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BOOK REVIEW

Science dynamics and assessment of research production

Nikolay K. Vitanov

Abstract

This article presents a brief discussion of statistical laws, indicators and indexes connected to research production and its assessment. The discussion begins by several words about the differences between the "hard" laws arising in the natural sciences, and "soft" laws that are present in the social sciences. The "softness" of the laws in scientometrics is intermediate and because of this quantitative (but mostly statistical) description of the research structures and processes is possible. Discussion in the article is concentrated around the statistical law of Lotka and the law of Bradford that is important in the process of selection of journals for assigning the ISI Impact factor. The Matthew effects are mentioned. The discussion continues by a section devoted to importance of the indicators and indexes for assessment of research production. The index of Hirsch, the g-index and the i-indexes are briefly discussed. The article ends by a short discussion of the current problems of Bulgarian research structure and system connected to human factor and to national research structures.

To 1100 Anniversary of St. Kliment Ohridski and the Feast of Alma Mater

Tzweta Todorova

Abstract

Leading the university symbolism belongs to the personality of the patron. The patron is supreme and sacred inherently value of each community. About Sofia University this value is embodied by the medieval figure of St. Kliment Ohridski (about 840–916), combining the ideal of spiritual unity and educational aspirations of the Bulgarians. In 2016, Bulgaria and Sofia University honor 1100 anniversary of the Assumption of St. Kliment Ohridski.

As one of the most prominent students of Slavic apostles Cyril and Methodius, Clement was charged by Prince Boris I the difficult mission of Baptist and teacher of Slavs in the area Kutmichevitz with center Ohrid. Both educators Clement and Naum creators and inspirers of the famous at the time Ohrid and Preslav Literary School. Thanks to their work in the IX century Bulgaria became the third most important cultural center of medieval Europe, along with Byzantium and Italy. In this sense, the choice of St. Kliment Ohridski patron of the first university in Bulgaria is extremely successful. His image becomes iconic and very popular in the academic space in all the years of existence of the University. The name of the patron is connected to the celebration of the academic feast of Alma Mater. Kind of a „godfather" in the early twentieth century (1902–1903 school years) became the first rector of the University prof. Alexander Teodorov–Balan. After placement of the bronze figures of donors in front of the Chancellor's Office in 1935, the work of sculptor Cyril Shivarov, for the first time at the newly built facade displays the full name of the University – „Sofia University St. Kliment Ohridski". With this act academic celebration on November 25 is a feast not only the patron but also the first university of Bulgaria, celebrated by the entire Bulgarian studentship today on December 8.

Bulgarian Eulogy of St. Kliment Ohridski 916–2016

Anna Angelova

Abstract

The article presents the exhibition, organized by the Sofia University Library on the occasion of the 1100th anniversary of the Assumption of St. Kliment Ohridski. The exhibition is unconventional, multilayered and presents several lines. One of the main accents in it are the presented scientific papers and studies, dedicated to St. Kliment Ohridski by Bulgarian scientists. The second line follows diachronically the celebrations of the patron of Sofia University. The third line is an attempt to present the image of St. Kliment Ohridski through the stored at Sofia University numerous artworks - sculptures, paintings and icons, as well as various awards, honorary signs and symbols of Alma Mater associated constantly with the image of St. Kliment Ohridski. The main accent in the exhibition is the research efforts of several generations of Bulgarian scientists to reveal the work and the personality of St. Kliment Ohridski. It focuses on the contribution of researchers from the Sofia University who first began systematic studies of the work and the creativity of St. Kliment Ohridski.

EXHIBITION „ST. KLIMENT – THE ENLIGHTENER"

Desislava Naydenova

Abstract

The exhibition „St. Kliment the Enlightener" was officially opened on October 25, 2016, at the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences. It is a work of a team from the Cyrillo-Methodian Research Centre in collaboration with the Macedonian Scientific Institute, the Institute for Historical Studies and the Scientific Archives of BAS. The exhibition presents not only St. Kliment's life and work but also his role as one of the symbols of Bulgarian national identity from the Middle Ages till our time. Some little known materials from the Scientific Archives concerning the history of Cyrillo-Methodian studies in Bulgaria are exhibited for the first time such as documents about the founding of St. Kliment's Commission in the Academy in 1916. Another aspect of the exhibition is the place of St. Kliment in our contemporary life as a patron of the first Bulgarian University and the use of his image on various artifacts (badges, national medals, stamps), which marks the institutionalized modeling and political use of his figure.

