Keeping an Ear to the Ground

Evaluating Recent Developments in Citation Manager Technology with User Feedback

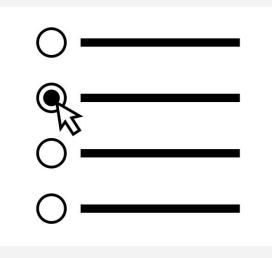
Carolyn Bishoff, Amy Claussen, Jody Kempf, & Megan Kocher University of Minnesota Libraries



What citation managers do you support?

What citation manager do you recommend most?

Do you have an institutional subscription to a citation manager?



The setup: Where are we coming from?

- Large academic institution
- Currently support four citation managers at the Libraries
 - EndNote
 - Mendeley
 - RefWorks
 - Zotero
- Distributed expertise managed by a small group
- No recent overall comparison of citation managers
- Some data on users from some vendors



And then there was some big news from RefWorks...

... and very little follow-up.

Meanwhile, we ran into a Mendeley rep at a conference who tried to sell us on their institutional version.



This seemed like as good a time as any to do a serious evaluation of what our users needed and where we were spending our money.

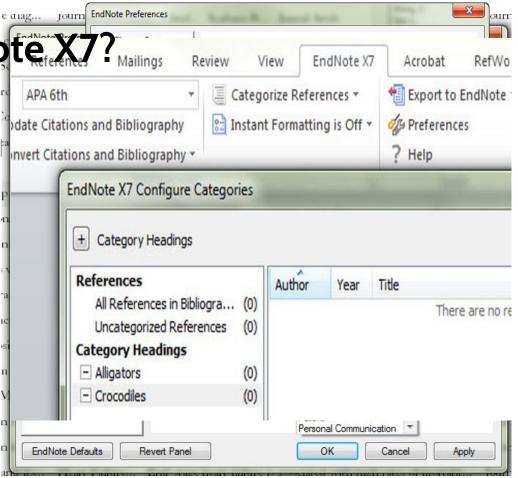
Created by Gilbert Bages from Noun Project

Roundup: What's New?



What's new with EndNoterX7? Mailings

- New reference types
 such as interview, podcast, conference
 and press release
- Advanced PDF handling renames your pdf's during the import process based on your preferences.
- Install on 3 computers total per user. Use same product key to install endnote on both mac and windows (with standard single-user license)



What's new with Mendeley

• Connect to other apps

Shared logins and integration with <u>Overleaf</u>, <u>Peerwith</u>, <u>Scopus</u>

• Now accepting research data

Mendeley Data, a new repository connected to ScienceDirect and Cell

• Enhanced user features

Altmetrics ("Stats"), suggested articles ("Suggest"), prettier profiles

Mendeley integration is here! Import your Mendeley reference library into Overleaf



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What's New With RefWorks?

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comps2 comps3		Publish Date October 1, 2011		
comps4		Patent Number		

What's New With RefWorks?

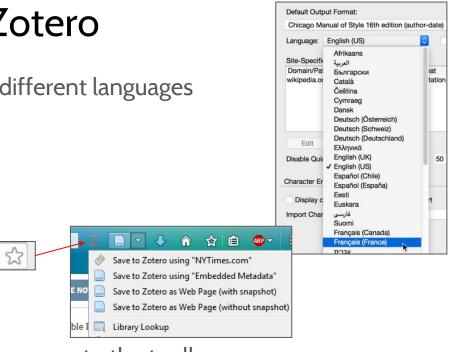
- Flow = RefWorks
- Totally new interface
- PDF metadata extraction
- PDF annotation
- Google Docs add-on
- Groups for sharing citations and documents
- Write-N-Cite does not work with Word 2016 for Mac
- More information -- FAQs, feature comparison

What's new with Zotero

• works well in a variety of different languages

• Save button has moved:

from the address bar



to the toolbar

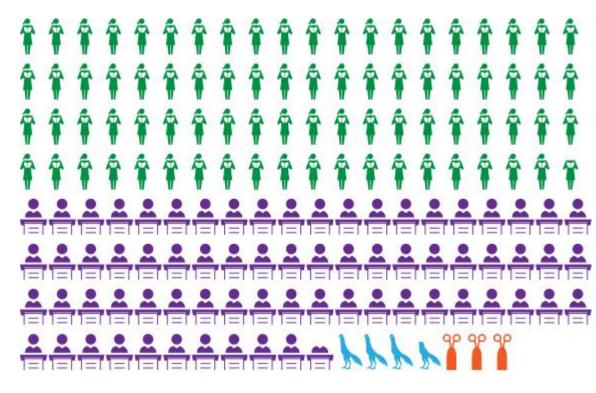
The Survey

Faculty and graduate student survey

- Which citation manager do you use most frequently?
- Please indicate how **important** each of the following **features** is to you in a citation manager
- Have you ever reached or come close to reaching a **storage space limit** with your citation manager?
- Is there **anything we have not covered** in this survey that is very important to you in a citation manager?
- Department and Status

