

Practicing Academic Integrity in Open Platform

Dr Barnali Roy Choudhury

Assistant Professor of Library & Information Science

Netaji Subhas Open University

E-mail: barna.chakrabarti@gmail.com

Abstract

This paper is trying to focus on the academic integrity. Which is a critical as well as an well known fact indeed. This paper is intended to figure out the challenges to maintain academic integrity by using open source software. Reference management software Mendeley is the key player of this literature.

Key words: Academic Integrity, Open Practice, Open Source Software, Reference management Software, Mendeley

Introduction

As a part of teaching-Learning procedure we, academicians have to contribute our knowledge to the society in order to transmit for the future reference/use. To communicate knowledge, academicians generally develops scholarly communications an amalgamation of science as well as arts. That means each and every scholarly communication must be enriched with the logical interpretation along with organised art of writing in lucid form.

Usually Scholarly Communication is a form of communication with other academicians by focusing on a controlled topic. These communications are not a baseless literature rather content contributors have to culture a lot of existing related literature to find the gap on which (S)he is suppose to work upon. Actually through the entire procedure (s)he have to perform right from the idea level to manifestation level. Here two things are very much important, I) Dealing with the previous literature and II) manifestation of contributors own work by re purposing exiting literature. Here, we have to be very careful about the selection, identification, proper use of those literature in contributors own work to maintain Academic Integrity. This research paper is trying to focus on practice of Academic Integrity with the help of Open Innovations. Now this writings is going to concentrate on about academic Integrity and Open Innovations in next section.

Academic Integrity

In each and every steps of our research work we are dealing with existing literature. Now its a matter of concern, that being a responsible academician we should use such references in a right way at the time of communication. This ethics of using existing literature is the backbone of the term Academic Integrity. With the formal definition Academic Integrity is “ Moral code or ethical policy of academia which includes values, such as avoidance of cheating, or plagiarism. Maintenance of academic standards, honesty and rigor in research and academic publishing. (Wikipedia) It is all about “honest and responsible scholarship” (“Academic Integrity - Home | Michigan State University,” n.d.)□ where contributors are expected to publish genuine work with credit given to the particular author (idea). In view of foregoing, we have to have literature(s) which is accessible and available. In that case academicians might have to think about economic value and legal issues like copyright. Academician should “cite” them properly. Mel-practice of that or violation of academic integrity may be took place by following issues as follows:

- ✘ Quoting others work without acknowledgment
- ✘ Using ideas without citation
- ✘ Cut & Paste

- ✘ Paraphrasing
- ✘ Submitting others work as your own
- ✘ Submitting a report of your own, that have already published before- Auto plagiarism.

Usability of Academic Integrity:

- ✓ To ensure affordable and universally accessible teaching-learning resources in order to enrich learning experiences;
- ✓ Make easily shareable materials with the provisions of open licensing systems like creative commons;
- ✓ Updated materials which can be edited, augmented, customized, combined and reformatted by anyone;
- ✓ Amplify access of learning resources;
- ✓ Assist with both teaching and learning
Protect intellectual works from plagiarism.

To get read of this, we can use Resources available in open platform. There are different resources are available in various forms and format. We can maintain academic integrity from the selection to publication by using Open Access materials in scholarly communications.

The entire family of Open Access has several connotations like Open Platform, Open Innovations, Open Practices. In nutshell open access is a provision to access educational resources without any legal, technical, economical and social barrier. Actually open access gives prior permission to use without any legal barrier by Using creative common license.

Idea plane of any scholarly works starts from its literature review. Lets start with this by following resources available in Open Domain. We can search journal articles from DOAJ, Thesis and Dissertation from OATD, Books from OADB so on and so forth.

At the time of manifestation of academicians new thought, with the help of such materials /resources , academicians should acknowledge with **proper author attribution** from said sources which is reflected in the scholarly communication.

By acknowledging relevant exiting literature we may avoid academic dishonesty.

