Research premise

Active involvement of scientists in culture is part of the richness of developed societies. Some voices in current debates on the evaluation of societal impact and the role of universities towards social development are claiming a refocus from a socioeconomic perspective to also including sociocultural benefits from academia.

Research question

Do local publishers include the literary work of scientist?

We will narrow our general objective to local activities, due to the interest in the engagement of scientists on this geographic dimension. Are works written by scientists more likely to be local than works not written by scientists? Of course, scientists’ literary fiction may not relate to their research. When there is a relation, literary fiction becomes a divulgation channel and, as such, a policy tool to increase knowledge diffusion and promote public understanding of science. Do works written by local scientists present a higher degree of alignment between the contents of research and literary fiction?

Preliminary results and further steps

- The scientist as a member of Florida’s super-creative class
- Alignment between scientific activities and literary oeuvre? Higher for non-professionals!
- Role of university (and its scientists) as a cultural anchor of the city – indirect and inverse knowledge transfer

Authors by geographic proximity

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Local writers</td>
<td>73</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National writers</td>
<td>31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Foreign writers</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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Share of scientists publishing narrative

- Scientists: 19%
- Non-scientific author: 81%
- National: 22%
- Local: 65%
- Foreign: 13%

Read more here!