



Research Assessment: Navigating open access and institutional repositories for a paradigm shift in academic promotion and tenure evaluations

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**How can we advocate for
re-evaluating research assessment?**



Publish or Perish Culture

Assessment processes relying predominantly on journal- and publication- based metrics are known to result in a 'publish or perish' culture that falls short of recognizing diverse approaches and could come at the expense of quality.


The dominance of narrow journal- and publication-based metrics can:

- promote quantity and speed at the expense of quality and rigour
- lead to the emergence of predatory journals and conferences
- encourage publishing in paywalled journals
- lead to risk-aversity
- generate excessive attention to the rankings that hinders collaboration
- waste efforts, time, and resources through the duplication of work



Resources for addressing researchment assessment

- [Australia's Engagement and Impact Assessment](#): Assesses how well researchers engage with end-users of research. Also assesses how well unis are translating research into impacts beyond academia including: economic, social, environmental, and cultural.
- Coalition for Advancing Research Assessment ([CoARA](#)): Vision is that the assessment of research, researchers, and research organizations recognizes the diverse outputs, practices, and activities that maximize the quality and impact of research. This requires basing assessment primarily on qualitative judgement, for which peer review is central, supported by responsible use of quantitative indicators.
- [DORA](#): The Declaration on Research Assessment (DORA) recognizes the need to improve the ways in which researchers and outputs of scholarly research are evaluated.
- [Reformscape](#): DORA is committed to supporting the development of new policies and practices for responsible research assessment (RRA). Reformscape is a searchable collection of criteria and standards for hiring, review, promotion, and tenure from academic institutions.




How would research assessment reform help address Open Access, Predatory Publishing, and stress of faculty with Review, Promotion, and Tenure?



increased use of Institutional Repositories


The dominance of narrow journal- and publication-based metrics can encourage publishing in paywalled journals because of their high impact factors, despite the availability of open access alternatives

- Reevaluating research assessment to move away from publish or perish can increase open access publications because faculty and researchers won't desperate to publish in "high impact" journals.
- New research assessment guidelines could provide provisions for or encouragement of open sharing, including IRs.



decrease predatory publishing

- The dominance of narrow journal- and publication-based metrics can lead to the emergence of predatory journals and conferences
 - The current publish or perish landscape, leads faculty to panicking about the number of their articles, which leads them to falling prey to publishing in predatory journals or presenting at predatory conferences.
 - Reevaluating research assessment to move away from publish or perish can help faculty reevaluate how they want to share their work, high acceptance rates and quick turnaround times of predatory journals would not be as appealing



Address the stress for faculty in pursuit of promotion and tenure

The dominance of narrow journal- and publication-based metrics can promote quantity and speed at the expense of quality and rigour; lead to the emergence of predatory journals and conferences; encourage publishing in paywalled journals because of their high impact factors, despite the availability of open access alternatives; lead to risk-aversity bc taking risks may reduce the chances of publication; generate excessive attention to the rankings that hinders collaboration; and waste efforts, time, and resources through the duplication of work as ‘negative’ findings go largely unreported.

- Reevaluating research assessment can support faculty to move away from the publish or perish mentality, they will have the reduced stress of being evaluated on the quality of their work, not the quantity of publications or the “high impact” of the publication venue. Faculty can be evaluated on their mentorship of undergrad or graduate researchers, be evaluated more holistically as a researcher



Idea Lab Discussion: How do we advocate for change on our own campuses? Has anyone advocated for change or seen change happen?