

# Eugene Garfield and the Evaluation Process for Science and Technology

Claudio Ando Nicolini<sup>1-5\*</sup>

<sup>1</sup>President NanoWorld Institute and Fondazione ELBA Nicolini, Pradalunga, Bergamo, Italy

<sup>2</sup>Foreign Member Russian Academy of Sciences and Honoris Causa

<sup>3</sup>Professor of Biophysics at Moscow State University, Russian Federation

<sup>4</sup>President and CEO NanoWorld High Tech LLC, Tempe, AZ, USA

<sup>5</sup>University Professor, Tempe, AZ, USA

## \*Correspondence to:

Dr. Claudio Nicolini, President  
NanoWorld Institute &  
Fondazione ELBA Nicolini, Bergamo, Italy  
E-mail: [clannicolini@gmail.com](mailto:clannicolini@gmail.com)

**Received:** April 26, 2018

**Accepted:** April 27, 2018

**Published:** April 27, 2018

**Citation:** Nicolini C. 2018. Eugene Garfield and the Evaluation Process for Science and Technology. *NanoWorld J* 4(1): 16.

**Copyright:** © 2018 Nicolini C. This is an Open Access article distributed under the terms of the Creative Commons Attribution 4.0 International License (CC-BY) (<http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/>) which permits commercial use, including reproduction, adaptation, and distribution of the article provided the original author and source are credited.

Published by United Scientific Group

Eugene Garfield, who died in Philadelphia on February 26, 2017 at the age of 92 years old, was one of the founders of bibliometrics and scientometrics creating Current Contents, Science Citation Index (SCI), Journal Citation Reports, and Index Chemicus, among others, and founded the magazine. The Scientist capable to dramatically influence the evaluation process of scientists, physicians and engineers and the grants assignments worldwide in the academia, health and industry. Eugene Garfield death is why all changed since then in late February 2017 for Science and Technology took place worldwide and more will change from now on if we do not do something immediately. Just on January 23, 2018 after my return to USA in Arizona I have indeed been brought to consult the Wikipedia and discovered looking the Website what was happening worldwide against Impact Factor. Since I left the University Chair at Philadelphia in USA in 1984 to return to Italy where I was born and where I was then called as Eminent Scientist, per Chiara fama, to Genova University Medical School, the situation was not clear to me far from Philadelphia. Coercive citations, imaginary authors and citation padding were brought to my attention in early 2018 [1] with one in five consulted authors reporting that editors tried to coerce them into adding citations to their papers to increase journals' impact factor confirming the validity of my recent thesis two years earlier [2] that scientists competing individually for career progression and grant awards in science-technology should be ranked by the number and the total impact factor of their SCI publications strictly as first authors falling into their 10 out of 10 deciles, regardless their number of citations and H-index frequently accumulated in manuscripts with only apparently high impact factor since cosigned by a cohort of anonymous authors without history, part and art, as numerous as the one denounced by PLoS One [1]. My proposal justified in details in reference 2, contrary to some gloomy opinions that favors the absence of any objective criteria introduced by the Impact Factor and its normalizations for position and number of authors, appears capable to effectively and objectively assess institutions, individual university professors and researchers, and should be used to provide computer-assisted evaluation criteria for either maintaining or upgrading the given position, maintaining or closing properly versus improperly handled public institutions, and objectively filtering grant applications.

## References

1. Nicolini C. 2018. Editorial on coercive citations, imaginary authors and citation padding. *NanoWorld J* 3(4): 74. <https://doi.org/10.17756/nwj.2018-051>
2. Nicolini C. 2016. How bibliometric indicators should be used to assess excellence in science and technology. *NanoWorld J* 2(3): 35-40. <http://doi.org/10.17756/nwj.2016-029>