

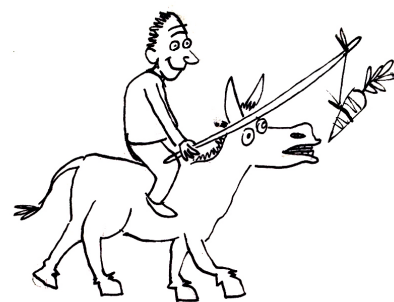
FOUR JOURNALISTS, AN ILLUSTRATOR AND AN EDITOR HAVE THREE HOURS TO FIND OUT WHERE THEY ARE AND WHAT IS HAPPENING AROUND THEM. WITH YOUR INFORMATION AND A HAND CRANKED STENCILING MACHINE THEY PRODUCE A PAPER WITH THE REAL NEWS: THE DAILY ISSUE.



**THE DAILY ISSUE**

EDITION 68 - 3/9/2014

**STI2014**



**BIBLIOMETRICIST  
LEADING SCIENCE IN THE  
RIGHT DIRECTION**

**META**

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Is there a ranking system for ranking systems? How many are there? Which ranking system for ranking systems is the best?

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**EVALUATION SYSTEMS AS FAR AS THE EYE CAN SEE**

▼  
Oh, exciting times we live in, friends! Bibliometricians are faced with the ultimate dilemma: can we live with the notion that, despite our efforts, there are still things in this world that remain unmeasurable? Can we go to sleep at night knowing that there is still data out there, unmeasured? Can we do that and still look ourselves in the eye? If we can, we can rejoice and measure the things we are able to in peace, and leave the rest alone.

However, if we keep dreaming of a better, more comprehensive world, we must expand! Expand our evaluation systems with all our

might. Evaluation systems, as far as the eye can see! We all must make our choice, these choices will determine our future and the future of our children.

Do your homework, check the facts and choose wisely. We, the world, are counting on you.

ched at STI14 conference. The Daily Issue spoke with one of the founders: "Since twenty years more and more research results are published digitally and also open access. This is an interesting new development, but it also means that publishers have to think about new ways of earning money", a spokeswoman from QOAM says.

"Nowadays the author has to pay for a publication. Therefore they need to be sure their money is well spent. Especially since the last few years predatory journals are an increasing problem. Non-existing journals from India and China invite scientists to send in their publications and to pay in advance, after which nothing happens and the money is gone. In order to avoid these frauds, we took the initiative to set up a platform called Quality Open Access Market."

"QOAM makes it easy for scientists to rank the media. As an author one is able to comment on three aspects: the peer reviews, the transparency of the whole process and the price being paid. Other reviewers can make remarks about the peer reviews as well, but also about the editors and the availabil-

**HAPPY  
RANKER**



**WARNING: DO NOT FEED THE PREDATORY JOURNALS**

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Today the new platform Quality Open Access Market has been laun-

ty of verifiable data."

"Today we notice that people are really interested, but we still have to explain a lot. In general my experience is that the visitors of a conference tend to take a look the booths from a distance and rather go home to check our website. Since the network is down for fifteen minutes already, they actually don't have a choice. For all those: [www.qaom.eu](http://www.qaom.eu)"



SO, WHEN DID YOU  
DECIDE TO BECOME A  
SCIENTOLOGIST?

## BUDGET CUTS GOOD FOR CITATION IMPACT?

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A poster contribution from Spain reveals that the Spanish budget cuts had an unexpected side effect: the Spanish publication and citation impacts have increased. But one of the researchers wants to stress that she would not recommend other governments to follow this strategy; she expects that the newest output numbers will show a sharp decline. All the researchers that were fired have finished writing about their former projects by

now, and there is no money to start new work.

From another poster we learned that only after the Danish government invented a system of earning points for publications, scientists were willing to publish in high impact journals. They had to be threatened with losing research time if they continued to write in their favourite low quality magazines.

## IT'S NOT THE DATA, STUPID

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"Last years' conference raised serious questions concerning the limitations of scientometrics", says one visitor. "It seems that one year later only few answers have been found." Our respondent, who wishes to remain anonymous, explains that newer or more advanced metrics probably won't help us to get a better appreciation of the social impact of research, of it's philosophical meaning, of it's long term relevance..." It is better to guide policymakers in taking on a social agenda, a philosophical agenda and a broader outlook on society. Metrics can only yield supporting material to decisionmakers."

Could it be that the conference, while recognizing that the users of scientometric results lack a view from outside the framework offered by data, doesn't escape from the same trap itself? Let's see what the remainder of STI'14 will bring.

## INDICATORS!?? WHY!??

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There wouldn't have been 19 STI-conferences if indicators weren't of great importance. Yet the man on the streets doesn't realize

how profoundly indicators affect him on a daily basis. And who can blame him, as we all know it's a very complex field.

Luckily we know, and from now on it will be easier than ever to explain it to the masses. We asked experts attending this conference for the best way to explain the necessity and importance of indicators to the common man.

It keeps the bibliometricians busy. Or, as someone else puts it: 'Of course it is important, it's my field. What do you expect me to say?' Without indicators all these bibliometricians would be terribly in the way of the common man in his everyday life, yet people barely realize this.

Another thing of high importance is the steering. The whole scientific system is based on indicators, and by researching them you can influence science, money, jobs and much else. The importance of steering goes undisputed, the common man will understand.

## YES WE CAN

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"No one can be against objectivity." (inspired by Peter Dahler-Larsen)

## COLOPHON

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The Daily Issue is produced and printed on the spot. This edition was brought to you by Harmen Zijp, Diana Wildschut, Oscar Kocken, Claud Biemans and Maaïke Haneveld with the illustrations of Danibal.  
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