

## Toronto don regrets West's influence on journals

**MYSORE:** The worldwide community of scientists can be brought closer if we move away from the current system of scholarly communication based on 17th century technology and adopt open access, said Leslie Chan of the Centre for Critical Development Studies of the University of Toronto at Scarborough.

He was addressing the scientist, librarians and academicians from University and IT industry at the Shri Dharmasthala Manjunatheshwara Institute for Management Development (SDM-IMD), here recently and was particularly critical of the current trends in evaluating both researchers and their institutions using impact factors of journals in which they publish their research papers as the yardstick.

Journals published from the West may not publish papers from the Global South dealing with the concerns of the South. Unfortunately, these journals set the research agenda even for Southern researchers, regretted Chan.

He said the right way to for-



**Leslie Chan**

ward was to make journals open access and set up many repositories.

But he was not for setting up new journals or mandating open access.

He recommended that authors should not surrender all the rights to journal publishers but keep the right to place the full text of their papers in open access repositories.

The group discussed how open access journals and repositories can help improve the visibility of an institution's research strengths, help attract research collaborators for authors and increase the return on investment.

**DH News Service**