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The Role of Academic Libraries in Ranking of Institutional Research Impact

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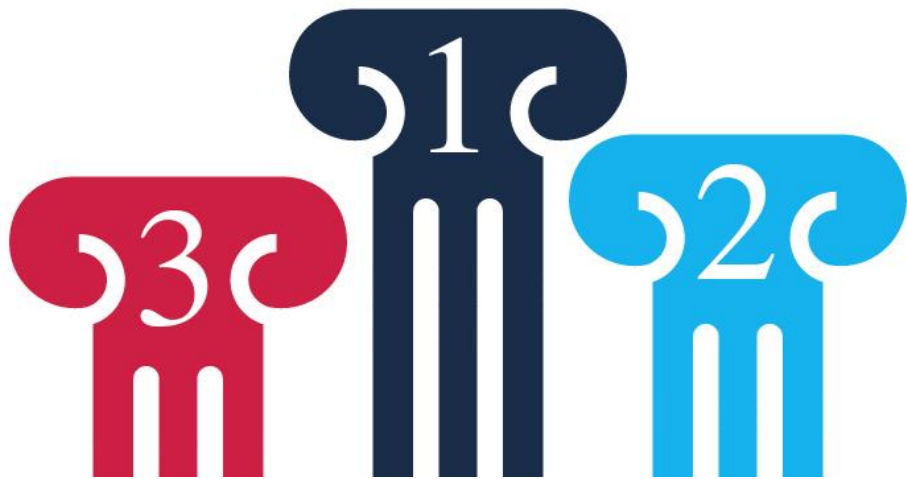
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The Role of Academic Libraries in Ranking of Institutional Research Impact



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Presented by: **Amina Itani**

E-resources Expert UAEU Libraries

Content

- ❖ Introduction
- ❖ Bibliometric and publication support and services
- ❖ Monitoring of author and institutional affiliations
- ❖ A shift in library collections to support research output and productivity
- ❖ Digital repositories
- ❖ Manuscript editing services
- ❖ Librarians as co-authors to non-LIS research
- ❖ From quantity to impact focused KPIs
- ❖ Conclusion



Introduction

- ❖ University ranking systems provide annual benchmarks that indicate the influence and institutional success of Colleges and Universities
- ❖ The Shanghai ranking system was the first ranking system, established in 2003 (Marope et al., 2013; Pandiella-Dominique et al., 2018)
- ❖ Quacquarelli Symonds World Universities Ranking (QS) and the Times Higher Education Ranking (THE) are the most commonly used systems today (Fowles et al. 2016; Hazelkorn, 2014; Marope et al., 2013)



