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OPPORTUNITIES FOR VISIBILITY OF USARB RESEARCHERS IN THE GLOBAL SCIENTIFIC COMMUNITY: 2017-2022

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Abstract: *In recent years, the idea that the university library would be the most appropriate and relevant in coordinating the management of research data has been increasingly discussed. The communication discusses the history of the bibliometric service of the USARB Scientific Library, the most important aspect in the activity of the modern library in assessing the quality of information related to scientific research and studying its quantitative side: promoting USARB scientific production in the USARB Institutional Repository Open Research Archive (ORA), creating profiles in Google Scholar, Orcid, Academia.edu and providing data to the National Bibliometric Instrument; information search in Webometrics, Open Ukrainian Citation Index (OUCI), Dimensions, eLIBRARY, Publish or Perish, Scopus, Web of Science.*

The results of the analysis of the Questionnaire regarding the level of participation of the Scientific Library in informing researchers and evaluating the results of scientific activity are presented, a process that is based on bibliometric measurement methods. The scientometrics, presented in this article, carried out by the Scientific Library, reflects the evaluation in comparison of the years 2017-2022 of the scientific contributions of academic staff, highlighting the citations of the scientific results obtained.

In the article is provided theoretical and practical support necessary for researchers for the activity of the National Bibliometric Instrument, Google Scholar, Orcid, Academia.edu. The Scientific Library through the bibliometric service aims to connect scientists, provide them with platforms to share their research work and facilitate their tracking of articles relevant to their fields of study.

Keywords: bibliometric service, evaluation of research activity, visibility of publications, RI ORA USARB, bibliometrics, scientometrics

JEL Classification: I23; I29; Z19

1 Introduction

The scientific research activity in libraries has the mission of continuous training of staff, problem-solving techniques and methods: new decisions, services, functions, products, work processes, all being oriented towards ensuring fast and qualitative access to information, to enhance prestige of libraries. The evaluation of the quantity and quality of scientific research results is essential. "The quantitative aspects of information are measured with the help of tools,

being a concern of scientific research: bibliometrics, scientometrics, webometrics, infometrics, altmetrics,..." (Popov, L., 2019).

USARB Scientific Library, as an integral part of the educational and research process, has an important role in informing and documenting the university community, strengthening the institutional information environment, forming the users' Information Literacy. The mission is complex, because there is a redefinition of library activity, creating a modern user, interdisciplinarity of study objects, open access to information, scientific research, storing research data.

2 USARB Scientific Library Experience

We present USARB Scientific Library Experience regarding the provision of library and information services based on bibliometric data by evaluating the quality of information related to scientific research, studying its quantitative side, as well as promoting it through: USARB Institutional Repository Open Research Archive (ORA), creating profiles in Google Scholar, Orcid, Academia.edu, e-Library; providing data to the National Bibliometric Instrument (IBN); finding information in Webometrics, Publish or Perish, Scopus, Web of Science (WOS).

Scientific research and research data are current and complex. "Measuring the visibility of Universities' scientific products is a fundamental tool in establishing the international value of an University but also in the statistical evaluation of scientific research results and the promotion of open access to information" (Repanovici, A., 2019).

3 Methods

The data are analyzed in IBN, Webometrics, Orcid, OUCI, Dimensions, Google Scholar, Publish or Perish, eLibrary, Academia.edu, Scopus, WOS. The tools offer us the possibility to see the contributions of Bălți academic community to the development of the knowledge society in the Republic of Moldova.

3.1 USARB Institutional Repository Open Research Archive

The indexing of works in the USARB Institutional Repository Open Research Archive is the first stage of publication of researcher's results. USARB IR ORA is included in the BASE, DuraSpace, OpenDOAR and ROAR, ROARMAP modules. The resources presented in USARB IR ORA are automatically indexed in IBN, Google Scholar, being visible in Publish or Perich, Orcid.

