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EDITORIAL

2017 ISSI ELECTIONS
A REPORT ON THE PROCEDURES AND RESULTS

BY BALÁZS SCHLEMMER, ELECTION ASSISTANT

ISSI members elect a new Board biennially. According to regulations made by the ISSI Board in 2006, board members who have served 4 years (except for the Secretary-Treasurer) step down, while the other members remain on the Board. In this election cycle, Birger Larsen, Grant Lewison and Nees Jan van Eck remained on the Board, while Kevin Boyack, Vincent Larivière and Jacqueline Leta had to step down. In order to fill up the vacant positions, ISSI launched its biennial online election on 1 March 2017. All members in good standing were given the opportunity to take part in the procedure, which consisted of two rounds: nomination and voting.

ROUND 1: NOMINATION

All 145 members were invited to nominate up to three persons as board members. The list of nominees consisted of all the ISSI members in good standing, except for those who were holding a position in the ISSI board at the moment of the nomination and, as a consequence, were not elect-

able. Members had more than 1 month to nominate; the deadline expired on 05 April 2017.

In the end 41 members (28.28%) took part in the first round (out of which 1 ballot arrived after the deadline—it was excluded from the results) and they nominated 50 members altogether for board membership.
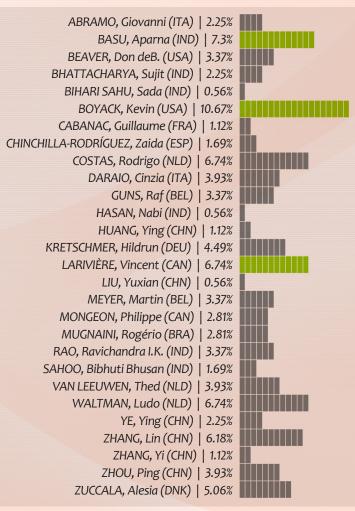
ROUND 2: VOTING

After the closure of the nominating turn, all 50 nominees were asked if they would accept the nomination. 28 nominees (56%) accepted it, 11 nominees (22%) refused and 11 nominees (22%) have not answered. Once again, all the members in good standing were invited to vote for up to three board members. Similarly to previous years, the voting was carried out anonimously—members were requested to authenticate themselves only to filter out unauthorised or repeated voting. The voting took place between 19 April and 15 May 2017.

The participation rate (41.78%) was a bit higher in the second round than in the first one: 71 ballots were received, out of which 10 had to be excluded due to repeated voting. It's important to note that certain patterns of the incoming ballots (as well as some error reporting emails sent to the election assistant) suggest that the relatively high share of repeated voting did not stem from malpractice but from some minor technical difficulties, as well as from the fact that after a reminder about the approaching deadline was sent out, a few members seemed to forget that they had already voted a few weeks earlier.

RESULTS

By harvesting nearly 11% of all the votes, Kevin Boyack (USA) made a clean sweep of being re-elected. He was followed by Apar-

Winners and runners-up of the 2017 ISSI Election

na Basu (IND) with 7.30% of all the votes and then by Rodrigo Costas (NLD), Vincent Larivière (CAN) and Ludo Waltman (NLD), having 6.74% each. (See figure 1. for the runners-up of the second round.)

In case of a tie, the acting Board (excluding those who are being concerned by the tie) is supposed to make a decision. Considering all candidates, and based on factors described in the election call, the Board eventually made its decision in favour of Vincent Larivière.

That is, the new Board consists of Cassidy Sugimoto (president), Wolfgang Glänzel (secretary-treasurer), Aparna Basu, Kevin Boyack, Vincent Larivière, Birger Larsen, Grant Lewison and Nees Jan van Eck.

Congratulations to the new/re-elected board members, thanks for the old ones for their work and thanks for all those members who took part in the ISSI 2017 Election.

EUGENE GARFIELD AWARD
FOR INNOVATION IN CITATION ANALYSIS

ANNOUNCEMENT

To honor the legacy of Dr. Garfield and to support the scientometrics community that he played a key role in establishing, Clarivate Analytics has established the Eugene Garfield Award for Innovation in Citation Analysis.

AWARD DETAILS

The award amount is $25k USD, paid in a single installment. In addition to the award, Clarivate Analytics will provide the successful applicant with in-kind support and access to Web of Science data.

