

Research Enablement Metrics - Assessing the Impact of Being Willing to Share

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Our common conceptualization of metrics - whether "traditional" or "alt-" - track the impact of research contributors where the level of contribution typically rises to the level of coauthorship. Lurking somewhere between this strong inter-researcher bond and the much looser level of acquaintanceship (reflected in environments such as LinkedIn), is a category of contribution only inferrable through mentions in unstructured information such as the acknowledgement section of journal articles. This session will begin with a brief characterization of my recent work in analyzing the acknowledgements of articles appearing in the PubMed Central archive and the rich description of both author contribution and identification of other researchers, who, while not participating in the research characterized in the article, are none-the-less enabling said research by providing access to resources critical to the execution of that research. I will then shift to exploring with the audience the notion of an assessment framework focussing on the impact provided by a researcher not directly via publication, but through the enablement of others' publications through the sharing of resources.