Research Assessment in the age of Open Science

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Content

- EUA Report
- DORA & Leiden Manifesto
- UCL Bibliometrics Policy
- Next Steps

Plaster Relief by John Flaxman, Flaxman Gallery, UCL
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There are currently no universally agreed-upon indicators to measure the quality of higher education across systems.

There is a limit to what indicators can tell. They cannot replace more qualitative or descriptive tools.

https://eua.eu/resources/publications/928:exploring-higher-education-indicators.html
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DORA and the Leiden Manifesto

- Do not use journal-based metrics, such as Journal Impact Factors, as a surrogate measure of the quality of individual research articles, to assess an individual scientist’s contributions, or in hiring, promotion, or funding decisions.

- Leiden Manifesto
- 10 principles to guide research evaluation

- https://sfdora.org/
- http://www.leidenmanifesto.org/
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Next-Generation Metrics

- UCL Bibliometrics Policy signed off on 27 Feb. 2020
- 3 years in the development
- Aligned with DORA and Leiden Manifesto
- Discourages the use of Journal Impact Factors as a surrogate for Quality
- Identifies that H-Index discriminates against Early Career Researchers who have taken a family break

https://www.ucl.ac.uk/library/research-support/bibliometrics/ucl-bibliometrics-policy
Next-Generation Metrics

- Policy identifies 11 principles on the successful use of metrics, with copious guidance
- Numerical metrics are simply an *adjunct* to the academic assessment of a research output through reading it
- China has (Feb. 2020) announced that this is to be its official policy for research evaluation/reward going forward
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Next-Generation metrics being implemented in UCL HR procedures

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Conclusion

- Open Science is a blueprint for the university of the 21st century
- Challenges are not easy to address
- Not a given that Open Science will be the default way to proceed
- Universities have to make a choice

Over to you to decide...