

Press release

First international Science 2.0 Conference comes to a successful close – Academic libraries are a driving force for the research and publishing processes of the future

More than 150 participants from 11 countries met in Hamburg on 26 and 27 March 2014 – International audience from EU politics, research and science infrastructures attended the first transdisciplinary conference on digital science

Kiel/Hamburg, 1 April 2014: The first international “Science 2.0 Conference” brought together more than 150 participants from 11 countries on 26 and 27 March 2014 in Hamburg. In addition, an audience of more than 1,000 followed the livestream of the sold-out conference on digital science. The central themes of the conference were (1) the usage of modern internet technologies in the research process, (2) the Social Web in everyday science, and (3) new forms of science communication.

The gates of the International Science 2.0 Conference opened for the first time on 26 and 27 March 2014. Scientists from various disciplines (such as social sciences, computer science, library and information sciences, psychology, jurisprudence, communication science, education) and eleven countries (Germany, Austria, Italy, Belgium, Macedonia, Switzerland, Pakistan, UK, Malaysia, Poland, the Netherlands) met in Hamburg with practitioners from academic libraries to explore the following issues: how does the internet change the everyday working practices of researchers? What are the consequences of changing research and publishing habits for scientific infrastructures?

The core findings of the conference are:

1. The relevance of Science 2.0 for research information institutions such as academic libraries opens up new working areas for these institutions.
2. Social Media have a verifiable and quantifiable influence on research processes.
3. Researching Science 2.0 requires a cross-disciplinary approach.
4. Funding policy-makers recognise Science 2.0 as an important topic.
5. Social Media promote competition among scientists, but also their networking.

“I am especially pleased that Science 2.0 has met such broad recognition among German and European research funds-providing institutions. Many representatives from the Federal Ministry of Finance, the German Research Foundation and the European Commission were surprised by the diversity of Science 2.0, and so were many of the participants of the conference,” said Professor Klaus Tochtermann, speaker of the Leibniz Research Alliance Science 2.0 and chair of the conference.

The discussion extended from the conference hall to Twitter. 288 people sent more than 1,000 tweets with the #sci20conf hashtag during the corresponding days. All in all, more than 1,000 people – including 15 per cent from the USA – followed the livestream of the sold-out conference on digital science.

Look back with us on the International Science 2.0 Conference!

Programme: <http://www.science20-conference.de/programme/>

Conference slides: <http://www.science20-conference.de/programme/>

Press photos: <http://www.zbw.eu/en/about-us/press/press-photos/events/>

The second Science 2.0 Conference will take place in Hamburg in March 2015. URL: www.science20-conference.de

About the Science 2.0 Conference

Social Media have arrived in science. The usage of new tools gradually changes the established principles of scholarly communication. Whereas for centuries academic libraries served as gatekeepers for the access to scientific information, researchers nowadays discover new forms of publishing such as scientific wikis, new channels of communication such as social networks, and new working environments for jointly writing articles or project applications. This movement towards more participation, collaboration, cooperation and discourse affects both information infrastructure institutions, such as academic libraries, and science. Against this background, scientists from diverse disciplines explore the phenomenon of Science 2.0, i.e. the changes in research and publishing processes resulting from Social Media. The international Science 2.0 Conference brings these scientists together, and more: by gathering all stakeholders affected by Science 2.0, that is the world of science, of libraries and of research policy, the international Science 2.0 Conference provides a unique platform. The conference discusses the latest scientific trends, developments, challenges and Best Practices in the field of Science 2.0. The conference is organised by the Leibniz Research Alliance Science 2.0 and the Leibniz Library Network for Information Research – Goportis. The conference is chaired by Professor Klaus Tochtermann, speaker of the Leibniz Research Alliance Science 2.0 and director of the ZBW – Leibniz Information Centre for Economics (Kiel/Hamburg). The second Science 2.0 Conference will take place in March 2015 in Hamburg. URL: www.science20-conference.de

What is Science 2.0?

Science 2.0 examines how the internet with its numerous Social Media applications changes research and publishing processes in science. Science 2.0 stands for the entirely new forms of participation, communication, collaboration and open discourse in research and publishing processes that are now open to science. In 2012, a highly interdisciplinary alliance of research institutions was established in order to investigate this topic in depth. Go to: www.leibniz-science20.de.

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