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The value of bibliometric measures

Breaking boundaries: patterns in interdisciplinary citation
Collaboration has always been an essential aspect of scientific research. Today, technology is making it easier for researchers in one field to access and identify useful research in other subjects. We take a look at citations made to other subjects to see whether collaboration is increasing and in which areas.

Research trends

Measuring up: how does the $h$-index correlate with peer assessments?
There are two broad approaches to assess research performance: peer review and the numerous indices based on bibliometric data and analysis. But do they both provide comparable results, and how should they be used? We ask Lutz Bornmann and Hans-Dieter Daniel how the $h$-index performs against peer review.

Country trends

Turning the ranking tables on their head: how to improve your standing
Rankings are a useful way for outsiders to assess the relative value of different universities, and administrators are quickly learning that improving their ranking is a useful mark of quality. But what are the rankers looking at, and how can a university show its best side? We speak to one university that is making the rankings work in its favor.

Expert opinion

Promoting innovation in Italy
The European paradox, whereby Europe trails the United States in its ability to transfer academic knowledge to industry, is mirrored in Italy, which is falling behind the major European countries. We speak to Giovanni Abramo and Ciriaco Andrea D’Angelo, who believe that bibliometrics could be part of the solution.

Why Did You Cite...?

...So many papers outside your field?
Computer science is one field that is displaying great leaps towards multidisciplinarity. We ask a computer scientist why he cited outside his subject area.