# Transcript of the video ‘Conference papers’

Conference papers are important again in some particular fields and information systems and so on. In most of the social sciences conference papers are kind of a first draft at your journal paper. It's a way of taking out your paper to a wider audience, getting some feedback before you refine it and get into a journal. It's not an end in itself.

So someone who's got a heap of conference papers isn't going to be nearly as impressive as somebody who's got a smaller number of journal papers.

So conference papers are testing out your ideas and working them up to the journals, and many of you hopefully will have the opportunity to go to a conference and get that kind of experience.

And sometimes it can be a bit of a shock moving from a conference paper to the journal paper because conference papers tend to be much more lightly refereed, and on the whole when you deliver at a conference people are fairly supportive and sympathetic. So you can get a little bit of false impression of the reception of your work when you then send it to a journal, and it looks like people have been waiting for you with baseball bats for you to come in and they give you a quite different kind of reception. But that's very much the difference between conferences and journals.

Conferences on a whole trying to bring people in, bit more inclusive. Journals, I mean journal editors, if you talk to journal editors, they're very happy to talk about their rejection rates. They kind of build barriers to keeping people out, and they proudly put ‘our rejection rate is 90%’. So it's kind of a different phenomena.