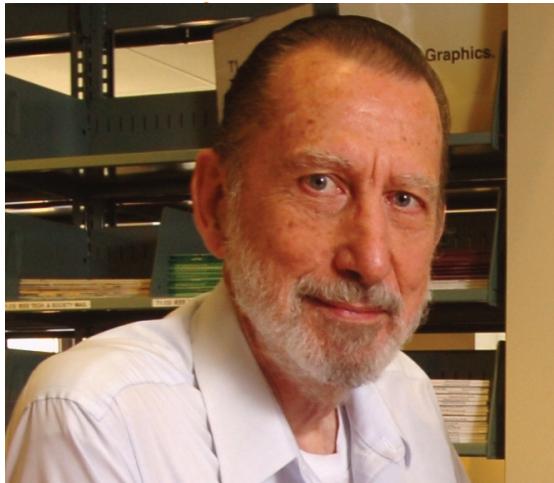




50th Anniversary Science Citation Index®



Q&A WITH DANA L. ROTH

Chemistry Librarian at Millikan Library, Caltech

What is your role at your organization?

I have been a science reference librarian, faculty liaison and subject bibliographer for nearly 50 years, specializing in chemistry.

When did you begin using the Science Citation Index/Web of Science, and in what capacity do you use it?

My use began with the print volumes, progressing in 1975 to the online version available from Dialog, which was later supplemented in 1989 by a locally loaded database of SCI bibliographic records, which we named TOC/DOC (Table of Contents/Document Delivery). Toc-Doc was replaced in 1999 with an online subscription to Web of Science. I used Web of Science both for personal use and for conducting searches requested by Caltech faculty and students.

What led you toward choosing Web of Science?

The choice of Web of Science was based on its multidisciplinary content and the obviously unique value of citation searching.

How have you used Science Citation Index/Web of Science through the years?

I have used SCI/WoS for current awareness, both employing topic keywords, author names, and citation alerts. I also used SCI/WoS for both subject and citation search requests received from faculty and students. The subject librarians at Caltech are also responsible for maintaining the Institute's Digital Repository of research publications and use Web of Science as the main source for identifying papers authored by Caltech researchers.

How has Science Citation Index/Web of Science enhanced your workflow?

SCI/WoS has been invaluable in solving problems with incorrect references, quickly providing the latest articles on a wide variety of subjects, and for identifying key articles through the ability to sort retrieval by 'Times Cited'.

How do you think citation indexing and analysis have advanced activities such as information retrieval, scientific research and discovery?

Citation indexing and analysis is critically important for relating seemingly disparate research studies, and introducing a completely new approach to information retrieval for scientific research and discovery. I was especially impressed with the ability to 'View Related Records' and quickly (albeit with some editing) to determine h-index values.



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