3.2 Rankings

According to the *Transparent Ranking: Institutional Repositories* by Google Scholar, "USARB RI ORA held the 3rd and 4th place in the country, and the *World Scientist and University Rankings 2022* publishes in June the list of the first 500 researchers from the Republic of Moldova, where USARB held the 5th place out of 16 universities from Moldova. The data from September determine us to the 8th position, and acording to *Scientists Ranking 2022* there are 16 university students from Balti" (USARB pe locul 5 în topul național al universităților, 2022). The Webometrics Ranking 2019-2022 confirms USARB's 5th position. (Figure 1.)



Figure 1. The Webometrics Ranking 2019-2022 USARB's

Source: authors' own study

3.3 National Bibliometric Instrument

Outcome and impact measurement can be used to estimate the productivity and importance of institutional national research activities. There are opportunities to publish the works in digital collections of Republic of Moldova: IBN, <http://ibn.idsi.md/>, CNAA <http://www.cnaa.md/institutions/usb>. USARB holds the 7th position in IBN (1,295 authors, 4,124 articles, 35,229 downloads, 171,7095 views, 114 events).

4 Institutional projects

4.1 Google Scholar

In order to present the results of the scientific research of Balti academic community in Google Scholar, USARB Scientific Library launched the institutional project: *Create a Google Scholar Profile*. "The goal is to contribute to increasing the visibility of USARB research results, improving the results of bibliometric studies. Google Scholar accounts have been registered in IBN. There are 158 Google Scholar personalized profiles" (Țurcan, E., 2022).

4.2 ORCID

To increase the visibility of scientific activities, the results must be visible, accessible, used and cited by other researchers. "Researchers find difficulties in distinguishing their own products from the investigations of other scientists with similar names. The simultaneous presence of multiple names can be resolved through author identifier systems such as ORCID, which generate a unique ID for each author" (Staver, M., 2022).

Thus, USARB Scientific Library, after the testing period, initiated the *USARB Registration Recherche Project and getting an ORCID*. Out of 235 community members were registered - 108 with 1,565 documents with their ORCID ID, which constitutes 46%.

4.3 Academia.edu

"Academic Social Network – Academia.edu is a network that aims to connect scientists by giving them a platform for sharing research activities and facilitating access to relevant articles in their fields of study" (Academia.edu, 2021). There are 835 works of Bălți academic community with key word USARB and 72 profiles. Researchers participated in the conference *Academia.edu - a platform for sharing research activities*. It is an event promoted by USARB Scientific Library as part of the International Open Access Week. Researchers can also be found on the following platforms: OUCI (<https://ouci.dntb.gov.ua/>), Dimensions (<https://app.dimensions.ai/>), WOS (Clarivate Analytics), Scopus (Elsevier).

5 Bibliometric services

To support the academic community, USARB Scientific Library proposes Bibliometric Services. During the period 2017-2022, 22 individual studies were carried out, regarding the evaluation of scientific research. The requests are from Balti academic community, researchers from the country and foreigners.

6 The feedback

We are interested in the feedback of USARB's scientific research evaluation activity, that's why a questionnaire was given on the Library's website.

Have you used the bibliometric services offered by USARB Scientific Library?

(Figure 2):

14% of respondents are for scientific journals;

9% of them are satisfied;

and 87% of members don't know the possibilities.

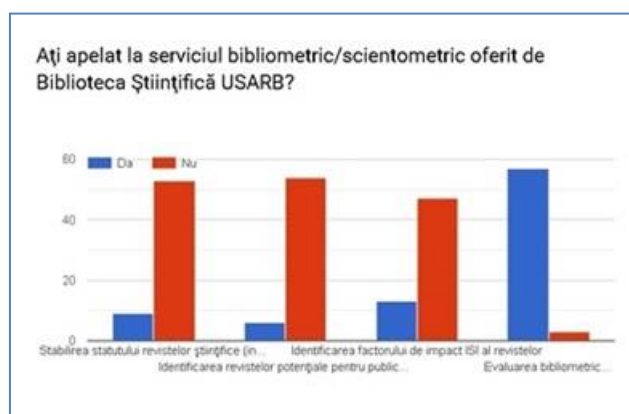


Figure 2. Have you used the bibliometric services offered by USARB Scientific Library?

