The library's role in strengthening institutions' standings

How the Clarivate™ research analytics tool can help institutions support their research assessment with reliable evidence and communicate their research impact to stakeholders.

Customer

The University of Padua (UNIPD)

Solution

InCites Benchmarking & Analytics™

Challenge

The University of Padua wanted to assess and showcase its scientific production in a granular way and to advance its open research agenda.

Outcome

Using InCites Benchmarking & Analytics, the Library Center at UNIPD was able to generate data-driven analyses and reports to inform decision making in all areas of research — research assessment, funding, publishing agreements and more.

Clarivate™

The University of Padua (UNIPD) is a leading university in Italy for the quality of its research and education and has a strong record of international partnerships with universities and research centers worldwide. Its 32 departments and 27 interdisciplinary research centers cover a broad research scope.

The Library Center at UNIPD coordinates, manages and fosters the development of the University Library System for the benefit of scientific research and teaching, utilizing the latest technologies and following international standards. The Center also promotes Open Science actions and national and international cooperation through agreements with non-profit publishers, institutions and universities.

The Library Center needed a reliable tool to assess and communicate their scientific production in a granular way with analytics on multiple levels and wanted to be able to benchmark their output (including open access output) against other institutions. They also wanted a tool that was strongly connected to their publisher database.

32
university departments

27
interdisciplinary research centers

Assessing and showcasing research output

Open science is transforming research assessment, for which new kinds of metrics are required — normalized and collaboration-based, covering the full breadth of research output. UNIPD chose InCites Benchmarking & Analytics because of its strength in unifying the indexing of authors and publishers, identifying authorship and providing normalized impact measures and collaboration indicators for traditional and open access publications of the University's scientific production. InCites supports a comprehensive class of advanced bibliometric indicators assessing various aspects of research performance – including the Category Normalized Citation Impact (CNCI) or the Journal Normalized Citation Impact (JNCI) –

and the tool facilitates several views of collaborations within its interface that enable the user to identify and evaluate collaborations at various levels (country/region, institution, person).

"The fact that InCites is also publisher-neutral was an added benefit", says Mauro Apostolico, Research support and repository librarian at the digital library office of the University of Padua.

The digital library office has a very collaborative relationship with the Research Office at UNIPD. Because of its bibliometric expertise, the digital library office works closely with others to develop responsible research assessments using InCites normalized indicators. Using InCites visualizations, graphs and prebuilt reports, the digital library office delivers a more simplified view of complex Web of Science data quickly. Apostolico is looking forward to leveraging the newly added patent data within InCites to further bolster UNIPD's impact analyses.

Forecasting publisher trends

One of the main reasons for choosing InCites Benchmarking & Analytics over competitors was the indexing of publishers. InCites normalizes different representations of a publisher's name to collate its data into useful metrics.

With this analysis applied to the historical publisher data in InCites, the digital library office is able to provide data-driven analyses that is used to discuss and evaluate publisher agreements internally – for instance Subscribe to Open (S2O) subscription models, Pure OA agreements with Gold OA publishers and transformative (or read & publish) agreements – and even to support Open Access institutional funding.

Quickly view your institution's open access footprint

Like hundreds of universities and research institutions in the European Union, Padua University has adopted open access funder mandates. The Open Science Commission at UNIPD looks after compliance and implementation and requires data to evaluate the University's progress towards achieving their open access goals. Using InCites, the digital library office generates analyses to help the Open Science Commission, the Research Assessment Office, the Department's research and third mission offices and other institutional stakeholders – for instance checking that the funder is correctly input in all research papers generated by the university or monitoring papers from their researchers for a particular funder or EU project, national level projects like PRIN (Projects of Relevant National Interest) or next generation EU funded projects.

A wide range of usage

InCites was widely adopted by the library and its patrons, with researchers using it for retrospective analyses of wide-range academic outputs related to a broad spectrum of topics or disciplinary areas; research administrators using it as a support tool for research assessment and benchmarking; and repository administrators using InCites to improve the quality of metadata. According to Apostolico, the pre-built reports – on Organization, Researcher and Publisher – are easy to find and use, which is handy for colleagues who are less familiar with the platform.

"It is a powerful tool for researching topics and subject areas, made more dynamic by the wide range of category schemas."

Mauro Apostolico
Research Support Repository Librarian,
Digital Library Office, University of Padua

About Clarivate

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