Coffee Lecture

Academic Social Networking Sites

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Academic Social Networking Sites
Overview

- What are Academic Social Networking Sites (ASNS)?
- Academia.edu
  - Background
  - Benefits
  - Limitations
  - Alternatives
Academic Social Networking Sites

What are we talking about?

**Academic Social Networks**
- Academic profiles
- Communication
- Networking
- Direct attention
- Groups and collaboration
- Impact metrics, statistics

after Königs/Nentwich (2014)

**Social Networks**
- Twitter
- Facebook
- LinkedIn

**Identifier** (and academic profile)
- Orcid
Academic Social Networking Sites

Academia, Inc.

Seth Denbo
@seth_denbo

When scholars that they are published
capital backed


97 Retweets 10 Zitations

https://www.diggitmagazine.com/column/end-academediaedu-how-business-takes-over-again

Dear Scholars, Delete Your Account At Academia.Edu

Sarah Bond  Former Contributor ©
historian, digital humanist and baseball fan

Jan 23, 2017, 06:54am EST


https://twitter.com/sets_denbo/status/656115853595774976?s=20&l=MVLkxiHKtwDYG5SLmmadjWA

www.academia.edu/about
Academic Social Networking Sites
Academia.edu – benefits

Citation advantage
• Study conducted by Academia.edu employees and an external consultancy (Niyazov et al., 2016)
• After 5 years, papers posted to Academia.edu get
  • up to 69% more citations compared to a similar article not available online;
  • up to 58% more citations compared to articles only posted to other online venues.
Academic Social Networking Sites

Academia.edu – limitations

- An independent study found that networks on Academia.edu or ResearchGate tend to replicate offline networks and hierarchies (Jordan 2019)
- Attention advantage for senior researchers
- For actual networking and discussions, Twitter was found to be more effective
- Academia.edu = virtual CV or calling card; Twitter = virtual conference coffee break
Academic Social Networking Sites

Academia.edu – limitations

• Academia, Inc. is a commercial platform

⇒ You may be in breach of the law when uploading copyrighted content such as PDFs of books or articles

⇒ Academia.edu is not open access

⇒ «You are not the customer»

https://libraries.ou.edu/content/understanding-academiaedu-and-researchgate
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- check your publishing contract or [Sherpa Romeo](https://www.sherpa.ac.uk/romeo/) for journals’ archiving policies before uploading publications.
  
  ⇒ if commercial re-use is prohibited, publication cannot be uploaded!

- don’t upload anything; instead, upload a document with the DOI link to the original publication venue or to a repository (self-archiving)
Academic Social Networking Sites

Alternatives

- Full blown Academic Social Network: Humanities Commons
- Academic profile: Orcid
- Repository: BORIS (OA, UniBE)
- Networking: Twitter, Mastodon

https://twitter.com/Pascal_Av/status/1338905650718515204
Thank You
For Your Attention

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University of Bern, May 2022
Academic Social Networks

More information and further reading


Academic Social Networks

More information and further reading, ctd.

- University Libraries of the University of Oklahoma. „Understanding Academia.edu and ResearchGate“, s.d. https://libraries.ou.edu/content/understanding-academiaedu-and-researchgate.
- … and much more!