COLLNET Journal of Scientometrics and Information Management
ISSN : 0973 – 7766 (Print) 2168 – 930X (Online)
Vol. 18(1) June 2024, pp. 3–10
DOI : 10.47974/CJSIM-2023-Report

Report on 17th International Conference on Webometrics, Informetrics, and Scientometrics (WIS) & 22nd COLLNET Meeting 2023

08-10 December 2023, Dr. S. R. Lasker Library, East West University, Dhaka, Bangladesh

Dilara Begum
Bernd Markscheffel

Dilara Begum*
Department of Information Studies & Librarian (In-Charge)
East West University
Dhaka
Bangladesh
&
Governing Board Member - IFLA

Bernd Markscheffel †
Group of Information and Knowledge Management
Faculty of Economics and Media
TU Ilmenau
PO Box 100565
98684 Ilmenau
Germany

E-mail
* dilara@ewubd.edu
† bernd.markscheffel@tu-ilmenau.de

* (Corresponding Author)

1. Introduction

The 17th International Conference on Webometrics, Informetrics, and Scientometrics (WIS) and the 22nd COLLNET Meeting was hosted by Dr. S. R. Lasker Library, East West University Dhaka, Bangladesh from 08-10 December 2023 in a hybrid format. This significant conference was a collaborative effort organized by COLLNET in association with Society for Library Professionals (SLP) and Asian Community, Special Libraries Association (SLA).

The conference aims to facilitate networking, discussion, and collaboration among librarians, information professionals, researchers, and practitioners. The broad aim of the conference was collaboration and communication in science and technology; science policy; quantitative aspects of science of science; and combination and integration of qualitative and quantitative approaches in study of scientific practices. In an ever-evolving world of big data and AI, Scientometrics, and Informetrics play such a crucial role that we have made the following aspects the focus of our conference.

© Taru Publications



Figure 1

Inaugural Session at the Manzur Elahi Auditorium,
East West University, Dhaka, Bangladesh

- Measuring Scientific Impact by providing methodologies to measure the impact of scientific research, such as citation analysis, which helps researchers, institutions, and funders gauge the influence and significance of research outputs.
- Identifying Trends and Patterns, because with the proliferation of data in science and technology, these fields help identify trends, patterns, and emerging areas of research to support decision-making in research funding, policy development, and strategic planning.
- Assessing Research Productivity and Collaboration networks, and interdisciplinary research efforts with the help of Scientometrics and Informetrics. Understanding these aspects can optimize resource allocation and foster collaboration across different domains.
- Mapping Knowledge Landscapes by analyzing and visualizing citation networks and bibliometric data to facilitate navigation through vast amounts of information,

aiding researchers in discovering relevant literature and identifying gaps in knowledge.

- Supporting Science Policy and Innovation with Scientometric and Informetric analyses to inform Science Policy decisions, such as funding allocation and research priorities. Moreover, these analyses contribute to fostering innovation by identifying areas ripe for technological advancement and interdisciplinary collaboration.
- Quality Assurance and Evaluation with the provision and introduction of tools for evaluating the quality and impact of scientific journals, conferences, and researchers to support the assessment of research performance for career advancement and funding purposes.
- Managing and analysing the vast amount of data to extract meaningful insights, and leveraging AI techniques for more advanced analyses and predictions. In the era of big data and AI, the volume and complexity of information generated pose challenges and opportunities. Scientometrics and Informetrics play a crucial role in this vast amount of data, extracting

This event was part of the successful COLLNET conference series (www.collnet.de). Previous COLLNET conferences were held in Berlin (Germany) in 2000, New Delhi (India) in 2001, Sydney (Australia) in 2002, Beijing (China) in 2003, Roorkee (India) in 2004, Stockholm (Sweden) in 2005, Nancy (France) in 2006, New Delhi (India) in 2007, Berlin (Germany) in 2008, Dalian (China) in 2009, Mysore (India) in 2010, Istanbul (Turkey) in 2011, Seoul (Korea) in 2012, Tartu (Estonia) in 2013, Ilmenau (Germany) in 2014, New Delhi (India) in 2015, Nancy (France) in 2016, Canterbury (UK) in 2017, Macau in 2018, Dalian (China) in 2019 and Bangkok (Thailand) in 2022.

International Conference and COLLNET Meeting in 2023

Before the inaugural ceremony, the first day of the conference was held on Google Meet platform where two virtual technical sessions were held, featuring a keynote speech by Professor Dr. Wolfgang Glänzel from KU Leuven, Belgium, and presentations of eleven contributed papers. Around 150 participants joined this virtual session. The Inaugural Ceremony was conducted on Friday, 08 December 2023, at 3:30 PM at the Manzur Elahi Auditorium. The inaugural ceremony featured a welcome speech by **Professor Shams Rahman**, Honorable Vice Chancellor, East West University, who extended a warm welcome to the distinguished speakers and participants, expressing hope for the conference to yield significant benefits for society, the country, and the world at large. He said that "it is a moment to reflect on the critical role that Webometrics, Informetrics, and Scientometrics play in our ever-evolving world of information and knowledge management. These fields are not just academic disciplines; they are vital tools that help us navigate and make sense of the vast expanse of digital information that shapes our modern society".