Managing references for scholarly communication is lengthy, laborious and hard task. Due to the vibrant and flexible electronic environment, the span of scholarly resources are increasing day by day. It is very much important to manage resources in a proper and systematic way at the time of creating a new scholarly communication. It is mandatory to acknowledge actual responsible author for using source(s) of each and every piece of information for a research work. In that case reference management tool/software help us to store, organise and cite the references at the time of writing. It also allows to create a list of bibliography automatically with its appropriate style of submission. According to Martin Fenner reference managers helps scholarly communication by 1) Searching relevant literature 2) Storing the search result in a personal database and 3)insert references at the time of writing. 2010) Reference management software allows to access any type of documents regarding any sorts of article/journal, conference proceedings from web pages. Each record may have its additional information consisting of title, keywords, URLs, abstract etc.

Why Reference Management Software?

- To identify and select the most comprehensive open source Reference Management Software
- To organise/store the metadata of collected online articles/journals through the use of Reference Management Software;
- To create a bibliographic database in a local system with global accessibility i.e synchronization of local reference databases with global server;
- To integrate reference databases available inside Reference Management Software with word processing software; and
- To explore the process of sharing and collaboration of bibliographic data.

Scholarly communication can enrich their database by adding a huge number of records. So to cope up with the difficulties of managing

references we have a good number of Free and Open Source Software based Reference management software viz. Mendeley, Zotero, etc. Next section will focus on the management of references by using Mendeley RMS.

Mendeley

Mendeley is a cross-platform based free reference management software as well as an academic social network which facilitates the provision to organize works related to research, and discover the latest scholarly communication in an online and collaborative platform. It enhances the possibilities to store reference data centrally in cross platform in order to simply the writing procedure and make it globally accessible.

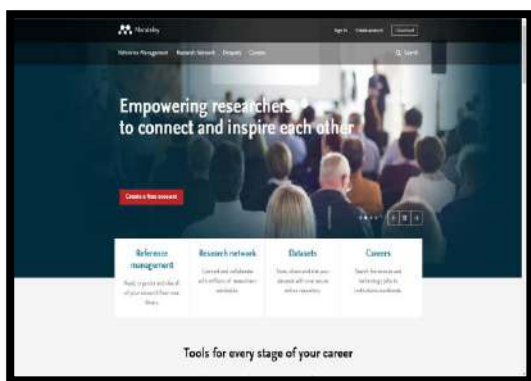


Figure 1: Mendeley Home

Mendeley exists both as a desktop application (slightly more advanced) and as a browser application. It is available on all platforms and in all



popular browsers like Free version and Institutional version are available on the basis of services offered in terms of allotted space, group, home page, analytics etc.

Download Mendeley

Mendeley can be downloaded by using browser and/or it might be installed in local desktop. Through web Importer version researchers can install mendeley in major web browser like Chrome, Firefox, Safari and Internet Explorer. These are the snaps of web browser and desktop version of mendeley.

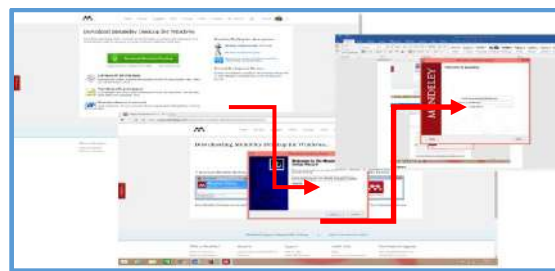


Figure 2: Desktop Version

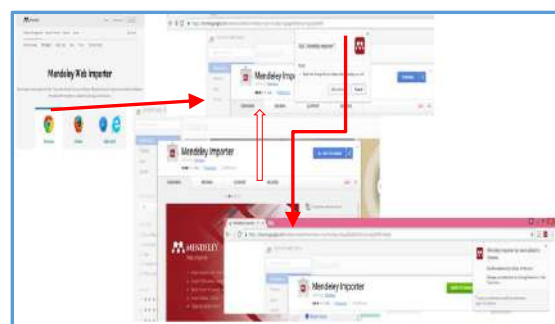
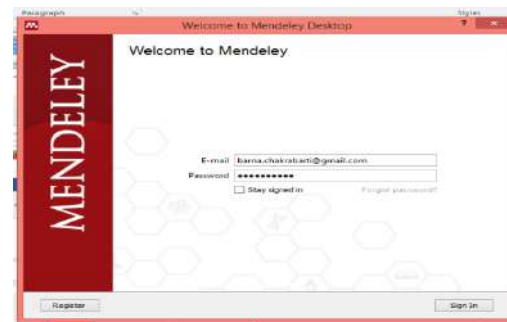


