Big Splashes & Ripple Effects: Research Impact Services Across University Libraries

Caitlin Bakker and Jenny McBurney, University of Minnesota – Twin Cities Libraries

Background & Methods

Background

While there is debate regarding the role research impact assessment should and does play in research evaluation, a growing prominence is recognized (2). Bibliometrics is an ideal field for academic librarians to develop and provide assessment and tools for evaluating scholarly impact, its importance (8).

Methods

The Association of Research Libraries (ARL) Libraries, as well as a subset of the 144 top research universities in North America, were included in this study. (76/79) reported providing research impact services. ARL member libraries were included by survey and Environmental Scan.

Demographics

Where are the ARL Libraries located?

Researcher Information Systems (RIS)

Does the institution have an RIS?

YES 59.5%
NO 40.4%

How many RIS tools are they using?

1 tool 12%
2 tools 31%
3 or more tools 5%

Faculty Activity Reporting (FAR) Systems

Does the institution have an FAR?

YES 80.9%
NO 19.1%

How many FAR tools are they using?

1 tool 40%
2 tools 59%
3 or more tools 1%

Workshops

Does the institution offer workshops about research impact?

YES 38.6%
NO 61.4%

What topics do the workshops cover?

Metrics 14
Altmetrics 18
ORCiD 3
Other 0
Total 35

Workshops - Series 17%
Workshop Ind. 22%
Baselines Workshops 56%

Other Services

Does the institution offer other services than workshops?

YES 34.2%
NO 65.8%

References