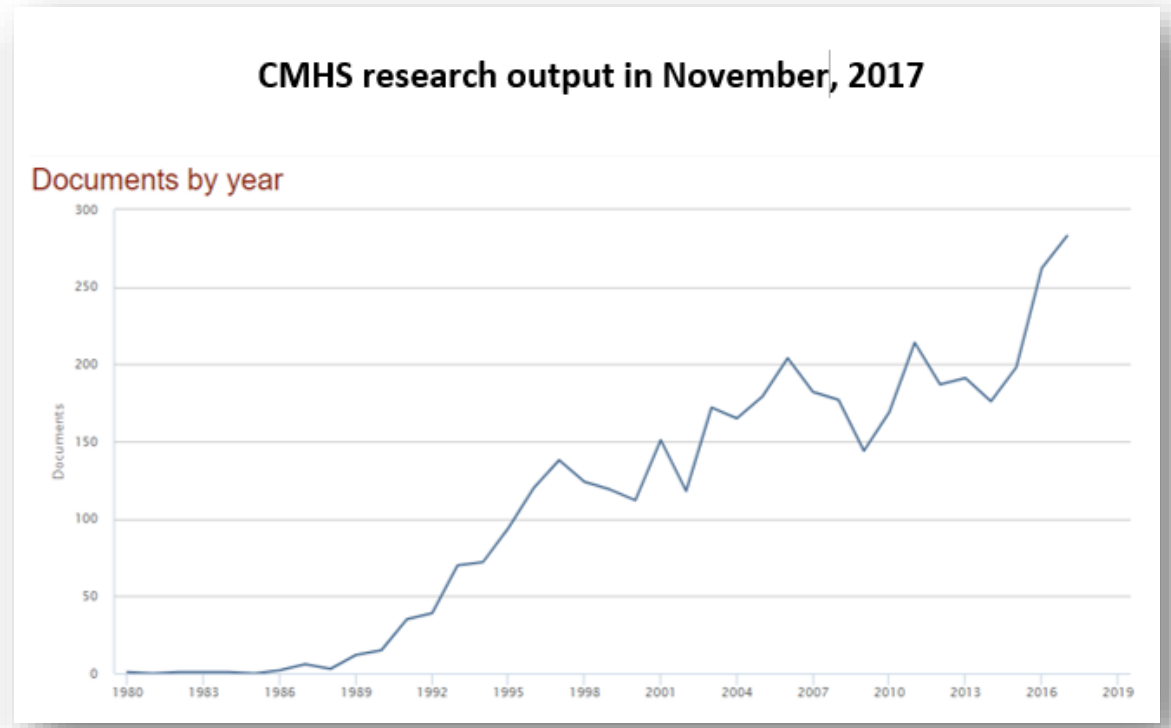
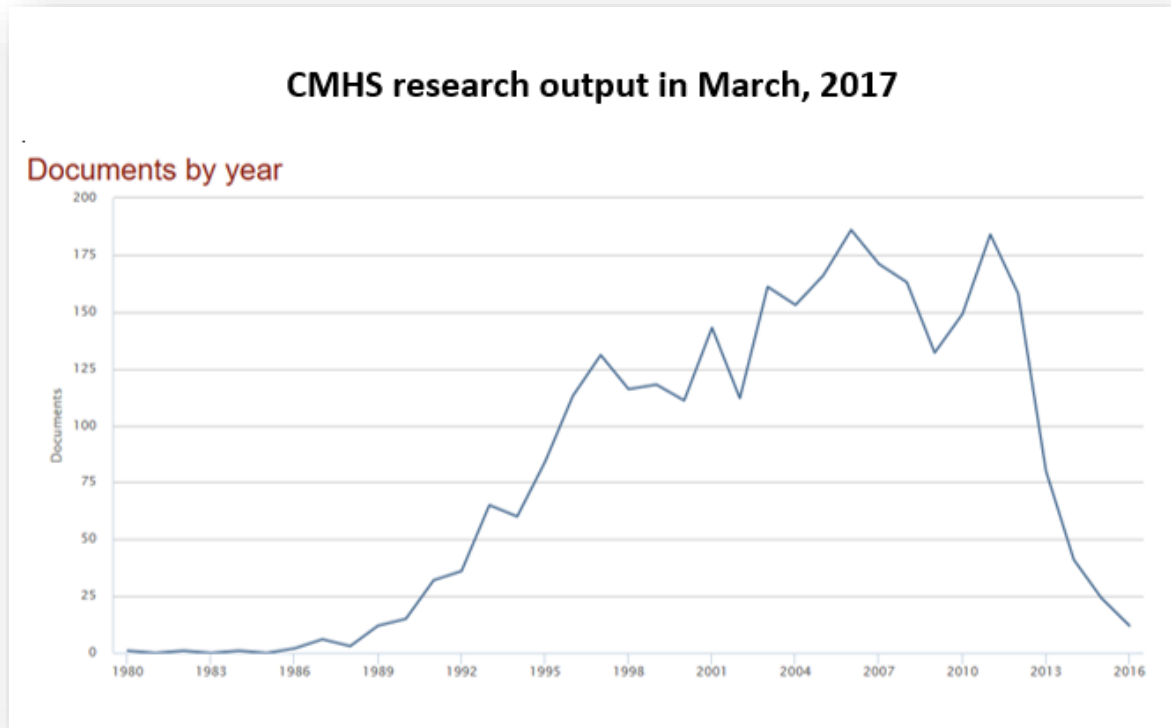
Introduction

