Chapter 5
Enhancing Scholarly Communication through Research Culture

Neeta Baporikar
Namibia University of Science and Technology, Namibia

ABSTRACT

Research is a vital part of the social tapestry of a modern society. It is imperative to find suitable ways to respond to societal priorities. It can be an open-ended enquiry into the essence of phenomena, of who we are, individually and collectively, and of the world we inhabit. It not only enables derived knowledge, but is also a means of preserving, fabricating and resynthesizing existing knowledge and/or creating new knowledge. Apart from that research is a vital pillar of higher education. Moreover, in knowledge society today, research is deemed to be of more value when it rightly augments the economic development processes. Through in depth literature review and contextual analysis, the aim of this chapter is to aid institutions and scholars in recognizing the gains of adapting inclusive approach, suggesting strategies for promoting research culture so as to enhance scholarly communication apart from being a support system in knowledge society, so that the world of academia continues to excel in its role of knowledge creation, knowledge transfer and knowledge dissemination.
INTRODUCTION

Scholarly communication is the system through which research and other scholarly writings are created, evaluated for quality, disseminated to the scholarly community, and preserved for future use. The system includes both formal means of communication, such as publication in peer-reviewed journals, and informal channels, such as electronic listservs. One of the fundamental characteristics of scholarly research is that it is created as a public good to facilitate inquiry and knowledge. A substantial portion of such research is publicly supported, either directly through federally-funded research projects or indirectly through state support of researchers at state higher-education institutions. In addition, the vast majority of scholars develop and disseminate their research with no expectation of direct financial reward. Governments and societies globally agree that a vibrant and productive research community underpins a successful knowledge economy but the context, mechanisms and channels of research communication are in flux. As the pace of change quickens there needs to be analysis of new trends and drivers, their implications and a future framework. Through in depth literature review and contextual analysis, the aim of this chapter is to aid institutions and scholars in recognizing the gains of adapting inclusive approach, suggesting strategies for promoting research culture so as to enhance scholarly communication apart from being a support system in knowledge society, so that the world of academia continues to excel in its role of knowledge creation, knowledge transfer and knowledge dissemination.

BACKGROUND

The word “research” evolved from the French word recherché, meaning “to examine something thoroughly.” Educational research includes experimental and quasi-experimental research, as well as qualitative, descriptive, and correlation studies. Scientifically based research involves systematic methods that draw on careful observation or experimentation to make valid, credible, reliable, and trustworthy conclusions (Baporikar, 2015a). Research is a vital part of the social tapestry of a modern state as it exhibits diversity of motivation and purpose. It can be an open-ended enquiry into the essence of phenomena, of who we are, individually and collectively, and of the world we inhabit. Research is imperative for many reasons:

- Research is a way of responding to societal priorities: such as the nature and impacts of climate change and how we might react to them; how to improve human health and well-being - by addressing issues of health, or educational
An Overview of Disaster and Emergency Management Systems Models
www.igi-global.com/article/an-overview-of-disaster-and-emergency-management-systems-models/196602?camid=4v1a