The awardee will be invited to give a research presentation at an annual scientific event (the first year's occasion will be at a memorial symposium in Dr. Garfield's honor) and the awardee will be asked to participate in meetings of the Clarivate Analytics Scientific Advisory Board as appropriate.

A committee of scientometricians and information scientists will evaluate applications for novelty and innovation, and the winner will be notified in August 2017.

ELIGIBILITY

At the time of application, applicants must be an early-career researcher, no more than PhD +10 years. The deadline for applications is 11:00 PM US (Eastern Standard Time) July 21st, 2017.

APPLICATION

Applicants are required to submit PDF files in English by July 21st:

▶ a standard CV,
▶ 2 letters of recommendation (1 from supervisor or department chair)
▶ and the application form to katie.betzner@clarivate.com

APPLICATION DEADLINE

We are now welcoming applications through **July 21, 2017**.

OTHER TERMS AND CONDITIONS

▶ The scholarship will be paid in a single installment.
▶ The successful applicant will be encouraged to present at an annual scientific symposium and participate in select Scientific Advisory Board meetings as appropriate (no additional compensation other than travel costs where appropriate).
▶ The successful applicant will be encouraged to publish a paper on his or her research within 12 months of receiving the award (exceptions allowed).

THE OVERVIEW OF JOURNAL OF DATA AND INFORMATION SCIENCE (JDIS)

A REVIEW BY

LIN ZHANG

North China University of Water Conservancy and Electric Power, Zhengzhou, China
Centre for R&D Monitoring (ECOOM), KU Leuven, Belgium

The *Journal of Data and Information Science* (JDIS), sponsored by the Chinese Academy of Sciences (CAS), is published quarterly by the National Science Library of CAS. Launched in 2016, JDIS is the first internationally published English-language academic journal in library and information Science (LIS) and related fields from China, with a really international editorial board (54% board members are from abroad). Since there are no Chinese LIS journals in the Web of Science so far, JDIS aims to open a new window for Chinese and international researchers as well.

JDIS devotes itself to the study and application of the theories, methods, techniques, services, and infrastructural facilities using big data to support knowledge discovery for decision and policy making. The basic emphasis is research that focuses on big data, analytics, knowledge-discovery, and supports decision making. Special attention is given to knowledge discovery to detect and predict structures, trends, behaviors, relations, evolutions, and disruptions in scientific research. This includes issues of innovation, business, politics, security, media and communications, and social devel-

JDIS

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National Science Library,
Chinese Academy of Sciences

opment. The big data topics may include metadata or full content data, text or non-textural data, structured or non-structured data, domain specific or cross-domain data, and dynamic or interactive data.

Koenraad Debackere from KU Leuven started the first issue: "Let the data speak for themselves: opportunities and caveats". Anthony F.J. van Raan from CWTS addressed an expert review on "Patent citations analysis and its value in research evaluation: a review and a new approach to map technology-relevant research" in the first issue of 2017. In the latest issue, Chaomei Chen, from Drexel University, shared a systematic review of the literature in the field of Science Mapping.

THE MAIN AREAS OF INTEREST IN JDIS:

1. New theories, methods, and techniques of big data-based data mining, knowledge discovery, and informatics, including but not limited to communication analysis, social network analysis, tech and industry analysis, scientometrics, competitive intelligence, knowledge mapping, evidence-based policy analysis, scientometrics, and predictive analysis.

2. New methods, architectures, and facilities to develop or improve knowledge infrastructure that can support knowledge organization and sophisticated analytics, including but not limited to ontology construction, knowledge organization, semantic linked data, knowledge integration and fusion, semantic retrieval, domain-specific knowledge infrastructure, and semantic sciences.

3. New mechanisms, methods, and tools to embed knowledge analytics and knowledge discovery into actual operation, service, or managerial processes, including but not limited to knowledge-assisted scientific discovery, and data mining-driven intelligent workflows in learning, communications, or management.

SPECIFIC TOPIC AREAS MAY INCLUDE:

- Knowledge organization
- Knowledge discovery and data mining
- Knowledge integration and fusion
- Semantic Web metrics
- Scientometrics
- Analytic and diagnostic informetrics
- Competitive intelligence
- Predictive analysis
- Social network analysis and metrics
- Semantic and interactively analytic retrieval
- Evidence-based policy analysis
- Intelligent knowledge production
- Knowledge-driven workflow management and decision making
- Knowledge-driven collaboration and its management
- Domain knowledge infrastructure with knowledge fusion and analytics
- Training for data and information scientists
- Development of data and information services

JDIS publishes theoretical and empirical work, and also welcomes systematic reviews and applied research in the development of advanced methods, services, and best practices. But simple application of established informetrics on a specific research field or country is out of the scope of interest.

