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Altmetrics and Institutional Repositories: A Health Sciences Library Experiment

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Altmetrics and Institutional Repositories: A Health Sciences Library Experiment

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Institutional Repository Librarian

Lamar Soutter Library

University of Massachusetts Medical School

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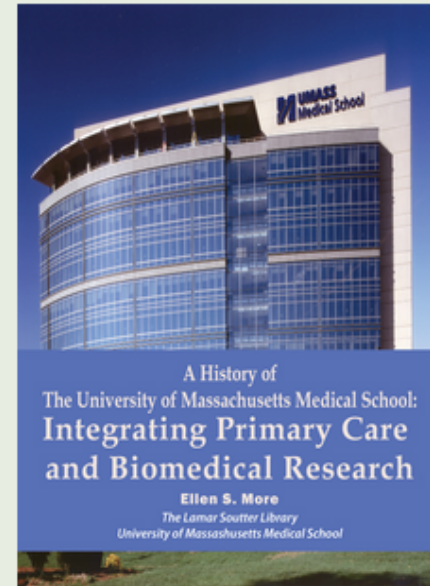
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Through eScholarship@UMMS, the Lamar Soutter Library can help departments publish their own open access journals or newsletters. The repository is originally designed for electronic publishing and includes a peer-review and management system. Currently the Library hosts 3 open access electronic journals: one for the Dept. of Neurology, one for the Dept. of Psychiatry, and our own science journal.



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- Download counts
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- Citation metrics on some platforms
- Metrics may or may not be displayed openly

WHY ALTMETRICS?

- Provide new services and demonstrate value
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- Integrate social media data
 - Showcase social importance of our content
 - Add more context and meaning to download counts
- Currently no option to publicly display item download counts on our repository platform

WHY ALTMETRIC.COM?

- Bepress implemented Altmetric.com's free API to display article level metrics derived from social bookmarking and social media sites
- Badges and API are free to use for open access, non-commercial institutional repositories
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<http://dx.doi.org/10.7191/jeslib.2013.1024>

Abstract

Objectives: (1) to identify common errors in data organization and metadata completeness that would preclude a "reader" from being able to interpret and re-use the data for a new purpose; and (2) to develop a set of best practices derived from these common errors that would guide researchers in creating more usable data products that could be readily shared, interpreted, and used.

Methods: We used directed qualitative content analysis to assess and categorize data and metadata errors identified by peer reviewers of data papers published in the Ecological Society of America's (ESA) Ecological Archives. Descriptive statistics provided the relative frequency of the errors identified during the peer review process.

Results: There were seven overarching error categories: Collection & Organization, Assure, Description, Preserve, Discover, Integrate, and Analyze/Visualize. These categories represent errors researchers regularly make at each stage of the Data Life Cycle. Collection & Organization and Description errors were some of the most common errors, both of which occurred in over 90% of the papers.

Conclusions: Publishing data for sharing and reuse is error prone, and each stage of the Data Life Cycle presents opportunities for mistakes. The most common errors occurred when the researcher did not provide adequate metadata to enable others to interpret and potentially re-use the data. Fortunately, there are ways to minimize these mistakes through carefully recording all details about study context, data collection, QA/QC, and analytical procedures from the beginning of a research project and then including this descriptive information in the metadata.

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Altmetric 11



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- Workload implications to implement DOIs in other areas of the IR
- Worry that altmetrics might be used as the sole means of evaluating research impact or researchers
- Competition with other deposit platforms
- How will authors gain a complete understanding of their research impact?

VALUE OF ALTMETRICS FOR IRs

- Deliver useful measure of impact for non-journal publications: posters, dissertations, datasets, books
- Help IR managers demonstrate impact of open access, recruit new content, showcase social importance of content, & add more context and meaning to download counts
- Provide authors with a more comprehensive understanding of their readership & lead to new collaborators
- Supply authors, IR managers & their institutions with data on public impact of research for funders and other stakeholders

Thank you!

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