Source: authors' own study

We find out the fact that teachers are not well informed about the service for establishing the status of scientific journals. The establishment of the H-index was appreciated by 60, 95% and only 3 persons answered – no.

Many members recognize that the help of the Library is inevitable and valuable.

Do you have a personal profile in scientometric databases and research network tools?

The results are (Figure 3):

- Google Scholar – 60, 98%;
- IBN – 57, 93%;
- Publish or Perish – 56, 92%;
- ORCID/Base – 54, 89%;
- WOS – 9, 15%;
- e-Library – 8, 13%;
- Scopus – 5, 8%.

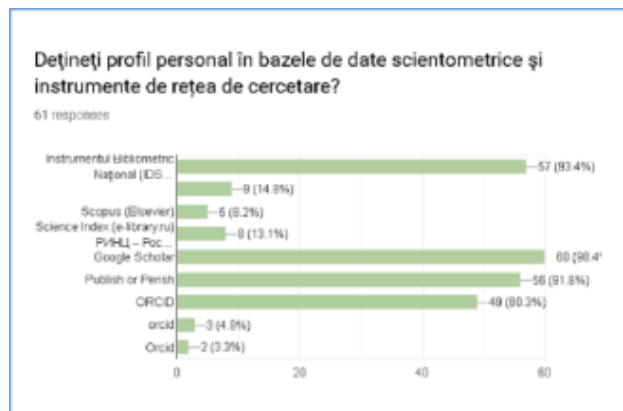
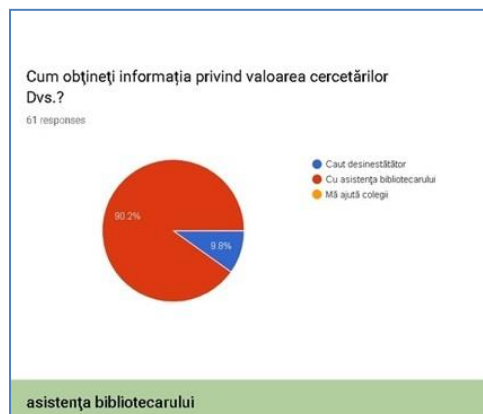


Figure 3. Do you have a personal profile in scientometric databases and research network tools?

Source: authors' own study

The mission of the Library is to help the university community to access, use and correctly interpret data in research. This is the visibility of the universities' scientific products.



How do you know the value of your research? (Figure 4):

Figure 4. How do you know the value of your research?

Source: authors' own study

90% of respondents demonstrate that they are informed and helped by the librarian, and only 6, 10% manage independently.

The teachers mentioned the importance of the information received through personal e-mail, those presented at the meetings of the departments, on the website of USARB Scientific Library.

How did librarians help you get information about the value of your research? (Figure 5). Out of 55 respondents:

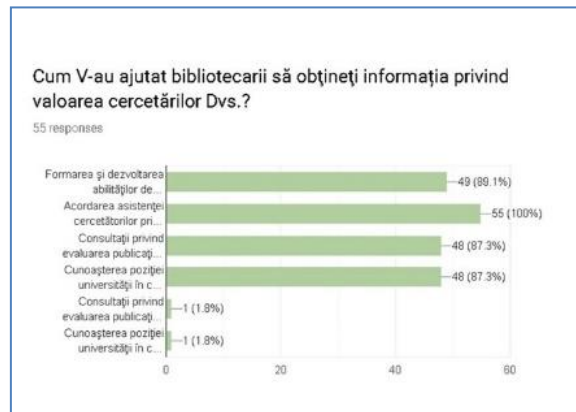


Figure 5. How did librarians help you get information about the value of your research?

