5 ways to maximize the impact of your research

You’ve published your research. How can you find out how and where it is being cited, referenced, discussed, downloaded and shared?

The following list provides suggestions for staying up-to-date with the reach and influence of your research so you can then share this information with your collaborators, your academic department, and your funders.

1. Consider depositing a ‘shareable version’ of your publication in the AUS Institutional Repository - DSpace (contact your liaison librarian for advice).

2. Create a profile in Google Scholar and set up alerts to track citations to articles. Instructions from the library website can be accessed here: http://aus.libguides.com/ResearchImpact

3. Track citations and set up citation alerts for publications in databases to which the AUS Library subscribes including: Web of Science, JSTOR, Ebsco, Science Direct, IEEE Xplore, SciFinder Scholar and ACM Digital Library.

4. Sign up on social networking sites, list publications there and track how often articles have been viewed and who is following. This is also a way to build an online profile and make links with academics and researchers who share the same research interests. Popular sites include: ResearchGate, Academia.edu and Social Science Research Network (SSRN).

5. Use Alternative Metrics (Altmetrics) to track impact. Downloads, tweets, likes or mentions are indication of how often individual publications have been discussed. Many web-based tools are available to help researchers explore and share the diverse impact of their research output. Popular examples include: ImpactStory, Altmetric, Plum Analytics, and PLoS Article-level Metrics Application.

AUS librarians can provide advice on any of the above suggestions. We’ve created a useful guide for your reference and for further information on measuring journal impact. Find the guide on the library website under Subject Guides/ Tools & Library Resources / Tracking Research Impact at: http://aus.libguides.com/ResearchImpact

Alternatively, please contact a librarian for assistance at researchhelp@aus.edu