Research Metrics: Just numbers, not impact!

David Sinfield, Law Librarian, Western Sydney University

Increasingly our research is also measured by metrics & citation systems. Law faces particular challenges in this regard as well. David will discuss metrics, and suggest how you might ensure yours are maximised. Please bring along your laptop if you have one and you may be able to follow him along. The attachments may prepare you for the discussion.

Bio: A career librarian for over 30 years, last 27 years at Western Sydney University, I am focussed on client centred outcomes for legal research and information literacy. I studied law at University of Sydney, and completed a Graduate Diploma of Information Studies at University of Technology. I advocate for law librarianship through active participation in the Australian Law Librarian’s Association, and teach legal research skills to undergraduates, academics, and librarian colleagues in the legal profession.

The Resonance of Research beyond the Academy and Western Sydney University’s activities in capturing and telling our impact story

Dr Annette McLaren, Senior Project Development Manager, Arts, Business, Social Science, Western Sydney University

Measuring impact, despite its many problems, will increasingly become an element of the university research assessment and funding context, as it is in UK and Europe (http://www.theguardian.com/higher-education-network/2014/dec/07/research-excellence-framework-2014-measuring-impact-australia-uk-universities-assessment ). Measuring impact is a core element of the UWS Research Plan, and we will increasingly need to think about it in relation to our research. There are a number of ways we can approach impact in the discipline of law, but it can be quite challenging. Come along to hear Dr Annette McLaren discuss impact and to consider how we might usefully approach impact in law.

Bio: After a long career as a librarian I commenced working in research development 10 years ago. I worked at The University of Sydney for 5 years before commencing at UWS in 2010. Prior to this I had previously worked at UWS as a casual tutor with the School of Humanities and Communication Arts. I was awarded my PhD in Literature through UWS in 2013.