With an aim to disseminate cutting-edge research in these fields, JDIS has published essays from a large body of high-profile experts across the world, where international authors account for over **60 percent** of its first year publications (2016). The average turnaround time for a manuscript from submission to final decision is less than **ten weeks**. The **rejection rate** is 62 percent.

JDIS publishes papers for **free of charge**, and all publications are freely available.

The journal looks forward to seeing your submissions.

Website:
https://www.degruyter.com/view/j/jdis
Submission:
https://mc03.manuscriptcentral.com/jdis

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INTRODUCING THE DEREK DE SOLLA PRICE AWARDEE OF 2017

INTERVIEW BY BALÁZS SCHLEMMER

The awarding ceremony of the Derek de Solla Price Memorial Medal has become an essential part of the programme of ISSI conferences since the foundation of the Society in 1993. The Price Medal was conceived and launched by Tibor Braun, founder and Editor-in-Chief of the international journal Scientometrics, and is periodically awarded by the journal to scientists with outstanding contributions to the fields of quantitative studies of science. This year's awardee is Judit Bar-Ilan (Department of Information Science, Bar-Ilan University).
Congratulations to the award-winner!

JUDIT BAR-ILAN

■ **Judit Bar-Ilan from the Bar-Ilan University. How many zillion times have you been asked about the (non-existing) relationship between your name and the university's name?**

→ Countless times, this is the first question I am asked. Once one publisher was sure that this was a mistake, and changed my info to Judit Bar-Ilan at Information Science University. In any case, you can blame my husband, Danny, for this.

■ **What was your future dream job as a child? And when/how did you start considering a scientific career?**

→ From when I remember, I dreamt to be a mathematician. It was very clear to me that I want an academic career. I liked to solve problems, went to special classes. My Dad is also a researcher – retired, but still active.

■ **Due to the interdisciplinary nature of scientometrics/informetrics, it is quite common amongst its researchers that they graduate in a field completely different from LIS. Just like Mike Thelwall, the previous Price-awardee, you also came from the direction of mathematics and computer science—better yet, you pretty**

for research. One day I heard that there is an open position at the School of Library, Archive and Information Studies at the Hebrew University for someone to teach technological courses. My husband encouraged me to apply, probably because he wanted to return to his birth town, Jerusalem. This was the first time I met Prof. Bluma Peritz, the Head of the School. This meeting changed the direction of my academic career. I wanted to get more involved, and not just teach programming courses. Bluma introduced me to the world of bibliometrics and to other areas of library and information science. What I learned from Bluma fascinated me. I have no regrets that I abandoned my dream as a child to become a great mathematician. I really like what I am doing today, thanks to Bluma. Like my Dad says: it is a privilege to be able to do your hobby at work and to get paid for it.

Another coincidence is that at the same time, around 1994 the Internet and World Wide Web started to become mainstream. This made me think of how bibliometric techniques can be applied to the Internet and to the Web. My first study, that applied bibliometric methods to information retrieved from the Internet was on the mad-cow disease that erupted in the UK in 1996. I followed the messages and discussions related to the disease on Usenet News-

soon also got involved in webometrics/ altmetrics, too. The question is self-evident: how did a mathematician like you (dealing originally with mathematical, programming, computing and security problems) wind up counting citations/ hyperlinks and analysing search engine performances—especially 20 years ago when most of us were just started to get familiar with the most basic knowledge on the world wide web?

→ This is a very good question. After my postdoc, I had a position at the Open University in Israel, where I had a lot of administrative duties, and little time

groups, the forerunners of social media websites. I was able to show that interest rose grew exponentially at first, but quite soon Usenet users lost interest, similarly to the growth curves observed for scholarly articles published on a topic. The major difference is that on the Internet everything occurs much faster. In addition, the study showed Bradford's Law of Scattering is also applicable, where posts are analogous to articles and Usenet newsgroups to journals. Core newsgroups that discussed the disease and its implications were identified.

