**Why is it Important?**

- Faculty scholarship impact is used in program and university rankings.
- Used in the tenure and promotion process as well as job applications.
- Often used as a measure to assess grant applicants.
- Can help identify “top” journals in your discipline to publish in.
- Discover other researchers in your field who are writing on similar topics.

**Measuring Yourself**

**The Key Players**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Google Scholar</th>
<th>Web of Science (ISI)</th>
<th>Scopus</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>- Searches publisher websites, repositories, university websites, book platforms, technical reports, patent sites and other sources.</td>
<td>- Over 20,000 journals from 3,300+ publishers.</td>
<td>- Over 36,000 journals from 5,000+ publishers.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- May contain duplicate entries and “minor” works like conference posters/presentations and undergraduate thesis.</td>
<td>- Weak at distinguishing between authors, may lead to inflated total number of publications.</td>
<td>- Stronger international coverage than Web of Science.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Very strong in foreign journals and books.</td>
<td>- English language bias</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*More Resources Available at Libguides.wmich.edu/impact*
The Metrics

- Total number of publications
- Total number of citations per publication
- H-index: number of your papers (h) that have been cited at least h times

Checking all 3 key players can show different results. For example, WMU Professor, Ala Al-Fuqaha (data observed as of May 13, 2019):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Google Scholar</th>
<th>Web of Science (ISI)</th>
<th>Scopus</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total Number of Publications:</td>
<td>176</td>
<td>89</td>
<td>111</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>H-index:</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Measuring Journals

Why is it important?

- Evaluate the scholarly worth of a journal.
- Rank journal within a discipline.
- Help decide where to publish your article for maximum impact.
- Used in evaluation for promotion/tenure/grants.

New Players

- Journal Citation Reports (ISI): the journal impact tool for Web of Science. Has the same coverage.
- Cabell’s Directory of Publishing Opportunities: Coverage includes journals in business, computer science, education, psychology, and health administration. Includes address, contact information, and guidelines for submitting manuscripts for each journal listed.

The Metrics

- Journal Impact Factor (JIF): the number of citations received in a year by articles published in a journal in the previous 2 years.
- CiteScore: measures average citations from the last complete year received per document published in the serial in the previous 3 years.
- H5-index: the h-index for articles published in the last 5 complete years.