BULGARIAN SCIENTIFIC PERIODICALS: ACTUAL PROBLEMS

Borislav V. Toshev

Abstract

A few Bulgarian scientific periodicals are presented in secondary science literature. Then all the other Bulgarian journals themselves should be considered as situated in marginal publishing field. Hence, reduce the visibility of the scientific articles that appear in these magazines has resulted to lost the world scientific recognition of authors of those papers. With changes in science policy this unfavorable situation can be improved. Necessary measures and mistakes in science policy in Bulgaria are described in this article.

Role of science metrics for the improvement of the scientific quality and ethical problems during metrics application

Ivan Zagorchev

Abstract

Science metrics is widely used for evaluating the achievements of scientists, and their scientific output. However, it has considerable flaws as far as it is unable (1) to evaluate the scientific quality of the author's achievements; (2) to define the personal contribution of each co-author; (3) to distinguish between publications of high scientific value from such of mediocre interest; (4) to compare even authors working in very similar science domains; and (5) science metrics are highly dependable on the secondary sources and databases. The science metrics indicators are able only to demonstrate the visibility of a given author in the international scientific community. The limitations in the use of these indicators has been emphasized by the San Francisco Declaration on Research Assessment (DORA). In order to improve the visibility of the research performed by Bulgarian scientists, it is advisable to make efforts for to obtain impact factors for leading Bulgarian journals in different science domains. Merging of two or more journals in one science domain is advisable, too.

About some specifics in the introducing the referral system

Nikolay Poppetrov

Abstract

The article discusses various cases of introducing the referral system for scientific periodicals in the field of humanities. The examples are from periodicals from the field of history, archival science, library science, book publishing. Presented are some specifics, and some deviations from the generally accepted requirements. It is pointed out that in the field of humanities exist some specifics that require adaptation of the system of indicators.

KEY COMPETENCES ASSESSMENT - "SOCCES" MODEL

Georgi Todorov, Margarita Todorova, Liliya Terzieva

Abstract

The paper introduces the assessment framework for the development of two basic transversal competences - the 'sense of initiative and entrepreneurship' and 'social' competences.

The main results of the execution of the European project SOCCEs – SOCIAL Competences, Entrepreneurship and Sense of initiative development and assessment framework are provided.

The core of the research contains: Baseline study-current assessment practices and learning environment, Design of flexible, collaborative assessment module, Prototype assessment module course and validation study on assessment method, Assessment framework and methodology, Toolkit and guidelines for teachers/practitioners.

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ON BULGARIAN LANGUAGE POLICIES

Elena Kanevska-Nikolova

Abstract

Twelve years after the first edition, the issues examined in the book Bulgarian language policies by academician Mihail Videnov are still of immediate relevance and this is an unequivocal proof of its significance. The book consists of ten lectures, concludes with an afterword and two appendices – The theses of the Prague linguistic circle and the article Sociolinguistics – a fundament for the national language strategy, published in the Sociolinguistic problems journal in 1997.

The book, which has been exquisitely designed, will be useful not only to the experts in linguistics, but also to everyone interested in language issues.

ELECTRONIC TERM DICTIONARY

Tsvetan Vladimirov

Abstract

The article presents a dictionary, delivered by the author. It is aimed to present technical information to the students of the University of telecommunications and posts in a fast and easy to find way. The dictionary is a working software, containing two parts – user and teachers parts. The users part allows the students to search for the needed information and extracting it from a database and the teachers part helps the teachers with the importing and organizing of the terms and their descriptions in the database. With the ready application the student can find suitable proposed information from their teachers about certain terms. This certainly would help the proper acquiring of the information and would increase the degree of understanding of the material by the students. For the development is used Java programming and management of databases. The reason for this choice is the presence of numerous technical specifications related with the elements of the project, and the support provided by the Java community.

Key words: electronic dictionary, learning, term, Java

COLONEL PETER DARVINGOV – SCIENTIST AND OFFICER

Gabriela Vaptzarova, Darina Ilieva

Abstract

Who is Colonel Petar Georgiev Darvingov? Talented military figure, theoretician of military science and art, military writer, publicist, member of the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences. Our specific task is to expand and enrich the knowledge of life and creativity of this Bulgarian officer, using his rich personal archive.

With the story of the life and work of Colonel Petar Darvingov we expect to revive the name of this worthy Bulgarian – a typical representative of the revolutionary era of the late 19th and early 20th century.