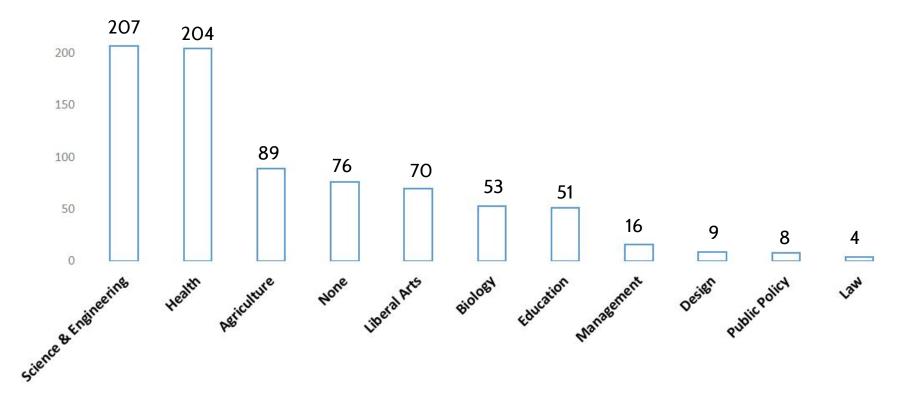
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Response by Status (N=787)





Response by College (N=787)



