Abb. 1: Workshop 5 (Rectorate Conference Hall)
From left to right: Andrea Scharnhorst, David Chavalarias, Petra Ahrweiler, and Santo Fortunato

15th International Society of Scientometrics and Informetrics (ISSI) Conference

Boğaziçi University, Istanbul, June 29 to July 4, 2015

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❱ The 15th International Society of Scientometrics and Informetrics (ISSI) Conference was held at Boğaziçi University in Istanbul, from June 29 to July 4, 2015. It was organised by Boğaziçi University, Hacettepe University, and the TÜBİTAK ULAKBIM (Turkish Academic Network and Information Center). ISSI – the International Society for Scientometrics and Informetrics also supported this conference. The conference takes place biennially, with the aim to bring together scientists, research managers and administrators to share the results of their research and new advancements in the areas of scientometrics and informetrics.

The main focus of the conference was the future of scientometrics, with the following major topics: citation and co-citation analysis, mapping and visualization, altmetrics, webometrics, science indicators and university rankings, and patent analysis among others. In total, 458 researchers from 42 countries and from all continents presented their work. In all, 123 conference papers, 68 posters and 13 ignite (new ideas) talks were presented.

The conference included four special sessions on the following topics: algorithms for topic detection in science, the use of scientometrics in the improved ranking of universities, principles for performance indicators and the impact of education, research and innovation. Each session was followed by a public debate. Posters were presented in three sessions. The main themes covered were: bibliometric indictors, evaluation and assessment of research, authorship and collaboration networks, text mining techniques and social

Abb. 2 und 3: Opening Ceremony (Albert Long Hall)

media metrics among others. Papers were presented in four parallel panels during three days, covering the main topics of the conference, as mentioned above in the objectives.

The keynote speakers were Loet Leydesdorff and Kevin Boyack. The main focus of Leydesdorff's talk was the use of innovation systems models in wealth generation, knowledge, production, and governance. In his talk, Boyack proposed ways in which the field of scientometrics can flourish as a community and he suggested critical thinking as the first step towards this objective.

Amongst the award winning papers and posters there were two studies dealing with social media metrics. Isabella Peters from University of Kiel and her colleagues studied to what extent cited research data are visible on various altmetrics channels, and whether there is any relationship between the number of citations and the sum of altmetrics scores from various social media platforms. Their study showed that PlumX is the most helpful altmetrics tool in terms of coverage. Additionally, no correlation between the number of citations and the total number of altmetrics scores was observed. In his work, the best poster, Timothy D. Bowman contrasted the tweeting behaviour and the publication activity of 395 professors on Twitter. He observed that the professors who had a higher average tweets-per-day tended to not publish a high volume of papers, whereas those who published regularly did not tweet very often. He also found a little impact of tweeting on the citation rate of publications.

Additionally, among the award winning studies, there were two studies addressing the issue of scientific impact. Wang, Thijs and Glänzel addressed the relationship between interdisciplinary research and scientific impact. Their study showed that the number of citations increase with variety and disparity. Additionally, Yan and Lagoze from the University of Michigan studied scholars' scientific impact in relation to their breadth of research. They found a weak correlation between these two variables.

In their work, Kousha and Thelwall assessed whether academic reviews in *Choice: Current Reviews for Academic Libraries* could be systematically used as indicators of scholarly impact or educational value for scholarly books. They concluded that metrics derived from Choice academic book reviews can be used as indicators of different aspects of the value of books. However, more evidence is needed.

Four tutorials were presented on the first day of the conference (29th of June). The idea was to introduce briefly open source tools and applications used in the field of scientometrics. The topics discussed were: Open Source Tools for S&T Data Analysis and Visualization, VOSviewer and CitNet-Explorer applications, Measuring

Abb. 4: Social event: boat tour

Abb. 5: Places & Spaces Exhibition

Scholarly Impact and Social Network Analysis with R.

Five workshops also took place on the first day of the conference. The topics discussed were diverse. The aim of the first workshop (Mining Scientific Papers: Computational Linguistics and Bibliometrics) was to study the ways that bibliometrics can benefit from large-scale text analytics. The second workshop (Grand challenges in data integration for research and innovation policy) addressed the issue of handling big, linked and open data. The third workshop (Forecasting science: Models of science and technology dynamics for innovation policy) focused on mathematical, statistical, and computational models that can be used for the future of scientific or technological innovation (STI). The forth workshop on „Bibliometrics Education" aimed to improve the skills of the Bibliometrics profession through education and training. Finally, the last workshop on „Google Scholar and related products" introduced some current Google Scholar (GS) tools used for analysing the pattern of scholarly communications. This was then followed by a demo of GS citations.

The Sixth ISSI PhD forum was a one-day event that took place on the first day of the conference. Andrea Scharnhorst and Judit Bar-Ilan were the Chairs. The 11 PhD students that had been selected presented and discussed their PhD work with senior researchers in the same fields. Additionally, each PhD student was assigned a senior researcher as a mentor, in order to discuss their work further and receive feedback.

The Derek de Solla Price Award, the premier international award of excellence in scientometrics, was awarded to Professor Mike Thelwall from the University of Wolverhampton (UK). For further information regarding best paper, best poster and best review awards please visit the website of the conference: http://www.issi2015.org/en/ISSI-2015Awards.html

The conference finished on the 2nd of July with a ceremony where awards were presented. There was also a special session to introduce the next ISSI conference, which will be held in China (Wuhan) in 2017. The social events of the conference took place on the 3rd and 4th of July. ∎

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