Spotlight on Usage: COUNTER 4, Article-Level Metrics, and More

COUNTER Release 4
BioOne is pleased to announce the implementation of Release 4 of the COUNTER Code of Practice on the BioOne site for usage statistics reporting.

COUNTER-compliance, verified through a rigorous audit process that is currently underway, is of critical importance to our library community. Furthermore, it assures BioOne’s participating publishers that reported usage is accurate and independently verified. Amid a number of changes from the previous release, COUNTER 4 includes two new reports counting usage originating from mobile devices. For more information on available reports and SUSHI-access instructions, please visit www.bioone.org/page/help/usage_reports.

Article-Level Metrics
BioOne is also developing new usage tools designed for publishers and end users. Embedded article-level metrics or ALMs allow readers to consider the impact of a given article by its total views, as well as mentions on social media sites like Twitter or Facebook.

Users will also be able to sign up to track an article by receiving email updates when the article is shared. ALMs complement existing citation tools, allowing for a more comprehensive understanding of an article’s total impact in the academic community. We hope to roll out this exciting site addition within the next few months; the following image depicts how ALMs will be integrated in site tools.

Usage Trends
We are looking forward to providing a full report on 2013 usage and related statistics in our next newsletter (and, for publishers, in your forthcoming 2013 publisher reports). As we begin to tabulate our results, we’ve seen three key trends at work:

- **Increase in mobile usage** – Hits to content originating from mobile devices has nearly doubled from last year, with over 1,000 new mobile registrants added in 2013.

- **Increase in usage in Asia** – Full-text downloads in Asia are up 8% overall, with China exhibiting a 19% increase and India a 39% increase) over last year’s totals.

- **Impact of an article-by-article publishing workflow** – Titles adopting BioOne’s “Issue-in-Progress” model are taking advantage of a lengthier usage (and potential citation) window for their content, and have experienced notable usage gains over their previous issue-based iterations.

Questions about usage or site enhancements? Please contact Lauren at lauren@arl.org.
Introducing *Elementa*

It is an honor to introduce you to BioOne’s new open access journal, *Elementa: Science of the Anthropocene*. This multidisciplinary, peer-reviewed publication features fundamental advancements in research on the Earth’s physical, chemical, and biological systems; interactions between human and natural systems; and steps that can be taken to mitigate and adapt to global change.

True to BioOne’s mission, *Elementa* was built to work collaboratively to maximize access to critical research, and explore economic models for the benefit of the scholarly communications community. In sum, we all gain from BioOne’s investment.

**Collaboration from the Start**

Although founded and funded by BioOne, *Elementa* would not be possible without collaborative partnerships with Dartmouth, the Georgia Institute of Technology, the University of Colorado Boulder, the University of Michigan, and the University of Washington. In addition to hosting key production and technological personnel in the Dartmouth College Library, senior Library staff have enthusiastically contributed time and talent to the project. Moreover, with support and assistance of the deans of each partnering institution’s library, we reached highly respected researchers in each of the six intellectual domains to serve as editors-in-chief. The first five of these domains—Atmospheric Science, Earth and Environmental Science, Ecology, Ocean Science, Sustainable Engineering—published first articles in December 2013 and are now busy reviewing and posting content (with fifteen articles posted to date). The sixth, Sustainability Transitions, will be accepting submissions and launch its contributions this spring. Such a dynamic partnership with libraries ensures that *Elementa* keeps its focus on the publication of timely, high quality research to advance the intellectual agenda of science.

**Economic & Technological Exploration**

BioOne’s focus on sustainability for the common good guides every aspect of *Elementa’s* creation. *Elementa* was thus designed to operate on a sustainable, cost-recovery basis to provide an affordable, logical, and interactive place to publish on a subject that touches all aspects of human interaction with the Earth’s environment. Open source software enhances flexibility, readability is available for smartphones and tablets via MOBI and EPUB, and researchers can more easily mine data with the addition of XML and JSON files. We want researchers to pull it down, mash it up, run it through programs they’ve developed and pursue streams of inquiry that we cannot possibly imagine.

Keeping the cost to publish in *Elementa* affordable and requiring the inclusion of available data are likewise critical components of the equation. Thus, as authors agree to make data described in their article freely available for the purpose of non-commercial research, *Elementa* facilitates and covers the cost to deposit with Dryad.