Source: authors' own study

49, 89% confirm that the information was a source of inspiration in improving databases skills, 55, 100% of respondents formed a new vision regarding the personalization of scientific produc in databases;

48, 87% of respondents require librarian’s consultation regarding the evaluation of scientific publications, of bibliometric indicators for journals, articles, authors, institutions and faculties;

48, 87% used the information regarding the knowledge of the University's position in the International Rankings;

2, 4% did not use the information.

Have the bibliometric indicators become a component part of the reports? (Figure 6):

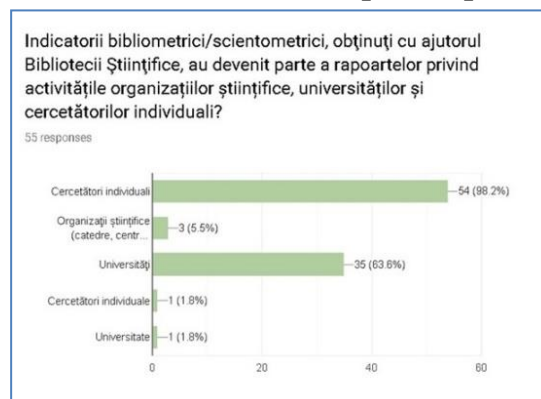


Figure 6. Have the bibliometric indicators become a component part of the reports?

Source: authors' own study

54, 98% of respondents indicated the presence of Library information in individual research reports;

3, 6% indicated the presence in the reports of the faculties;

36, 65% said that evaluation of scientific research work has become a component part of the reports.

How do you appreciate the quality of bibliometric services offered by librarians?

very satisfied – 52 respondents;

satisfied – 3 respondents;

54 respondents are very satisfied and only 1 satisfied for creating personalized profiles;

52 persons appreciate importance of bibliometric indicators

and only 3 persons less satisfied.

From the very beginning, the teachers received the evaluation indicators with indignation, but now they have a different opinion.

What suggestions do you have for improving these services? All the respondents want more access to BD. They appreciate the librarians' work and recognize that the Library keeps pace with innovative advances. The professional state (Figure 7):

4, 7% of respondents are PhD, professors;

33, 55% – are Ph.D;

18, 30% – are Associate Professors;

4, 7% – are librarians.

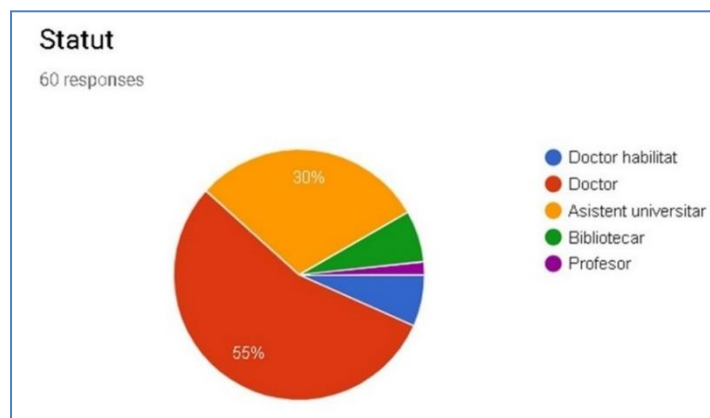


Figure 7. What suggestions do you have for improving these services?

Source: authors' own study

"By registering research results in various databases, librarians increase the researcher's visibility and chances to be noticed, to establish partnerships and joint collaborations, increasing the opportunities for institutional success" (Țurcan, N. și colab., 2021).

7 Perspectives

USARB Scientific Library has the tendency to modernize its activity, to become an active partner at all stages of scientific activity in the institution: informing and providing access to the

informational resources necessary for research, publishing research results, analyzing and evaluating them. We note the importance of continuous training of librarians, highly qualified human resources, which contribute essentially to the training of researchers, to increasing the impact of scientific research and to the visibility of the institution as an important body of education, training and research.

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