■ **Do you still remember what the main findings of your first publication were? Actually, what was your first publication?**

→ There is no clear answer to this question. In high school, it was possible to conduct individual projects with the supervision of academics. I chose to study the history of trigonometry. When the project was completed, a short paper summarizing the study was published in a local journal. My first publication in computer science was published in a conference proceedings in 1989, where with my co-author, we developed techniques to compute functions quickly and securely. This paper is one of my top cited publications according to Google Scholar. And if you ask about my first publication in informetrics, then it is the mad-cow disease paper mentioned above. The paper was published in Scientometrics in 1997.

■ **What do you consider your most important publication or research topic? Not necessarily the one with the highest citation impact but the one which is your personal favourite just because of the complexity/beauty of the research, or because of the outcome.**

→ My favourite is a paper on using a variant of the h-index for ranking search results. This paper connects two sub-disciplines of information science: in-

formetrics and information retrieval. The paper has not received a lot of attention (to put it mildly), but perhaps it is a sleeping beauty? Even if it does not ever wake up, I still like the idea.

■ **Have you ever had a very surprising research result which was completely against your preliminary expectations?**

→ Yes, when I set out to explore Google Scholar (GS) citation counts. In the first years after Google Scholar was launched (in 2004), it was heavily criticized for having duplicates, "phantom" citations (i.e., the citing items displayed on GS that did not actually cite the publication), for questionable citations coming from non-academic sources and for its unknown coverage. I examined all the citations to the "Introduction to Informetrics" book retrieved from GS. By examining I mean trying to locate all the citing documents, and checking that they reference the book. Contrary to my expectations GS performed quite well. There were a few duplicates or items that did not refer to the book but this was negligible (there are mistakes in commercial citation databases as well). So instead of showing how unreliable GS was, I showed the opposite.

■ **While I was browsing through your research areas and publication list I noticed a few exciting topics that venture beyond the usual horizon of the regular LIS, informetrics, webometrics & altmetrics topics. Apparently, you have had shorter or longer field trips to such territories as the world of chess, the blogosphere, the online Hebrew literature, information/ advice to Israeli citizens, Facebook usage of political parties, altmetric gender bias—just to name a few. How have they built into your career?**

→ Some of these studies just happened. I was drawn into these areas by colleagues and students. Some are connected in some ways to my main topics of interest:

informetrics and information retrieval (IR). The methods and techniques we used in most of these papers are ones I use also in informetric and IR studies: content analysis, log analysis and evaluation schemes. By collaborating with others, I learn from them (and hopefully they learn from me) and I am exposed to new ideas and new ways of thinking.

Additional ways to be exposed to new ideas is to attend conferences, and to be aware of the new studies in the field.

■ **My attention was caught by one 'extracurricular' publication in particular. It's title (Perceived credibility of blogs on the Internet – the influence of age on the extent of criticism) suggests that the criticism is related to the age. In an ideal world, yes, we all become wiser by age, but is this really true? Your article was written in 2013, an earlier version dealing with credibility of bloggers and blog posts on conventional and alternative medicine was written and presented in 2011— both way preceded the full blooming of the political 'alternative facts', medical quackeries and other charlatanisms that put social media's credibility issues in the centre much more vigorously than ever before. How do you see the relationship between abuse/misuse of low publication threshold provided by blogs and social media vs. credibility issues in 2017 and what do you forecast for the future?**

→ Our aim in the study was not to test age-specific differences, but to learn how people assess credibility of information of blog posts. Several parameters were studied, one of them age. The experiment was conducted in 2009, the outcomes might be different had we repeated the study now. But "fake news" are here to stay, and digital and information literacy skills are needed to assess the credibility of the information. There is a very nice theory of Petty and Cacioppo that can be applied to credibility and quality assessment. This theory says that there are two

routes people take when assessing the credibility of information: the central route (when the information is examined carefully) and the peripheral route (when quality is decided based on peripheral information, like how many likes a post received, how many followers the author of the post has or how attractive is the design of the Web page on which the information appeared). Using the peripheral method, which is sometimes inevitable, can lead to wrong conclusions. This situation is not unique to social media or the Web, it is quite similar to the use/misuse of the journal impact factor for assessing individual articles.

■ **Which one do you rather prefer: teaching or research? Do you happen to have a memorable story from the classroom?**

→ Definitely research. I am not a very good teacher (to put it mildly) based on feedback from students, but I try to improve.

■ **How do you think your colleagues and/or students characterize you? And how do you refine the picture?**

→ Well, you should ask them. I think that at first students are a bit afraid of me, but this fear hopefully disappears once they work with me more closely. I am in contact with most of my previous students.

