Current and Future Effects of Social Media Based Metrics on Open Access and IRs

Keita BANDO
Digital Repository Librarian and Coordinator for Scholarly Communication, MyOpenArchive

Based on our analysis on the recent trends mentioned below, this paper analyses the current effects and develop future outlook of social media based metrics on Open Access and IRs, using data on how MyOpenArchive has been used. MyOpenArchive, founded in September 2007, is an international non-profit organization that advocates Open Access for unpublished research papers on the web and provides an Open Access Repository that has been created for researchers at institutions without an institutional repository (IR) [1]. Over the first three experimental years (Sep. 2007 – Nov. 2010) after its launch, 393 users joined MyOpenArchive and 210 papers were posted it by Japanese researchers [2]. In November 2010, MyOpenArchive relaunched a social media based Open Access Repository as Social iR ("individual" rather than "institutional" Repository) [3]. During this second stage (Nov. 2010 – Mar. 2012), MyOpenArchive has welcomed 292 users and 166 research articles self-archived to database. The number of logging in through Twitter is bigger than through Facebook (214 vs. 78), based on my observation, it’s remarkable to see the increase in number of researcher using Twitter as their scholarly tool. In particular, Twitter citation and new social media based metrics such as Altmetrics [4] have recently drawn attention of a number of academic web users [5][6]. Twitter and Altmetrics may thus be important factors for Open Access and IRs in the near future.

Reference