Citation Manager preferences

THOMSON REUTERS



53% of faculty respondents use EndNote

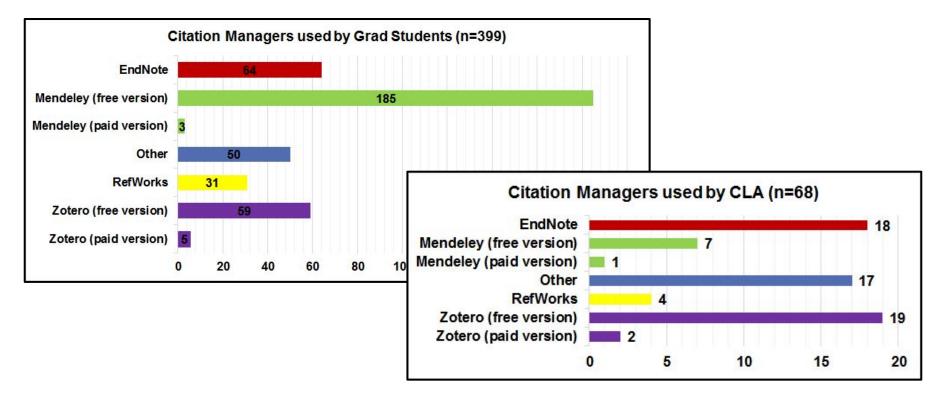
16% of graduate students use EndNote

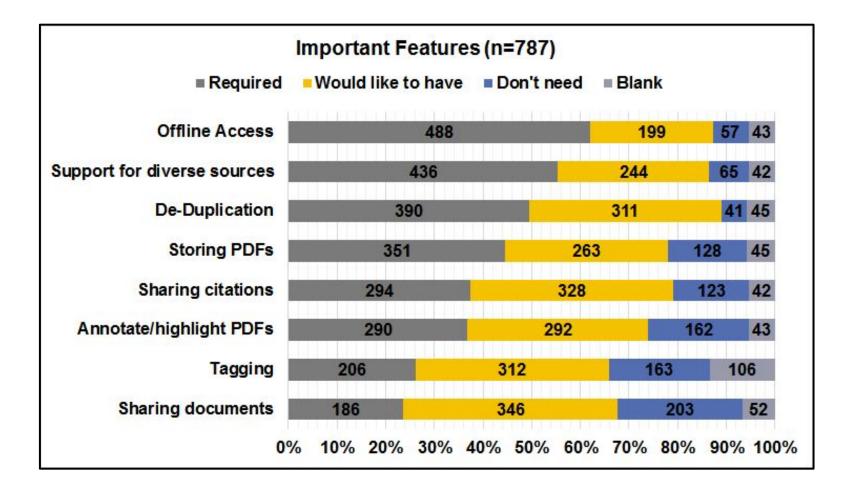
9% of faculty use Mendeley

46% of grad students use

Mendeley

Subsets of users



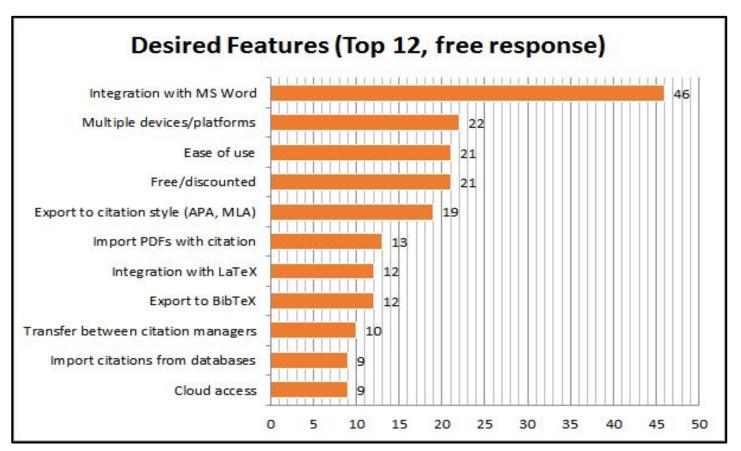


Most important features in a citation manager or what do our users want?

Top Five

- Offline access
- De-duplication of results
- Support for diverse sources
- Storing PDFs
- Sharing citations

What else?



Less than 10%

of responding faculty and graduate students use RefWorks

10%

of respondents want additional storage beyond currently available free storage

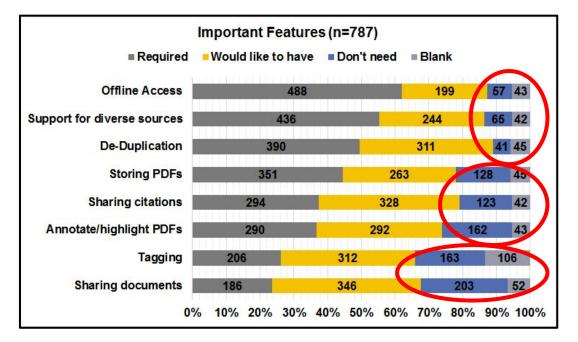
BibTeX Papers JabRef

are other commonly used citation managers

The Rubric

Applying the results

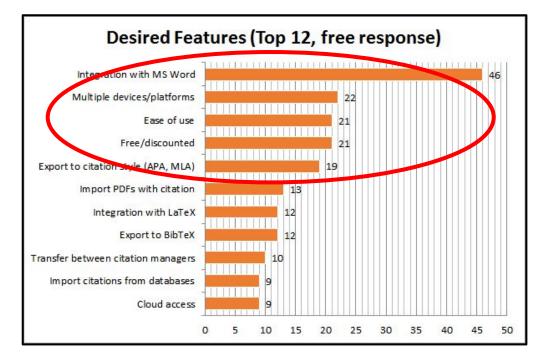
Features were weighted based on how they were ranked by survey respondents.



Core Criteria	Weight
Offline access	20%
Support for diverse sources	20%
De-duplication	20%
Storing PDFs	10%
Sharing citations	10%
Annotate/highlight PDFs	10%
Tagging	5%
Sharing documents	5%

Applying the results

Write-in features were also weighted based on number of responses.



Bonus Criteria	Weight
Integration with MS Word	40%
Available on multiple	
devices/platforms	15%
Ease of use	15%
Free/discounted	15%
Export to specific citation styles	15%

Grading the citation managers

Grade (core criteria)	Point value		
Perfect	Weight x 50pts		
Great	Weight x 40pts		
Adequate	Weight x 30pts		
Poor	Weight x 20pts		
The Worst	Weight x 10pts		

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Created by Lil Squ	id
from Noun Project	

Grade (bonus criteria)	Point value		
Perfect	Weight x 5pts		
Great	Weight x 4pts		
Adequate	Weight x 3pts		
Poor	Weight x 2pts		
The Worst	Weight x 1pt		