Figure 3: Web Importer

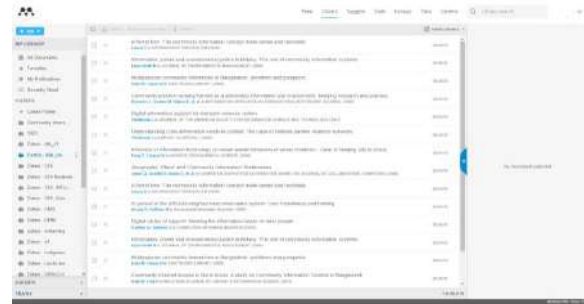
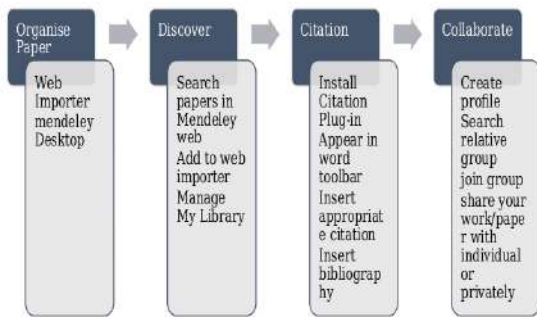
Getting started with Mendeley

Before beginning researcher have to have an mendeley account on the web. Then only researcher can use this reference management software.



Work of Action

Researcher could have specialized their search by subject, title or author and add documents to their own library. Even they can also filter their search. They are able to add Select a file or folder to add from computer, Import from another reference manager, or BibTeX Or simply Drag and Drop the pdf into Mendeley Desktop.



Citation is to create footnotes, endnotes, in-text citations, or bibliographies, RMS (Mendeley) will allow you to do all the dirty work for you, leaving you free to focus on your writing. Create citations in **Word** and **OpenOffice** without ever leaving your word processor."

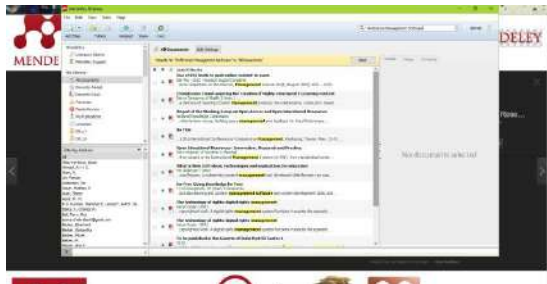
Even academician can publish their work in open access journal for greater visibility and impact.

Conclusions

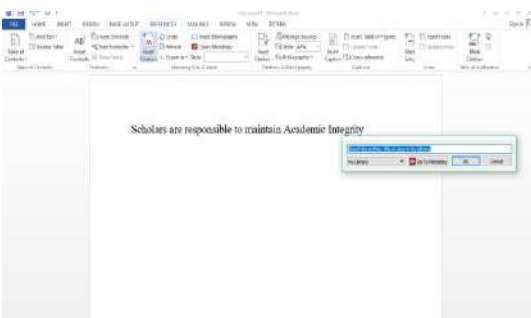
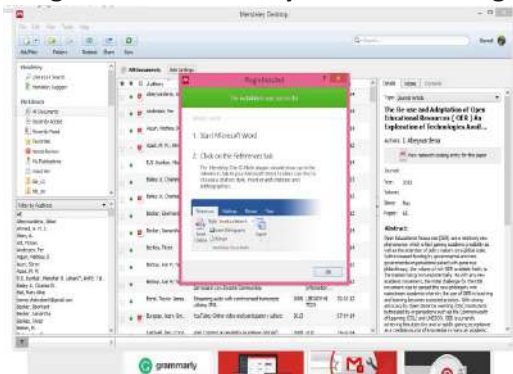
Through the entire discussion being a responsible academician we can promote academic integrity by using open resources along with citation. It is also an evidence that academicians are enough aware of relevant field. Accurate references allowing future researchers to trace the actual and relevant sources of information which have been used throughout the research work.

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My Library

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