

Professor Loet Leydesdorff: A Tribute

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Journal of Scientometric Research pays Tribute to this extraordinary scholar who made such a difference to the research community spread across a vast disciplinary terrain that covered Sociology, Scientometrics, Innovation studies, Science-Technology-Society Studies, Communication studies, and Network theory.

Leydesdorff's work in scientometrics is voluminous and covers various domains of the field. His papers have been highly cited and provided novel pathways for future research. He has published several books which has been of immense value to the research community. Many of his works have become part of the pedagogy of this field. The intellectual depth of his work, clarity, and daring approach has characterized his research. He has played a seminal role in conceptualizing the citation behavior, and co-citation patterns among others, and had taken a critical stance whenever needed in arguing the relevance and validity of bibliometric indicators. He has worked hard to bring novel methodology, new tools, and techniques to the field at large. This includes the development of network analysis techniques for studying the structure and evolution of scientific collaboration networks. He also developed the highly useful 'Science Overlay Maps' method, which uses network visualization techniques to identify research fronts and emerging topics in science. The tools and methodologies that he has developed have been widely shared in open access for the research community at large. <https://www.leydesdorff.net/software.htm> is a wonderful site that provides a rich repository of his work, a link to the open-access software developed by him for undertaking various bibliometric research, mapping, visualization, etc.

His seminal contribution is also to innovation studies. The 'Triple Helix' model which he developed with Prof Etzkowitz has become one of the most influential models in innovation studies. It is a framework for understanding the relationships and interactions between the three institutional spheres i.e. university, industry, and government in the process of innovation. This model is



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widely adopted in framing the research and innovation ecosystem globally. The entrepreneurial university, knowledge economy, and the structure and dynamics of the science-driven enterprises are deeply influenced by this model and extensive work subsequently has been done by these two proponents with large collaborative partnerships with cross-disciplinary researchers.

The journal had the privilege of having Prof Loet as an Editorial Advisor. We will always be grateful to this great scholar for the encouragement and support that he gave us. The journal will miss him and has been fortunate to be associated with him from the initial stages of the journal. In the first issue itself of this journal when it was not even indexed by any indexing system, I requested his contribution. I immediately got his reply informing me that he is working on a paper for the journal. He came up with a joint paper with one of the most respected scholars in social studies Prof Ulrike Felt 'Edited Volumes, Monographs and Book Chapters in the Book Citation Index (BKCI) and Science Citation Index (SCI, Sosci, A&HCI)'. This paper published in the first issue of the journal is still attracting citations and is extensively downloaded. Personally, for me, it is a loss of losing a friend who was ever smiling, always ready to help, and a great motivator. Thank You Prof Loet. Stay happy wherever you are!

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DOI: 10.5530/jscires.12.1.003

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Cite this article: Bhattacharya, S. Professor Loet Leydesdorff: A Tribute. *J Scientometric Res.* 2023;12(1):1.