

Social media in higher education: a new “collegiality” for students and researchers?

The case of Italian LIS studies

Alberto Petrucciani, Sapienza University of Rome, Italy

alberto.petrucciani@uniroma1.it

Simona Turbanti, University of Pisa, Italy

sturbanti@gmail.com

The case of Italian Library and information science studies is analyzed to understand the level and nature of use of social networks in a small area of Social sciences and humanities

Presence of 10 Italian LIS tenured researchers and university professors on 6 different social platforms (Mendeley, Academia.edu, ResearchGate, Slideshare, LinkedIn, Twitter) selected according to the kind of tool, level of national use, relevance to academic field

RESULTS

	Mendeley	Academia.edu	Research Gate	Slideshare	LinkedIn	Twitter
Scholar 1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Scholar 2	0	1	1	0	0	0
Scholar 3	0	1	1	0	0	1
Scholar 4	0	0	0	0	0	0
Scholar 5	0	0	0	0	0	0
Scholar 6	0	1	1	1	1	1
Scholar 7	0	1	0	0	0	0
Scholar 8	0	1	0	0	0	0
Scholar 9	0	0	0	0	0	0
Scholar 10	1	1	0	0	0	0
	2	7	4	2	2	3
	Mendeley	Academia.edu	Research Gate	Slideshare	LinkedIn	Twitter

Limited presence of Italian LIS tenured researchers and university professors on social media
The most used platform is Academia.edu
The widely different patterns of social media use by the researchers in the sample may be, and often appear, to be strongly related to the specific profile of their research interests

Presence of a sample of Italian LIS tenured researchers and university professors on 6 social platforms (March 2018)

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It would be important for teachers to **develop social skills in Library and information science students** both for future jobs and to encourage their participation in scholarly communication
Academic social networks seem particularly suited for students to keep trace of new publications by the academic authors they follow and to leave a trace of their interest - and of their names - in the formal and controlled setting of those networks, as an alternative to the more informal and friendly relations established in general social networks such as Facebook

