

Introduction / Background

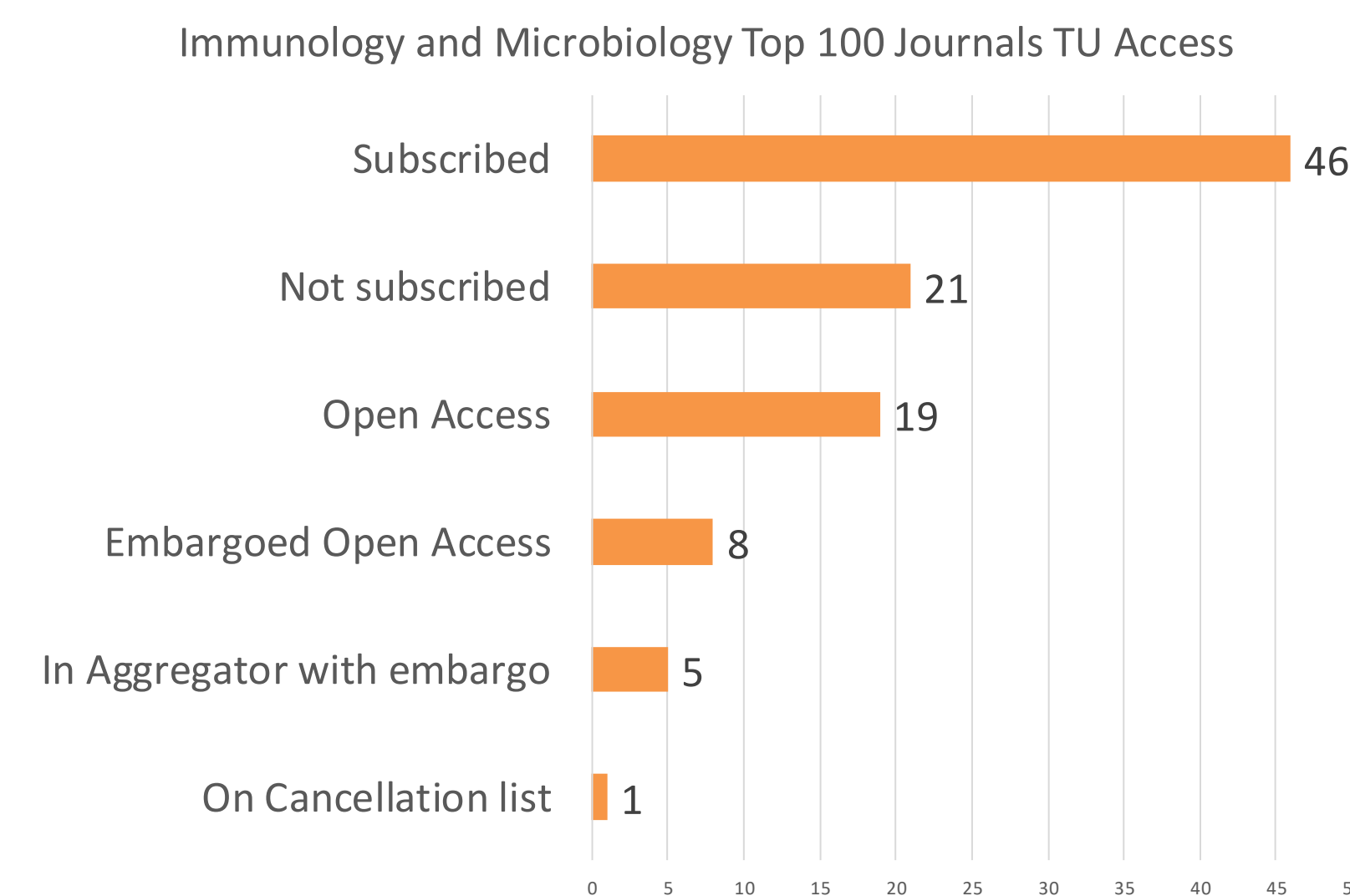
- Research metrics are a growing trend in academic libraries / higher education
- Metrics can be used to understand individual and institutional research output and inform journal selection decisions
- The ability to appropriately use research impact metrics is an emerging skillset in library professionals (Opuda, 2021)
- The role of metrics “in decision making is the subject of debate, and perceptions of the value of metrics differ across institutions...[and] disciplines” (Bakker, et al., 2020)

