

Library Connect Podcast: Roy Jakobs Interview

This is a transcript of a Library Connect podcast recorded in August 2008.

MR. ROY JAKOBS: My name is Roy Jakobs. I'm the Elsevier Managing Director, Academic and Government Markets, as such, responsible for looking after our academic and government customers all over the world, which means that I'm looking after around 12,000 customers in all different kind of countries.

Yes, what we are seeing, and what's being put as a question to us is that research performance management, and research performance, overall is a very hot topic for institutions, and administrators, and deans, so it's very high on the agenda. We, as a publisher, of course, have been helping researchers to perform as productive as possible, based upon their need for electronic or printed resource material.

We have, of course, been starting to do this, based upon tools that we have been introducing to the market, like Scopus, where we are trying to make and to provide data sets that can distill intelligence that can be used for this kind of decision making, so making very practical.

If you're looking in a certain subject fields and trying to come up with the best researchers worldwide, based upon certain metrics that you would use to qualify best researchers, then looking at the - - in Scopus is a way to get there.

Those are developments on top of an abstracting and indexing database, and we're seeing that developing into whole suite of tools that we could provide to institutions to help administrators, faculty heads, and also, libraries to better measure research performance.

And there, we have a joint agenda, again, like we are having on providing the best available resources, electronically, or through print to researchers, in terms of how we can take this next step in further supporting and driving science.

Yeah, we have two product road maps for this. One is we will be building and to continue to add functionality to Scopus, so that we enrich the functionality within Scopus, based upon this kind of measurements can be done. Separately, we are working on a new suite of tools, and we are going to come out with betas in 2009. Thanks a lot.