



frontiers Research Topics

Traditional and Alternative Media for Research Communication

Debates and Controversies
on Authority, Legitimacy,
and Power

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The Internet has enabled the emergence of academic journals and a variety of other publication media such as working paper databases, curated datasets, research notes, software algorithms, among others. Although these have been acknowledged by some as legitimate communication means, certain media have also faced skepticism.

The debate about what constitutes legitimate communication venues for scientific research is not new. The emergence, nevertheless, of new media for publishing scientific research brings novel perspectives and points to this debate particularly around issues of their legitimacy, their communication functions, and the reasons for their appearance.

The objective of this issue is to explore scientific communication in the 21st century. Especially, the issues of authority, legitimacy, and power of scientific communication means. We are witnessing an increasing concentration of power in a few publishing companies while there is an emergence of innovative initiatives struggling to be recognized as valid venues for communicating research.

For more information

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