- ❖ Global university ranking systems are increasingly used by universities as indicators of institutional success (Fowles et al. 2016; Pandiella-Dominique et al., 2018; Safón, 2013)
- ❖ Research impact and volume is together with institutional reputation the largest categories measured and consists up to 70% of the total calculations (QS World ranking, 2019)
- ❖ Strategies and goals for how to provide resources and sustainable infrastructures of research support are essential factors for successful institutions ranking success (Hazelkorn, 2014; Pandiella-Dominique et al., 2018)

Monitoring of Author and Institutional Affiliations

- ❖ Most bibliometric measures are based on institutional or individual author affiliations
- ❖ Web of Science and Scopus main sources for academic bibliometric information
- ❖ Academic libraries can help their institution and individual researchers to monitor and correct affiliation information in databases

UAEU, College of Medicine and Health Sciences, before and after the library's affiliation correction in Scopus



A shift in Library Collections to Support Research Output and Productivity

- ❖ Research and learning support tools are popular additions to academic library collections
- ❖ Increased need for libraries to provide research productivity software
- ❖ Covidence, Cabells White and Blacklists iThenticate and Gale's Digital Scholar Lab are examples of new research productivity tools at UAEU Libraries
- ❖ Statistical software such as STATA and SPSS are needed



Digital Repositories

- ❖ Libraries can contribute to the increase of the visibility of university affiliated research output by setting up digital repositories (Corral et al., 2013)
- ❖ The UAEU Libraries launched its institutional repository; Scholarworks, in 2017
- ❖ More than thousand dissertations and theses and one journal have been added to the repository
- ❖ Over 275,500 downloads worldwide (November,2019)

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- ❖ Increased, worldwide research visibility of grey materials such as conference abstract, papers and posters
- ❖ Instant download metrics
- ❖ University repository for these, dissertations and institution affiliated journals

