Altmetrics Analysis of Scholarly Research by Technical University of Kenya Academic Staff

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ABSTRACT

Purpose Institutions of higher learning are expected to measure their research performance. Most institutions use citation impact metrics such as impact factor and h-index to measure scientific publications. However these measures are not comprehensive. Altmetrics is an alternative mechanism that facilitates the tracking of researchers’ scholarly performance beyond citation metrics. This study will conduct an altmetrics analysis of scholarly research by The Technical University of Kenya academic staff.

Methodology This study is designed as a bibliometrics research. Data will be collected using altmetrics tools from The Technical University of Kenya’s the institutional repository. The data will be analysed using VOS viewer software.

Findings The findings of this study are expected to unveil publishing trends and impact of academic staff at The Technical University of Kenya. The findings will reveal the most prolific authors as well as how they work is used. The findings will also indicate the impact of the institutional repository in enhancing the visibility of research output at The Technical University of Kenya.

Practical implications The findings of this study may be used by the university management, especially the Directorate of Research and Knowledge Exchange, in assessing the output and outcomes of research work in the university. The findings may also be used by the Director of Library Services to promote the use of the institutional repository in increasing the visibility of research products in the university.

Originality This study is original both in terms of its subject matter, scope and application. There is no research that the author knows of which has been conducted using altmetrics analysis of research output by academic staff in Kenya.

Keywords Altmetrics, impact factor, bibliometrics, Technical University of Kenya, academic staff