knowledge bases refer to it,
• Article views,
• Downloads, or
• Mentions in social media and news media. [5][6]

Transition for old dogs

• Blogs
• Tweets
• Social Media
• Linked-In

Most common metric for evaluating research impact has been the number of times a research article is cited by other articles.

The number of citations received by the journal that published the article, summarized using a formula called the journal impact factor.

Journal Impact Factor VS. alternative metrics of impact.

• A = the number of times that articles published in a two year span were cited by articles in indexed journals.
• B = the total number of "citable items" in a two year plan. ("Citable items" are usually articles, reviews, proceedings, or notes; not editorials or letters to the editor.)
• Impact factor = A/B.
PROS

• Reviewed by Peers
• Specialized area of study
• Studies that are referenced more are considered more impactful
  – Sound familiar

CONS

• The more prestigious most read journals are higher ranked
• Can Be manipulated (review papers)
  – Sound familiar
• More financially viable have higher impacts

• Of importance for Administrators is the Determination of a Faculty Members Expertise and Impact

• How do you combine all the various metrics that are available to best present a faculty members expertise?
• Possibility of only rewarding the most promising of studies. *Journal of non-significant results*

Temporal Issues

• How to gauge long term success via altmetrics
  – Longevity of conversations……length of threads

Typical Considerations of the Current Publication Process

• Distribution of the Research that you publish versus where did you publish
• Peer Review provides a basis for examination by experts in your field
Electronic CV

- What will it look like?
- Will your links be automatically updated?
- Will it be more like a web page with current publications, tweets, social links, and links to previous and current conversations
- Links to all the companies that assess metrics
  - This has the potential to be very confusing
- Bibliography will be live

How are all these scores calculated?

- https://www.researchgate.net/publicprofile.RGScoreFAQ.html

What I can’t grasp is how and with how many metrics?

- Impact Story: http://impactstory.org/
- PLOS Article-Level Metrics Application: http://api.plos.org/alm/using-the-alm-api/
- Altmetric.com: http://www.altmetric.com/
- Plum Analytics: http://plumanalytics.com/

ResearchGate


Journals

- How do they get involved?
- Will the journal with the most money be most successful in disseminating data?
- Will journals need to be the repositories for data?
- What is the role of journal editor to determine PR and impact?

Is the researcher with the most altmetrics the most impactful?

- Encouraging researchers to tell their own impact stories on their CVs, using broad sources of data, will help spur a much-needed conversation about how research evaluation is done and should be done in the future.

The Power of Altmetrics on a CV, Heather Piwowar and Jason Priem, Bulletin, April/May 2013
• Supplement existing usage statistics to provide a broader range and interpretation of research-output impact for the benefit of authors

How do you train the next generation of Faculty

• Trained as scholars and teachers
• Trained to disseminate research and use social media??
• Is or will this be a product of a good department/college??
• Who pays for such a service? Altmetric
• www.altmetric.com

• I think the argument is not the use of metrics, like journal impact factors nor their importance of establishing (some form of) assessment of a broad range of scientists and scholars. Similar to “a Z score” how can you compare different people, metrics, and scales, respectively.

• I think what is most important is how do you capture and paint a comprehensive picture of the dissemination of information using all the technological tools that are available to us.

Carl G. Mattacola, PhD, ATC, FNATA
Professor – Director Division of Athletic Training, Rehabilitation Sciences Doctoral Program
University of Kentucky
College of Health Sciences
Wethington Building, Room 210E
900 South Limestone
Lexington, KY 40536-0200

Office: (859) 218-0860
E-Mail: carlmat@uky.edu
http://www.mc.uky.edu/athletic_training/