Today’s Agenda

● What is ResearchGate?
● Recent Developments
● How the UTL can Support Scholarly Sharing
What is ResearchGate?
What is ResearchGate?
### Business Model

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Investor Name</th>
<th>Lead Investor</th>
<th>Funding Round</th>
<th>Partners</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ashton Kutcher</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Series D - ResearchGate</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Groupe Arnault</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Series D - ResearchGate</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Goldman Sachs</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Series D - ResearchGate</td>
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<tr>
<td>Benchmark</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Series D - ResearchGate</td>
<td>Matt Cohler</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Welcome Trust</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Series D - ResearchGate</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Xavier Niel</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Series D - ResearchGate</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Four Rivers Group</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Series D - ResearchGate</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bill Gates</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Series D - ResearchGate</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Tenaya Capital</td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Founders Fund</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Series D - ResearchGate</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>
“The construction of online identities or persona is now an essential activity for the academic both from the perspective of university value and individual/career value.”

The academic online: Constructing persona through the World Wide Web by Kim Barbour and David Marshall. *First Monday*, Volume 17, Number 9 - 3 September 2012 
doi:10.5210/fm.v0i0.3969
## R^G Features

### Comparison Chart

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Profile Options</th>
<th>Academia.edu</th>
<th>ResearchGate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Photo</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>Y</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Position</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>Y</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research areas</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>Y</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Affiliation</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>Y</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Personal publications</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>Y</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Teaching experience</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>Y</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Presentations</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>Y</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contact</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>Y</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Website</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>Y</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>Y</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clinical Activities</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>Y (in current activities)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Advisors</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>Y</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Awards/ Grants</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>Y</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ORCID iD</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>Y</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Twitter</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>Y</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scientific Societies</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>Y</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>“Follow” Other Researchers</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>N</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Discovery and Search</th>
<th>Required login to search</th>
<th>Y, for publications</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Faceted search</td>
<td>Y, for publications</td>
<td>Y, for researchers or publications</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Content Sharing</th>
<th>Suggestions</th>
<th>Y</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Links</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Files (please keep copyright in mind)</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Features</th>
<th>Updates</th>
<th>Y</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Visualization tools</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Rapid Adoption and Use by Researchers

Comparative visits by site, December 2015 – November 2016

- ResearchGate: 710,700,000
- ScienceDirect: 528,700,000
- Wiley Online Library: 361,100,000
- SpringerLink: 321,600,000
- Nature: 312,700,000
- Sci-Hub: 110,300,000

Why has $R^G$ become so popular?
Effective “Email Marketing”
Discoverability and Availability
How do researchers understand copyright and ownership of their work?

Competition or Complement?
http://doi.org/10.7710/2162-3309.2183
Recent Developments

The letter that started it all...
ResearchGate GmbH

To:
Dr Ijad Madisch, CEO
Horst Fickenscher, CTO

And to:
Jay Monahan, General Counsel

Invalidenstrasse 115
Berlin, Germany

Basel, 15 September 2017

Dear Sirs/Mesdames

RE: STM proposal – RG platform to become consistent with usage and access rights for article sharing

I am instructed by my Client, the International Association of Scientific and Technical Information (IASTI), to instruct you of the following. IASTI would like to establish a consistent platform for usage and access rights for article sharing on ResearchGate. We propose the following:

1. Allow researchers to specify their access rights for each article.
2. Implement a feature that automatically generates a license for each article shared.
3. Provide clear guidelines on copyright and usage rights.
4. Allow users to set conditions for the sharing of their work.

We believe that these measures will enhance the functionality of ResearchGate and facilitate efficient sharing of scientific content. Please let us know your thoughts on the proposal.

Yours sincerely,

[Your Name]
September 2017: STM Letter to ResearchGate

- STM is the leading global trade association for academic and professional publishers.
- Collectively, these members publish nearly 66% of all journal articles.
- Members includes: Elsevier, IEEE, Nature Publishing Group, Taylor and Francis, Wiley, etc.
- Their solution?
  - The publisher should remain responsible for disseminating research
  - Sharing on scholarly networks should be limited to small groups
  - Use of standard measurement (COUNTER)

STM says ResearchGate rejected proposal so in response they form a coalition of society and commercial publishers
STM publishers and ResearchGate

The International Association of Scientific, Technical and Medical Publishers (STM) has written to ResearchGate, the scholarly collaboration network (SCN), to make an offer to work with the platform collaboratively to bring the site into compliance with copyright. It is with regret that the core proposal suggested in this letter has been rejected by ResearchGate.

Researchers have been sharing their research for as long as they have been undertaking it, first through writing letters to each other, through the development of scholarly journals, through inter-library loan and more recently through preprint servers and via email. Online publication and delivery of journals has made it far easier for one researcher to share an article with another or with a research group.

For the last two years, following an industry-wide consultation in 2015, STM has been working on how it might facilitate the sharing of articles between researchers, in ways which meet the individual needs of researchers while enabling a vibrant and sustainable research ecosystem. This resulted in the Voluntary Principles for Article Sharing on Scholarly Collaboration Networks (SCNs) which have subsequently been endorsed by more than fifty organisations including SCNs, learned societies, publishing service providers and scholarly publishers. STM has also launched the website How Can I Share It? which provides accurate information and practical tools to assist with the sharing of subscription articles. Beyond these industry-wide initiatives individual publishers are experimenting with innovative solutions which extend access to articles beyond users at subscribing institutions, and all publishers are increasing the number of articles they publish on a gold open access basis. In compliance with the Voluntary Principles, some SCNs are hosting large numbers of in-copyright articles but making them accessible only to their authors and co-authors and within their private research groups, with the full support of publishers.