Creating a rubric

Maximum possible points: 55 (50 + 5 bonus) Citation managers are scored on a scale and receive points for each category Available at <u>z.umn.edu/cmrubric2016</u>

Criteria (out of 50 points)	Perfect	Great	Adequate	Poor	The Worst
De-duplication	10	8	6	4	2
Offline access	10	8	6	4	2
Support for diverse sources	10	8	6	4	2
Sharing citations	5	4	3	2	1
Storing PDFs	5	4	3	2	1
Annotate PDFs	5	4	3	2	1
Tagging	2.5	2	1.5	1	0.5
Sharing documents	2.5	2	1.5	1	0.5
Bonus (out of 5 points)	Perfect	Great	Adequate	Poor	The Worst
Integration with MS Word	2	1.6	1.2	0.8	0.4
Available on multiple devices/platforms	0.75	0.6	0.45	0.3	O.15
Ease of use	0.75	0.6	0.45	0.3	0.15
Free/discounted	0.75	0.6	0.45	0.3	0.15
Export to specific citation styles	0.75	0.6	0.45	0.3	0.15

Testing the rubric

8 citation manager "experts" at the UMN rated them on all these criteria, based on a 1 (worst) - 5 (best) rating scale.

Ratings were applied to the rubric, and here are the averaged results:

MENDELEY (FREE)	B+	88%	48.6/55
ENDNOTE	B-	82%	45.4/55
ZOTERO	C+	78%	43.2/55
REFWORKS CLASSIC	C-	70%	38.7/55

Available at z.umn.edu/cmrubric2016

Using the rubric

Rubric scores help explain why Mendeley and Endnote are popular among graduate research assistants and faculty. *They score well on features that are important to that population.*

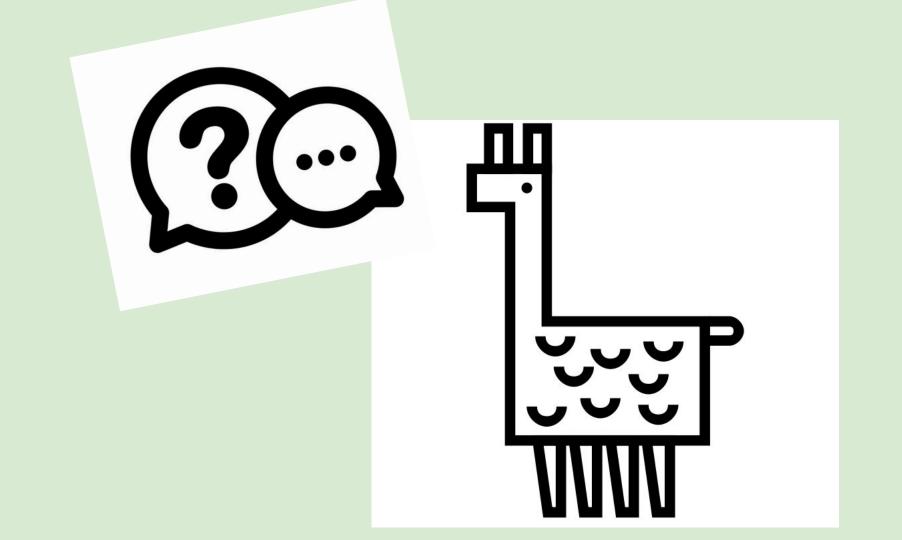
Information from the rubric scores can be combined with other data (cost, undergrad surveys, use cases) to evaluate long-term investments in each tool, such as:

- Renewing/purchasing subscriptions
- Instruction
- Guidance for librarians on citation managers to recommend to specific populations

Where do we go from here?

To do:

- Give liaisons college-level reports from user survey
- Talk more with vendor reps about our concerns
- Look at "off-label" uses of RefWorks to see if we could support those with other tools
- Engage with other audiences for our citation managers (e.g. librarians, undergraduate students) to find out what is important to them
- Weigh other, more slippery factors (e.g. customer support)
- *IF* we do decide to change our citation manager offerings, create a timeline and plan for migrating and assisting users.



Discussion

- Has anyone else done a similar <u>survey</u>?
- What <u>features</u> are most important to your users?
- What is your users' biggest <u>problem</u> with citation managers.
- Share your <u>experiences</u> with a citation manager in terms of customer support from the vendor (or lack of customer support) ;)

Resources

- <u>Weighted rubric</u>
- Our survey results (Data Repository for University of Minnesota)

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