Figure 2

Welcome Speech by Professor Shams Rahman

Honorable Vice Chancellor, East West University, Dhaka, Bangladesh

The event was graced by the presence of **Syed Manzur Elahi**, Honorable Chairperson, Board of Trustees, East West University and Chairman, Apex Group and Former Adviser, Caretaker Government as the Chief Guest. He said, "Webometrics, Informetrics, and Scientometrics are always important fields in understanding and assessing the impact and dynamics of knowledge, research, and information dissemination in the digital age. This conference will provide a valuable platform for academics, librarians, information technology professionals, and policymakers advancing research and activities in these areas".

Dr. Bernd Markscheffel, Academic Council (Senior Researcher), Department of Information and Knowledge Management, Technische Universität Ilmenau, Germany was present as the Special Guest.



Figure 3

Speech from Syed Manzur Elahi, Honorable Chairperson, Board of Trustees, East West University



Figure 4

Presentation by the Special Guest Dr. Bernd Markscheffel

The keynote speech was delivered by **Prof. Jean-Charles Lamirel**, Professor, Dalian University of Technology, China and the University of Strasbourg, France, focusing on the analysis of Dr. Hildrun Kretschmer's research work and the influences in the Scientometrics field.

The event ended with a vote of thanks by the Conference Chair **Dr. Dilara Begum**, Associate Professor and Chairperson, Department of Information Studies, and Librarian (In-Charge), East West University. She invited all attendees to join tomorrow's technical sessions.

She also mentioned the importance of such gatherings providing a vital platform for knowledge managers, policymakers, academicians, and civil society think tanks to come together. This union fosters the sharing of expertise and groundbreaking ideas, which is essential for enhancing our comprehension and evaluation of the impact and evolution of knowledge, research, and information distribution in today's digital era. The inaugural



Figure 5

Keynote Speech by Prof. Jean-Charles Lamirel



Figure 6

Vote of thanks by the Conference Chair Dr. Dilara Begum



Figure 7

Unveiling of the Conference Proceedings

program was followed by a cultural event performed by the East West University Club for Performing Arts.

Conference proceedings was released by the eminent speakers on the desk.

The inaugural session saw over 300 participants from the USA, Germany, France, Belgium, China, Japan, Iran, India, and other nations, setting a tone of international collaboration and exchange.

Throughout the event, 49 papers were presented across one plenary and six parallel sessions, two virtual sessions, incorporating three keynotes, invited contributions, and a wealth of research papers that prompted dynamic discussions and set the stage for ongoing collaborations. These presentations covered a spectrum of topics within Bibliometrics, Scientometrics, Webometrics, Informetrics, Altmetrics and so on. A communication session was also held, during which sponsors shared their scholarly products and ideas with attendees. The closing ceremony celebrated the exceptional work of collaborative authors from Bangladesh, Belgium, and authors from Japan by awarding two best paper recognitions.

Mir Jahurul Islam, Director General of the Bangladesh National Scientific Technical Documentation Center (BANSDOC) joined as the guest of honor at the closing ceremony, where he underscored the critical role of collaborative research in Bangladesh.

Dr. Dilara Begum, Associate Professor and Chairperson, Department of Information Studies, East west University was honoured with the 'LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD 2023' by COLLNET, Society for Library Professionals (SLP) and Special Libraries Association (SLA), Asia Community for her outstanding contribution in research, collaboration, and library development for more than 25 years.



Figure 8

Group Photographs of Closing Ceremony

Dr. Dilara Begum, the conference chair, extended heartfelt thanks to COLLNET and the dedicated organizing committee members. She also extended heartfelt thanks to Dr. Bernd Markscheffel, Dr. P K Jain, Dr. Debal C Kar, and N. K. Wadhwa, for their unwavering support.

The COLLNET community looks forward to building on the discussions and collaborations initiated at this year's conference, which will undoubtedly continue to



Figure 9

Dr. Dilara Begum receiving the LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD 2023



Figure 10

Group Photographs of City Tour

resonate within the academic and research communities. A City Tour was arranged to Bangladesh National Museum, Bangladesh National Library and Archives, Department of Information Science and Library Management-University of Dhaka and Bangabandhu Memorial Museum on 10 November 2022 for the participants and speakers.

Special thanks to the Sponsors Balani Infotech Private Limited, Lanquill EdTech Private Limited, DrillBit SoftTech India Private Limited, MyLOFT - My Library on Finger Tips, EBSCO Information Services India Private Limited, Clarivate Analytics US LLC; Media Partner Ekattor TV; Creative Partner Magnifier Creatives and all others for their support.

Please visit the links below to view highlights of this event:

1. https://heyzine.com/flip-book/96a32cfe7e.html#page/1
2. https://photos.app.goo.gl/8VLiHCNVr1DgSz6b7

International Conference and COLLNET meeting in 2024

The next event of this conference series will be the 18th International Conference on Webometrics, Informetrics and Scientometrics (WIS) & 23rd COLLNET Meeting which will be held at **Université de Strasbourg** in **France** from **12-14 December 2024**. COLLNET 2024 will provide another excellent opportunity for librarians, information professionals, researchers, and practitioners to exchange and discuss experiences, ideas, research results, meet and network on all aspects of Webometrics, Informetrics and Scientometrics.

We are looking forward to welcoming as many members of the COLLNET community as possible at this event in Strasbourg, France. For more details, please visit http://www.slp.org.in/Collnet2024