STM believes that publishers and SCNs can and should co-exist to the mutual benefit of their authors and users, with each respecting the other’s contribution to scholarly communications. STM will continue to work with researchers, SCNs, librarians and others in the community to improve access to journal articles in line with the rights of their authors and publishers and the interests of all stakeholders.

The Association supports all of its members as they take forward their own discussions and actions directly with ResearchGate.
The Coalition of Society and Commercial Publishers

- **Members:** American Chemical Society, Brill, Elsevier, Wiley and Wolters Kluwer
- **Something to think about:** Why is the Coalition made up of so few STM members?

The Coalition’s approach

- **Paper by paper solution**
  - Members of the Coalition will issue takedown (DMCA) notices to ResearchGate
- Coalition believes this action will be “highly disruptive to the research community” - *but will it?*
ResearchGate’s Response

● ResearchGate is complying with takedown notices.
  ○ Reports from scholars that their work had been set from public to “private share mode” rather than being removed completely (more here)

● Why don’t they just systematically remove content?
  ○ Alienation of ResearchGate users

● Guest Post — Does ResearchGate Emerge Unscathed, or Even Strengthened?

● There is more....
Joint Statement from Springer Nature and ResearchGate

ResearchGate and Springer Nature have been in serious discussions for some time about finding solutions to sharing scientific journal articles online, while at the same time protecting intellectual property rights. The companies are cautiously optimistic that a solution can be found, and we invite other publishers and societies to join the talks.

How UTL can Support Scholarly Sharing
Share responsibly

Why?

- Long term availability
  - Possibility of takedown
  - Lack of preservation mandate
  - Future of a commercial platform
- Funders’ OA policy compliance

How?

- Sharing consistent with publishers’ self-archiving policies (article versions, embargo, etc.)
- Consider keeping eggs in multiple baskets

... but they make it so easy!

Published paper versions*:

1. Pre-print / submitted manuscript (pre-peer review submission)
2. Post-print / accepted manuscript (post peer-review but before copyediting, layout editing, typesetting, formatting, etc.)
3. Publisher’s version / PDF / Version of record (final version as it appears in the journal)

*See SHERPA/RoMEO database of publisher permissions http://www.sherpa.ac.uk/romeo/
Academic research networks’ “baskets”

- Research repository
- Faculty profiles
- Networking
Alternatives and complements

Institutional or subject repositories
- Permanent URLs
- Preservation mandate
- Search engine indexing
- Non-commercial (mostly)
- OA policy compliance
- More permissive self-archiving policies

Institutional faculty profiles/websites/bibliographies
- Control over content & hosting
- Non-commercial (mostly)

ORCID
- Author record with auto-population option
- Non-commercial

Combine online profile with institutional/subject repository for file storage
# Academic social networks vs open access repositories

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Feature</th>
<th>Open Access Repositories</th>
<th>Academia.edu</th>
<th>ResearchGate</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Long-term preservation</td>
<td>YES</td>
<td>NO</td>
<td>NO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Supports export or harvesting</td>
<td>YES</td>
<td>NO</td>
<td>NO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Open Access with no login walls</td>
<td>YES</td>
<td>NO</td>
<td>NO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Business model</td>
<td>Nonprofit (usually)</td>
<td>Commercial</td>
<td>Commercial</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>(sells job posting services, hopes to sell data)</td>
<td>(sells ads, job posting services)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wants your address book</td>
<td>NO</td>
<td>YES</td>
<td>YES</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sends you lots of emails (by default)</td>
<td>NO</td>
<td>YES</td>
<td>YES</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fulfils Tri-Agency OA policy requirements</td>
<td>YES</td>
<td>NO</td>
<td>NO</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/  University of California OSC
Different research repository options

Institutional Repositories

- **U of T’s research repository TSpace**
  https://tspace.library.utoronto.ca/

- **Full list of Canadian institutional repositories**

Subject/disciplinary repositories

- E.g. arXiv.org, Humanities Commons, PhilPapers, etc.
- Directory of Open Access Repositories OpenDOAR http://www.opendoar.org/
- Mind the changing landscape of subject repository ownership
Other areas of library support

- Self-archiving assistance
- Journal selection for publishing
- Author rights/copyright
- Research identity management
- Research metrics
- Funders’ OA policy compliance
- Journal publishing/hosting
What will YOU find helpful in conversations with faculty about scholarly sharing?
Further Reading:

ResearchGate: Publishers Take Formal Steps to Force Copyright Compliance
https://scholarlykitchen.sspnet.org/2017/10/06/researchgate-publishers-take-formal-steps-force-copyright-compliance/

I HAVE A LOT OF QUESTIONS: RG, ELS, SN, STM, AND CRS by Lisa Hinchliffe
https://lisahinchliffe.com/tag/researchgate/

Academics and Copyright Ownership: Ignorant, Confused or Misled?