■ **Your homepage at the university lists around 150 publications, reviews, book chapters etc. under your name (or as a co-author). But it also lists 143 papers presented at different international conferences between 1989 and 2016. It means that on average you attended a conference in every 2 months throughout the 27 years of your scientific career. You also hold your academic positions with teaching obligations, as well as numerous programme committee and editorial board memberships. What hobbies and leisure time activities can you practice under this workload?**

→ Thanks for the statistics, I was not aware of this. Some of the conferences are lo-

cal, and it takes less effort to participate, in some other cases a co-author presented the paper. However, it is true that in recent years I travel quite a lot. And you are right about the other administrative and academic duties – I should learn to say "no" to some of the invitations and requests. On the other hand, by being involved, I have a better understanding of academic structures and processes.

Leisure time? I wish I had more, but in the free time I have I like to play with my grandson, go to the gym, travel in the world and to spend time with my family and friends.

■ **5 books, 5 CDs and 5 movies you would take to a desert island...**

→ Since as you pointed out, I am very busy I'll only list 3-4 each. First of all, CDs are passé, but my favorite singers are Leonard Cohen, Barbra Streisand and Andrea Bocelli. Favorite movies: Life is Beautiful, Sunshine, Woman in Gold and Fiddler on the Roof - all related to the fate and history of the Jewish people. Favorite books: The Little Prince, Pride and Prejudice (I am a woman after all), and Tanár Úr Kérem (Please Sir) (Not only a Jew, a woman but also Hungarian). However, I would gladly exchange all these for a laptop with connection to the Internet.

■ **Could you mention a few of your most memorable conference (or other job-related) stories?**

→ I don't have specific stories, but I am honored that Eugene Garfield and Tim Berners-Lee attended and listened to my presentation (at two separate occasions on two different topics).

■ **What was the most embarrassing situation during your professional career? And the funniest?**

→ Most embarrassing: During my PhD, when I presented something at a conference, that turned out to be wrong. Not funny, but touching, when at the ISSI Conference in Colima, Mexico, Bluma revealed to the organizers that it was my birthday, and the whole conference celebrated me.

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INFORMETRICS METHODS APPLIED TO CANCER RESEARCH

A REPORT BY

LIWEN VAUGHAN

WOLFGANG GLÄNZEL

A recent study used informetrics methods to examine the cell line contamination issue in cancer search. The study was an interdisciplinary collaboration between information science researchers (Liwen Vaughan and Wolfgang Glänzel) and medical researchers (Christopher Korch and Amanda Capes-Davis). It is also an international collaboration, with the four researchers being from Canada, Belgium, U.S.A. and Australia respectively.

Cell line cross contamination is a widespread problem in cancer research which can lead to invalid and irreproducible results. The study examined the impact of one specific misidentified cell line, KB (HeLa), through data mining the scientific literature. Large scale informetric data such as publications and citations were collected and analyzed. The study sketched out the scale and the consequence of the problem of cell line contamination. The findings of

the study promote the awareness of the problem among cancer researchers. The findings also provide support for granting agencies and journals to adopt policies that require researchers to provide proof of the authenticity of cell lines. The success of the study demonstrates the potential of applying informetrics methods outside information science as well as the benefits of interdisciplinary research collaboration.

The paper reporting the findings of the study has been published in *Cancer Research*, a journal of the American Association for Cancer Research and a top cancer research journal in the world. The bibliographic information of the paper is: Vaughan, L., Glänzel, W., Korch, C. and Capes-Davis, A. (2017). Widespread use of misidentified cell line KB (HeLa): Incorrect attribution and its impact revealed through mining the scientific literature, *Cancer Research*, 77(11), 2784-2788.

LINMO (林墨):
HELP SCIENTISTS BETTER UNDERSTAND THEMSELVES

A REPORT BY

LIN ZHANG
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Centre for R&D Monitoring (ECOOM), KU Leuven, Belgium

Chinese scholars with various affiliations lack strong channels of communication compared to their Western counterparts. Linmo, a new scientific community in China, is about to make a breakthrough in this area. It was initiated by Dr. Jiang Li, an associate professor of information science in Zhejiang University. The team members of Linmo are young Chinese scientometricians born into the 1980s, hailing from Zhejiang University, Tsinghua University, the University of Hong Kong, Indiana University (USA), Nanjing University, Shanghai Jiaotong University, Dalian University of Technology, North China University of Water Resources and Electric Power, Shanxi University, Shanxi Medical University, East China Normal University, and Beijing Institute of Technology. Actively engaging in research and full of innovative ideas, these scholars

Figure 1. *The 1st seminar of Linmo Young Scholar Growth Plan in Shanxi, China*

Figure 2. *The group members visiting Alibaba in March, 2017*

have all studied or are currently studying in the Western countries/territories. They hope to unveil scientometric research findings to other scientists outside their fields.

