

Metrics 2016: Workshop on Informetric and Scientometric Research

Stefanie Haustein

Université de Montréal, Canada
stefanie.haustein@umontreal.ca

Tim D. Bowman

University of Turku, Finland
timothy.bowman@utu.fi

Isabella Peters

ZBW Leibniz Information Centre for Economics & Kiel University, Germany
i.peters@zbw.de

ABSTRACT

We propose a full day workshop, sponsored by SIG/MET, devoted to informetrics and scientometric research. This workshop will provide a forum for the presentation and discussion of research and applications including new theoretical approaches, indicators, and tools among young and established researchers, PhD students, information professionals and librarians active in the field of informetrics and scientometrics.

Keywords

SIG/MET, informetrics, scientometrics, bibliometrics, webometrics, altmetrics, workshop.

INTRODUCTION

SIG/MET—the Association for Information Science & Technology (ASIS&T) Special Interest Group for the measurement of information production and use—was founded in 2010 in order to gather together the important community of information scientists working on metrics. It encourages the development and networking of all those interested in the measurement of information and, thus, encompasses not only bibliometrics and scientometrics, but informetrics in a larger sense, including measurement of various online activities, online applications, and metrics related to network analysis, visualization, and scholarly communication. Hence, metric research has expanded beyond traditional research products—such as articles and citations—to include web-based activities, such as blogs, tweets and other social media, so-called altmetrics. These social media are changing many of the ways research is being consumed and disseminated and, in turn, influence the field of metrics.

Research on metrics has been growing significantly over

the last 15-20 years. In addition to accounting for a significant proportion of the literature published in core LIS journals such as the Journal of the Association for Information Science and Technology (JASIST), there is also a large proportion of metrics literature that is published in general science journals (e.g., PLoS ONE) and in medical journals and is, thus, often considered as one of the main “exports” of LIS. Hence, the interest for such research continues to be on the rise, both within and outside LIS.

Recent workshops on the topics have been largely successful. For instance, on November 7th 2015, SIG/MET held its fifth annual Workshop on Informetric and Scientometric Research, during the ASIS&T Annual Meeting in St. Louis, Missouri. The full day event, sponsored by Elsevier, attracted 45 participants. The symposium consisted of three poster presentations and fifteen paper presentations by authors from five countries (Canada, Germany, Iraq, Netherlands, and United States). As in previous years, the SIG recognized outstanding student contributions, with one session devoted to presenting these awards and presentations by the recipients¹.

The 2016 workshop will continue in this vein and consolidate the work done in previous iterations of the workshop. SIG/Met already has already received several requests from the community asking whether the workshop will take place again – hence, SIG/Met believes that the workshop series can be successfully continued in 2016 and will attract a group of people of similar size as at previous events. We propose to include presentations from both established researchers and students in an informal setting where genuine exchanges can be made. The topics covered will include the following but are not limited to:

ASIST 2016, October 14-18, 2016, Copenhagen, Denmark.

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¹ See also the report on the workshop in the ASIS&T Bulletin:
<https://www.asist.org/SIG/SIGMET/2016/02/15/report-on-metrics-2015-in-the-asist-bulletin>

- New indicators and methods
- Applications of indicators (such as measuring the impact of science on the society)
- Theories of the publication process, citations and social media in scholarly communication
- Metrics in a library setting
- Open access, open science and metrics
- Tool development
- Limitations, misuses and adverse effects of metrics
- Interdisciplinarity
- Visualizations of scholarly impact measures and analyses

BENEFITS

Unlike a typical 90-minute conference session, the workshop will permit a focused, full day for metrics researchers to present their current projects and to discuss issues of interest to the field. In line with the call for workshops, the event will serve three main functions. Posters will provide scholars with a format for presenting works-in-progress and works that are best presented visually. The short presentations will be an opportunity for researchers and professionals to present and discuss research that is more fully developed. Awards will acknowledge outstanding work of (young) researchers and serve as incentive for submissions as well as for becoming part of the ASIS&T SIG/Met community.

FORMAT

A full day workshop, sponsored by SIG/MET is proposed. It is with the understanding that there is no financial obligation by either society to the other. Two-page extended abstracts or position papers will be solicited for presentation and reviewed by members of the metrics community. Presentations will take one of two forms: oral presentation or poster.

The workshop will host a Student Paper Contest which will award outstanding research papers from students. The contest is designed to recognize promising student research relating to the measurement of information, publication, and research and gives students a forum to meet the leaders of the field. The first author of the paper entered into this contest must be a full-time student at the time of submission, irrespective of ASIS&T or SIG/MET membership. Only solo or first authored student manuscripts will be accepted, in order to ensure that the student made significant contributions to the work. The winner will be awarded a one-year individual membership to ASIS&T and a cash prize, sponsored by Elsevier.

COST

The registration fee will be kept as reasonable as possible so the event remains affordable for students and international attendees. The proposed registration fee is \$140 for non-ASIS&T/ISSI members, \$100 for ASIST/ISSI members and \$60 for student members. Funds received will be used to cover administrative, technical, and hosting fees (including light hospitality). Lunch will not be provided and no additional costs are expected. The member registration rate will apply to both ISSI and ASIST members. ISSI members who are not members of ASIST may register for the annual meeting at the ASIST member rate. This will also encourage international participation in the annual meeting. These rates might be lower in case of sponsorship by Elsevier which has expressed interest in sponsoring the workshop.

PLANNING COMMITTEE

The planning committee of the workshop includes a wide range of members with a very diverse background who will disseminate the call for papers to a wide audience and will attract a high number of researchers. The list of planning committee members is provided below, including their position and affiliation. A quick analysis of the list shows that members come from seven different countries, and include academics, PhD Students and professionals active in the field.

- Stefanie Haustein, Postdoctoral Researcher, Université de Montréal (Canada), Chair
- Timothy D Bowman, Postdoctoral Researcher, University of Turku (Finland), Chair-elect
- Isabella Peters, Professor, ZBW Leibniz Information Centre for Economics and Kiel University (Germany), Past Chair
- Chaoqun Ni, Assistant Professor, Simmons College (USA), Secretary/Treasurer
- Vincent Larivière, Associate Professor, Université de Montréal (Canada), Cabinet Representative
- Cassidy R. Sugimoto, Associate Professor, Indiana University (USA)
- Stacy Konkiel, Altmetric.com (GB), Programming Committee Chair
- Brad Demarest, PhD Candidate, Indiana University (USA), Programming Committee
- Shu Liu, Metadata & Digital Resources Librarian, University of California, Irvine (USA), Programming Committee
- Kimberly Powell, Life Sciences Informationist, Emory University (USA), Student Paper Contest
- Philippe Mongeon, PhD Candidate, Université de Montréal (Canada), Communications/Webmaster

- Judit Bar-Ilan, Professor, Bar-Ilan University (Israel), Liaison, Alternative Cabinet Representative
- Andrea Scharnhorst, Senior Researcher, Royal Netherlands Academy of Arts and Sciences (the Netherlands), Liaison
- Dietmar Wolfram, Professor, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee (USA), Liaison

TIMELINE

If the workshop is accepted, the following time frame would be followed:

- Acceptance of workshop: June 15th, 2016

- Announcement and call for submissions –June 20th
- Deadline for submissions –July 17th
- Review of submissions –July 18th- 31st
- Acceptance decisions – August 15th

Providing acceptance by August 1st should allow ample time for international visitors to make necessary travel arrangements (including visa processing, flight, and hotel arrangements).