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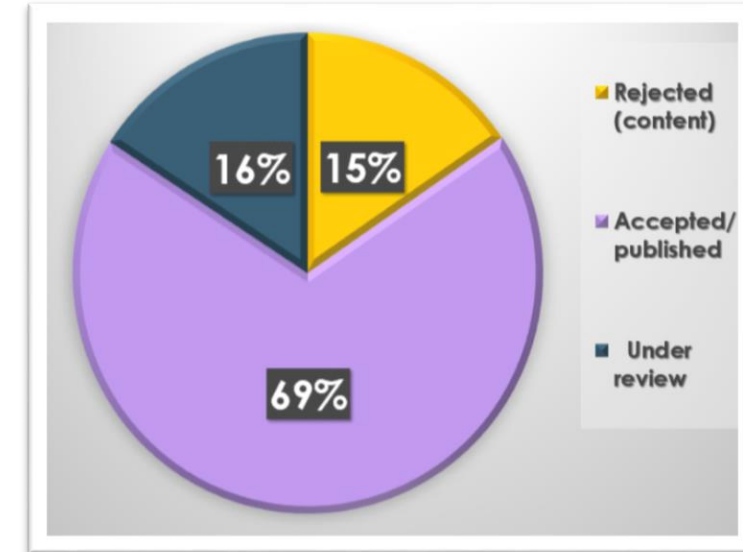
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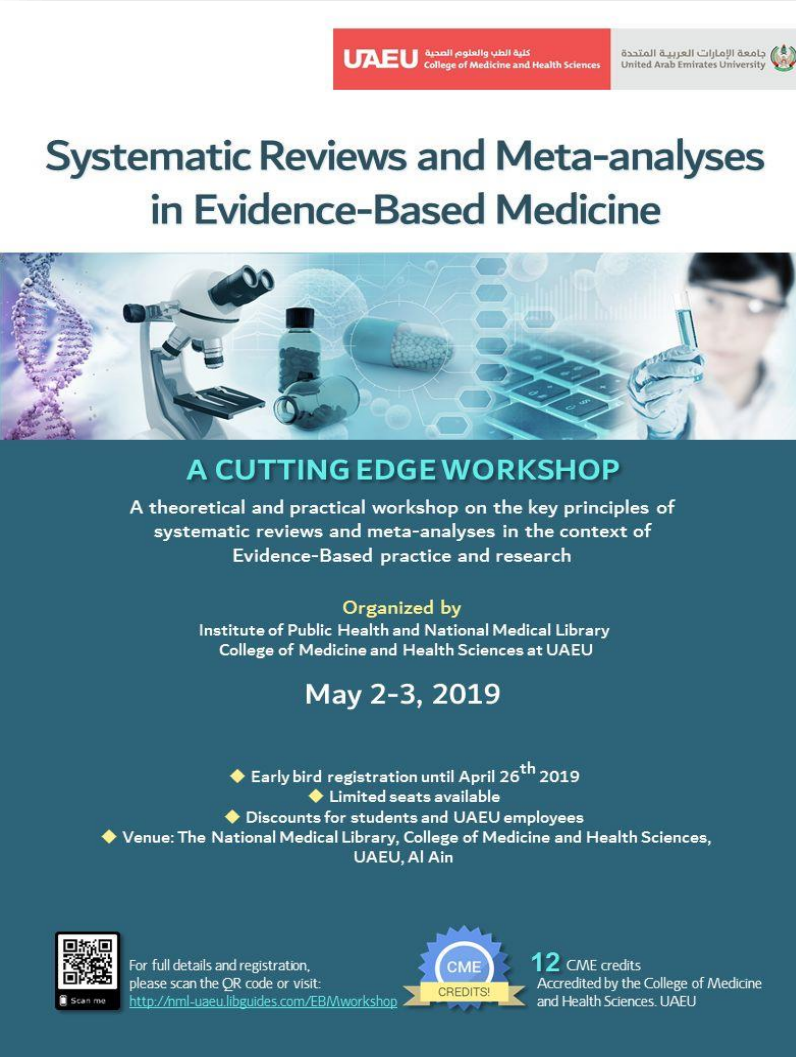
- ❖ Available at UAEU Libraries since 2017
- ❖ For faculty, staff and graduate students
- ❖ International editors with subject knowledge
- ❖ Service turnaround time of a maximum of 14 days
- ❖ 200 out of 301 manuscripts reviewed have so far been successfully published in peer reviewed journals (figures from September 2019)



Graph by Shehab Majud, service coordinator

Librarians as Co-authors to non-LIS Research

- ❖ Librarians have great potential to add value to the overall research output at their institutions as research embedded co-authors to university affiliated research (Borrego et al, 2018)
- ❖ Librarians involvement in research such as systematic reviews and meta-analyses is recommended to improve the quality of the research output (Deeks et al. 2011; Institute of Medicine, 2011)



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From Quantity to Impact Focused KPIs

- ❖ The role of academic librarians is expanding
- ❖ From information enablers to partners and advisors to research and institutional development projects (Koltay, 2019)
- ❖ New KPIs focusing on impact rather than KPIs than quantitative measures are needed
- ❖ KPIs for measuring librarians' research output and impact will highlight the role of the academic libraries in institutional research impact





Conclusion

- ❖ Institutional research impact is one of the largest measures in current global university ranking systems
- ❖ Academic libraries have a unique opportunity to take the lead in providing resources, services and strategies to enhance the research visibility and output for individual researchers and their institutions
- ❖ Libraries can highlight their role in institutional research impact with the help of impact focused KPIs
- ❖ Librarians can be valuable partners in scientific research projects and strategic planning, contributing to the overall institutional ranking successes

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