

Academic Information Management through

Citation Management Software:

Choosing a Citation Management Software That Suits the Needs of the Technion Audience

Elyachar Central Library, Technion

Nabeela Zidan

Advisor: Ronit Marco, Information Specialist

Our era is characterized by “information overload” resulting from multiplicity of published information and information sources. This problem also exists in the academic sphere, where Reference Management Software (RMS) are used to help the researcher store, organize, create and manage a large number of bibliographic lists. There, a significant advantage is the accuracy of citation according to a variety of styles. Each library selects the right software for its audience, from a wide range of designated academic RMS, while considering both the similar and distinct features of each solution. The purpose of this project is to re-examine and compare RMS according to key parameters specified by Technion audience. The study consisted of the following stages: Extensive exposure to various RMS characteristics in general. Locating popular RMS among leading academic libraries, globally, and studying the distinct uniqueness of each. Finally, distribution of three questionnaires targeting the Technion audiences, in search of preferences and usage of RMS. The study resulted in singling out Endnote software as the preferred RMS for institutional subscribers in the Technion libraries, in various features. Furthermore, the study shows that four of the most popular RMS in the academic world: F1000Workspace, Mendeley, Refworks, Zotero should be supported, therefore, should become part of the librarian’s training. The outcome of this study will assist decision making in the library, helping to select the institutional subscriber for the most valuable RMS, will also expose the Technion audience to various options and allow the users to make a choice according to their needs. Important recommendation is to perform a similar research periodically, in order to examine the changing needs of the audience and update according to new RMS availability.