**Title of the research project:** CRKN Journal Usage Project

**Principal Investigator:**

Vincent Larivière, Associate Professor at Université de Montréal, Canada Research Chair on the Transformations of Scholarly Communication, École de bibliothéconomie et des sciences de l’Information.

**Doctoral students and postdoctoral fellows:**

Antoine Archambault, Philippe Mongeon and Laurence Dumont,

Stefanie Haustein and Maxime Sainte-Marie.

**INFORMATION TO PARTICIPANTS**

**Research Intent**

This research will examine the impact on libraries of the consolidation of journal publishing and the development of what is known in the industry as the “big deal”. This research, initiated by the Canadian Research Knowledge Network (CRKN) and with the participation of 28 Canadian universities, will offer individual institutions an insight into usage and citations of their own institutions as compared with their faculty perceptions of journal value, and it affords the opportunity for some analysis of the data across these institutions. Also, on a national scale, this research will explore whether there are similarities, differences, or trends in usage, citation, faculty perceptions, or other factors among various types of institutions in Canada (for example, teaching vs. research institutions, French vs. English institutions, regional differences, etc.)

**Research Objectives**

This survey aims to identify which journals are essential to teaching, research, and to your discipline in general in order to:

- Have a clear picture of the perception of the use of scholarly journals by the scholarly community, both for teaching and research;
- Provide CRKN and each institution with data about their community’s perception of scholarly journals;
- Compare how different journals are used across universities across Canada.

**What your participation entails**

You are invited to identify journals you consider are essential to your teaching (up to 10), and those that you consider as essential to your research (up to 10). All currently published journals available in electronic form are admissible. We will also need to know to which institution you are primarily affiliated with, which population you belong to and what your main area of research is, but no information allowing identification will be asked. A space for comments or suggestions of other titles will also be available.
Inclusion and exclusion criteria

You have been invited to take part in this survey because you are part of one or more of these populations:

- Faculty members
  - Tenured professors
  - Adjunct professors
  - Sessional Lecturers
- Graduate students
  - PhD students
  - Postdoctoral fellows

Confidentiality and anonymity of submitted information

All data will be anonymous; no information identifying you as an individual will be gathered. At the end of this data collection phase, each university will be provided with an aggregated dataset showing how many times each journal was mentioned by members of its community by main area of research/study, but institutions will never be able to see how each individual answered the survey. CRKN will also have access to the aggregated information for all universities. All data will be archived in a secure server dedicated to research and after the completion of the project, the raw data will only be archived in the main researcher’s laboratory in a password protected computer.

Advantages and disadvantages

By participating in this survey, you will be able to communicate your needs and perceptions in terms of scholarly journals to your institution. The research team doesn’t foresee any major inconvenience related to this survey, except for the time you spend taking part in it. Any litigation following the delivery of aggregated data to the institutions cannot be attributed to the participation in the survey in itself, but the research team prefers to inform participants so they make their decision fully informed.

Withdrawal from the survey

You may stop your participation in the survey at any time, without any disadvantage or without having to justify your decision. Due to the anonymity of all answers, there is no way of tracing your response or to delete it from our database afterwards, so please consider this information before submitting your form.

The research team assures they provided all relevant information in order for possible participants to have an informed consent and is available to answer any questions about it.

Any questions can be directed to the principal investigator, Vincent Larivière (514-343-5600 – vincent.lariviere@umontreal.ca).

Any complaint relative to your participation to this project can either be directed to the Université de Montréal’s ombudsman (514-343-2100), the ombudsman accepts collect telephone calls or
ombudsman@umontreal.ca) or to your institution’s ombudsperson or relevant authority (see the list below for contact information).

This project has received ethics approval from Université de Montréal (CERTIFICATE NUMBER), University of Alberta (CERTIFICATE NUMBER), University of Calgary (CERTIFICATE NUMBER), Carleton University (CERTIFICATE NUMBER), Dalhousie University (CERTIFICATE NUMBER), University of Guelph (CERTIFICATE NUMBER), Lakehead University (CERTIFICATE NUMBER), University of Lethbridge (CERTIFICATE NUMBER), MacEwan University (CERTIFICATE NUMBER), McGill University (CERTIFICATE NUMBER), Mount Royal University (CERTIFICATE NUMBER), University of Ottawa (CERTIFICATE NUMBER), Queen's University (CERTIFICATE NUMBER), University of Regina (CERTIFICATE NUMBER), University of Saskatchewan (CERTIFICATE NUMBER), Simon Fraser University (CERTIFICATE NUMBER), University of New-Brunswick (CERTIFICATE NUMBER), Vancouver Island University (CERTIFICATE NUMBER), University of Victoria (CERTIFICATE NUMBER), University of Waterloo (CERTIFICATE NUMBER) and University of Windsor (CERTIFICATE NUMBER).

If your university is not included in this list, your data will not be included in any scholarly paper written as part of this project.

Ombudsperson or relevant authority: University of Alberta (info@ombudsman.ab.ca), University of Calgary (ombuds@ucalgary.ca), Carleton University (ombuds@carleton.ca), Dalhousie University (ethics@dal.ca), University of Guelph (Sandra Auld, UofG REB at 519-824-4120 x56606 or sauld@uoguelph.ca), Lakehead University (ombuds@lakeheadu.ca), University of Lethbridge (allens@uleth.ca), MacEwan University (Cathryn Heslep, Student Ombudsperson, 780-497-5413), McGill University (ombudsperson@mcgill.ca), Mount Royal University (jcollins@mtroyal.ca), University of Ottawa (ombudsman@uOttawa.ca), Queen's University (ombuds@queensu.ca), University of Regina (advocate@ursu.ca), University of Saskatchewan (ethics.office@usask.ca), Simon Fraser University (jsolman@sfu.ca), University of New Brunswick (nbombud@gnb.ca), Vancouver Island University (Office of the Ombudsperson 1-800-567-3247), University of Victoria (ombuddy@uvic.ca), University of Waterloo (jannet.a.leggett@uwaterloo.ca) and University of Windsor (ombuds@yorku.ca).