A WE-MEDIA PLATFORM INTRODUCING INTERNATIONAL RESEARCHES TO CHINESE AUDIENCE

Linmo is a non-profit "We-media" (a Chinese social media platform) that aims to tell academic stories in Chinese, based on the latest research findings in the field of scientometrics. For instance, Linmo recently posted an article introducing how to use ORCID (originally published by Science on May 18, 2017) to track the mobility of scientists worldwide and how to advocate the use of ORCID in China. This "story" was read and/or shared by more than 6,000 users. Linmo has published more than 100 essays of this kind in the past year, most of which were based on studies published in prestigious scientific journals, e.g., *Nature, Science, Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences of the US (PNAS US), Scientometrics, Journal of Informetrics and Journal of the Association for Information Science and Technology*.

Currently, Linmo has 5,000 followers on Wechat, the most popular social media app in China. The essays from Linmo are also synchronously updated in ScienceNet, the biggest online community for Chinese scientists. Many of these essays have been recommended as "best essays" or "hot topics". Up to now, Linmo's essays have had over 400 thousand reads on ScienceNet. They are also frequently reprinted by mainstream media in China, such as China Science News, Sohu, Sina, NetEase, and Headlines Today.

"HELP SCIENTISTS BETTER UNDERSTAND THEMSELVES"

China is home to more than 6 million researchers, many of whom are in the early stages of their academic careers. They are concerning about how to publish more high-impact papers, how to develop their career, and how to better communicate with the international academic community. Besides, they are also interested in all aspects of scientists' life such as marriage, hobbies, religious beliefs, and sexism in academia. On Linmo, scientists can not only learn about the latest findings in the field of scientometrics, but also comment on these findings that would also be read very carefully and commented by other scientists as well as Linmo editors.

YOUNG SCHOLAR GROWTH PLAN FOR CHINESE SCIENTOMETRICIANS

The members of Linmo communicate with each other via WeChat on a daily basis. They also organize seminars and meet in person every one or two months to share new ideas and findings. In March 2017, they visited Zhejiang University and Alibaba[1]; in May and June, they met in Shanxi and Beijing respectively. These seminars are in a series entitled "Young Scholars Growth Plan", by which Linmo members have been inspired a lot. So far, Linmo members have published 100+ English articles in high-impact journals such as *Scientometrics, Journal of Informetrics, the Journal of the Association for Information Science and Technology* etc. Members expect to have more interesting joint projects in the next five years.

Linmo is still developing and it welcomes young scholars who hope to conduct and share their research in the field of scientometrics. It is also trying out more diverse ways of interacting with followers, such as through lecture series and established web platforms such as Zhihu (a Q&A

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1   Alibaba is currently China's largest and most successful Internet company, creating China's most popular e-commerce platform Lynxmao and Taobao, as well as the most popular network payment platform Alipay.

Figure 3. *Linmo members (from top left to bottom right):*

Dr. Cui Huang	*Mr. Ying Huang*	*Dr. Star X Zhao*	*Dr. Zhigang Hu*
Mr. Tianpeng Qu	*Dr. Jiang Li*	*Mr. Chao Min*	*Dr. Qi Yu*
Dr. Ruimin Ma	*Dr Lin Zhang*	*Dr. Xianwen Wang*	*Dr. Dongbo Shi*
Ms. Meijun Liu	*Mr. Shouchuan Tong*	*Mr. Yi Bu*	*Mr. Dong Li*

website similar to Quaro). Scientific discovery and sharing has transformed from the traditional period that simply focuses on citation counts and metrics like the h-index to alternative citation metrics that focuses more on social impact, ushering in a new term and perhaps a new era called altmetrics. Undoubtedly, Linmo is an avid practitioner of altmetrics.

Linmo also warmly welcomes all international scholars to recommend interesting research findings through the email-address: Linmo_wx@163.com.

The group members will translate and introduce these research to the broad Chinese community.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT