Scopus: the A&I Database of Choice of Students, Faculty & Researchers

Introduction

This case study is based on a May 2017 survey of Scopus customers by TechValidate, a 3rd-party research service.

“Scopus is a very useful tool. I highly recommend it to my postgraduate students.” – Faculty Member, University of New England, United States

“Scopus provides a more comprehensive and wider range of scholarly information, enabling me to get broader insight into the area I am researching.” – Graduate Student, University of Hertfordshire, United Kingdom

“We need our Scopus data.” – Postdoctoral Researcher, University of Oxford, United Kingdom

“Before access to Scopus, it was very difficult to narrow down searches.” – Graduate Student, Arizona State University, United States

“Before access to Scopus, it was impossible to conduct a thorough [literature] search.” – Researcher, University of York, United Kingdom

“Not having access to Scopus would be tantamount to returning to the ‘Stone Age!’” – Graduate Student, Universiti Tun Hussein Onn Malaysia

“Without Scopus, it would [be] even harder to complete the work my university expects of us.” – Faculty Member, Coventry University, United Kingdom

Challenges

Students, faculty and researchers at institutions throughout the world face a variety of challenges in navigating the scholarly information landscape. Survey respondents credit Scopus most often in supporting their work in these key ways:

- 65% use it for tracking citations and/or publications (their own or another author)
- 62% use it to keep themselves informed about advances in their area of expertise/field/discipline
- 46% use it to get ideas for a new research project, direction for their thesis, or to plan experiments
- 38% use it for reading for a course assignment or research project

Use Case

Survey respondents identify three Scopus features in particular that are most valuable to their workflow:

- 75% – Searching for documents and analyzing search results
- 49% – Searching for and viewing their or another author’s profile
- 45% – Exporting documents and citations, and creating bibliographies

Results

66% of survey respondents have used both Scopus and Web of Science. Scopus earns the top score from users in the following areas:

- 90% agree that they prefer Scopus over Web of Science
- 88% agree that it is easier to refine, sort and rank Scopus search results than those on Web of Science
- 88% agree that Scopus delivers more relevant search results when compared to Web of Science
- 88% agree that coverage of their field is broader and more accurate on Scopus than Web of Science
- 86% agree that the number of titles and publishers indexed by Scopus is more than Web of Science
- 86% agree that coverage of their field is broader and more accurate on Scopus than Web of Science
- 86% agree that Scopus is the largest abstract and citation database of peer-reviewed literature, indexing journals, books, conference proceedings and trade publications.

Source: TechValidate survey of 513 global Educational Institutions

Organizational Profile

Industry: Educational Institutions
Location: Global

About Scopus

Scopus features smart tools to track, analyze and visualize research. It delivers an overview of the world’s research output in the fields of science, technology, medicine, social sciences, and arts and humanities. Scopus is the largest abstract and citation database of peer-reviewed literature, indexing journals, books, conference proceedings and trade publications.

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Validated

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