With the active involvement of the editors-in-chief, associate editors, library partners, and authors around the globe, *Elementa* is pushing us in ways that could not have been imagined even ten years ago. By extending our capabilities in new directions, BioOne gains insight and expertise that will benefit all.

Susan Skomal, Ph.D.
President/CEO

Humans are acting as a geological force by perturbing flows of water, solutes, gases, and sediments. From Yves Goddéris and Susan L. Brantley, *Earthcasting the future Critical Zone* (DOI 10.12952/journal.elementa.000019)
Register Today for the 2014 Publishers and Partners Meeting

Meeting registrations and travel grant applications now are being accepted for the 2014 BioOne’s Publishers & Partners Meeting, to be held in Washington, DC on Friday, April 25, 2014.

This annual, collaborative event provides an open forum for discussion among journal publishers, librarians, and leading industry service providers, and enjoys a robust turnout each year. **Attendance for this event is free**, but pre-registration is required. We encourage participation by anyone interested in contributing to a thoughtful dialogue on the future of scholarly communications.

**Agenda**

We are proud to present a program featuring timely topics recommended by community members. Ample time has been afforded for Q&A, enabling a highly interactive format. Our preliminary agenda is as follows:

8:30–9:00 am  
Check-in / Continental Breakfast

9:00–9:45 am  
*Welcome and BioOne Update*  
Dr. Kent Holsinger, Chair of the Board of Directors, BioOne, and Dr. Susi Skomal, President/CEO, BioOne

9:45–10:45 am  
*MOOCs: Tsunami or Hype?...and why you should care*  
Dr. Donna Llewellyn, Associate Vice Provost for Learning Excellence and Director, Center for the Enhancement of Teaching and Learning, Georgia Institute of Technology

10:45–11:00 am  
Break

11:00–12:00 pm  
The Elementa Publishing Model: Opportunities and Challenges as seen by two Editors-in-Chief

12:00–1:00 pm  
Lunch

1:00–2:00 pm  
*How to Assess Open Archiving Mandates—A systematic approach for society publishers*  
Raym Crow, Managing Partner, Chain Bridge Group

2:00–2:15 pm  
Break

2:15–3:15 pm  
*Negotiating the Indian Scholarly Market*  
John Parsons, Director of Global Content Sales, Publishers Communication Group

3:15–3:30 pm  
Closing Remarks

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**Online registration**  
Register online and learn more at [www.bioone.org/page/about/education/PPM](http://www.bioone.org/page/about/education/PPM). There is no cost to attend, and all meeting materials, as well as breakfast and lunch are provided for participants. Space is limited, so please reserve your spot soon. Email Maeg at maeg@arl.org with any questions.

**Travel Grants**  
Through the Howard Goldstein Travel Grant Program, we are very pleased to offer a limited number of travel stipends designed to defray the cost of travel for qualified applicants. Applications are available for download on our website and due to BioOne by February 28.

We hope to see you in April!

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2014 Global Exhibit Calendar

BioOne management and sales team members attend meetings around the world. If you will be attending any of the following events, **we would love to arrange a time to meet with you**. For more information and to view the full 2014 calendar, please visit [www.bioone.org/page/about/meetings/exhibits](http://www.bioone.org/page/about/meetings/exhibits).

**January**

24–28  
ALA Midwinter Meeting  
Philadelphia, PA, USA

**February**

3-6  
VALA2014 Conference  
Melbourne, Australia

**April**

14-16  
UKSG 37th Ann. Conference  
Harrogate, UK

25  
BioOne Publishers & Partners Meeting  
Washington, DC, USA

**May**

4-7  
USAIN 2014 Conference  
Burlington, VT, USA

**June**

3-7  
South African Online Information Meeting  
Johannesburg, South Africa

8-10  
SLA 2014  
Vancouver, BC, Canada

27-30  
ALA Annual Meeting  
Las Vegas, NV, USA

**July**

2-5  
LIBER Conference 2014  
Riga, Latvia
BioOne sees sustainable scholarly publishing as an inherently collaborative enterprise connecting authors, nonprofit publishers, academic institutions, research libraries, and research funders in the common goal of maximizing access to critical research.