What does “Societal Impact of Research” mean?

As the competition for extramural research funding continues to intensify, funding bodies are increasingly considering societal impact as a way to distinguish merit among grant proposals and to assess meaningful return on investment relative to a funder’s mission. But what exactly is societal impact of research and how can it be evaluated? What are the correlations between the concept and the metrics—both traditional and altmetrics—that claim to capture it? This will be an interactive session for dialogue and ideation with the ISSI community around these questions, considering several research impact frameworks to help guide discussion. The session will be facilitated by Andrew Plume, Advisory Board member with the International Center for the Study of Research (ICSR).

Session Facilitator
Dr Andrew Plume, Senior Director of Research Evaluation, Elsevier
Dr. Andrew Plume is Senior Director of Research Evaluation at Elsevier, and Chair of the ICSR Advisory Board. He holds a PhD in plant molecular biology from the University of Queensland (Australia) and conducted post-doctoral research at Imperial College London. Since 2004 he has specialized in the application of scientometric approaches to understand the dynamics of the world of research, from researchers and articles all the way up to system-wide studies.

Websites

Elsevier
https://www.elsevier.com/

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