Methods

- We used journal metrics to contextualize decisions during a journal cancellation process
- We performed a bibliometric analysis of faculty research in the College of Health Professions to encourage use of alternative metrics and researcher profiles and presented it at a College Council meeting
- We created a LibGuide (<https://towson.libguides.com/research-metrics>) to promote research metrics proficiencies

Journal Cancellations

- Journals selected for cancellation based on cost per use and availability in aggregator databases
- Used Scopus CiteScore to help faculty contextualize cancellations
- Identified 100 most impactful journals in specific disciplines and noted access options for each



Graphical representation of journals with highest CiteScore on Scopus and access options

Cook Library's Research Metrics Guide, implemented in April, 2021. It contains sections for responsible use and ethics, author, article, and journal metrics. It links to tools and resources to support research metrics literacy and skills.

Faculty Research Impact

CHP Publications by Year (Source: Scopus)

A presentation to faculty included a graph of their cumulative publications by year.

Faculty publications were exported from Scopus. The journal data was used to create a word cloud.

Distinguish Yourself and Your Research

- ORCID: <https://orcid.org/>
 - Create a free account
 - Connect your ORCID with grants, affiliations, publications, peer review, and more
 - The NIH, AHRQ, and CDC have recently announced that individuals supported by research training, fellowship, research education, and career development awards will be required to have ORCID IDs beginning in FY 2020 (<https://grants.nih.gov/grants/education/index.html>)
- Publons: <https://publons.com/>
 - Create a free account
 - Import your publications
 - View different metrics

Faculty are encouraged to sign up for a researcher profile tool such as ORCID or Publons to distinguish their research and to aid in CV creation and grant applications.

Albert S. Cook Library

Towson Libraries / Research Guides / Research Metrics / Research Metrics Overview

Research Metrics

A guide for understanding and analyzing research metrics.

Research Metrics Overview

WHAT ARE RESEARCH METRICS?

Research metrics are quantitative measurements designed to help authors evaluate their impact in their fields. Metrics can include things like:

- citations
- h-index and other author metrics
- social media mentions
- journal impact measures
- site downloads or user reads

The field is constantly evolving. This guide is designed to assist you in understanding common metrics and using available tools to do your own analyses.

RESPONSIBLE USE AND ETHICS

The Leiden Manifesto

The Leiden Manifesto for Research Metrics was published in 2015 by five experts urging responsible use of research metrics at the conference where the idea came to fruition. They promote the following ten principles to guide the use of research metrics:

1. Quantitative evaluation should support qualitative, expert assessment.

141 views in 181 days!

Discussion / Conclusion

Future Plans

- Continue providing bibliometric support to faculty
- Conduct outreach through LibGuide, workshops, classes, and individual consults
- Consider how to expand research metrics potential to other disciplines
- Engage in intralibrary training (Teach Arounds) to help others gain the appropriate skillsets

Conclusion

- Librarians can provide meaningful support for research metrics
- Discussions of research metrics should include ethical considerations
- “Disciplinary awareness is key when considering research impact metrics” (Bakker, et al., 2020)

References

Bakker, C., Cooper, K., Langham-Putrow, A., & McBurney, J. (2020). Qualitative analysis of faculty opinions on and perceptions of research impact metrics. *College & Research Libraries*, 81(6), 896. <https://crl.acrl.org/index.php/crl/article/view/24614/32434>

Opuda, E. (2021). Academic health sciences librarian job descriptions do not frequently reflect emerging skillsets and changing research needs. *Evidence Based Library and Information Practice*, 16(1), 91-94. <https://doi.org/10.18438/ebliip29898>