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Table of Contents

Research Trends Editorial Board

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Page 03

Section 1: The Value of Bibliometrics.**The Research Excellence Framework:** revisiting the RAE.

Matthew Richardson

In 2014, the Research Excellence Framework will finally replace the Research Assessment Exercise. Research Trends provides an interim report on how the REF is shaping up, and the role of bibliometrics in the new framework.



Page 05

Section 2: Research Trends.**University rankings – what do they measure?**

Thomas Jones

Universities have their own “Top 40” charts, in the form of worldwide rankings of university excellence. Research Trends explores what determines the ranking of institutions, and whether regional differences in higher education make meaningful international comparisons problematic.



Page 07

Section 3: Country Trends.**An update on Obama and American science:**

Uncovering US competencies.

Sacha Boucherie

President Obama has emerged as a staunch supporter of science, and an enthusiastic advocate of its power for social good. Yet does the US have what it takes to deliver on this potential? Research Trends finds out.



Page 09

Section 4: Expert Opinion.**Science, music, literature and the one-hit wonder connection.**

Isaiah T. Arkin

Most scientists dream of getting their work into top journals such as Science and Nature. But does achieving this goal reflect the brilliance of researchers, or simply scientific good luck? Professor Isaiah T. Arkin at The Hebrew University of Jerusalem explores the issues in this guest feature.



Page 11

Section 5: Country Trends.**Tipping the balance:** The rise of China as a science superpower.

Andrew Plume

The balance of global economic and political power is set to shift from West to East in the coming decades. Might the West also lose its scientific preeminence? To explore these questions, Research Trends looks at the rise, fall, and rise again of China as a scientific powerhouse.



Page 13

Section 6: Did you Know?**Drowning in the publication deluge?**

Andrew Plume

In 2009, almost 1.39 million research articles alone were indexed in Scopus.