As part of the 2018 Manchester Forum on Data Analytics, Tech Mining & Innovation Policy, the Manchester Institute of Innovation Research (MIOIR) in conjunction with the Innovation Co-Lab, the VP Institute and Search Technology is sponsoring a half-day of hands-on VantagePoint training and updates on new VantagePoint features. These sessions will be led by Dr Stephen Carley and colleagues from Search Technology and will take place on Tuesday, 4 September, 2018, from 2pm – 5.30pm, at University Place on the University of Manchester campus.

What is VantagePoint?
VantagePoint is a powerful data analysis tool suitable for a wide range of structured text data. It has the following main capabilities:

- **Importing** – getting the raw data into VantagePoint and mining the raw data to get more data from it.
- **Cleaning** – transforming the data into a consistent set, combining the things that you want to analyse as a group, and merging and normalizing data from diverse sources.
- **Analysing** – looking at your data in a variety of ways
- **Reporting/Visualisation** – preparing to communicate your results
- **Automating** – encoding the entire process to make it consistently and easily repeatable

For information about VantagePoint, see [https://www.thevantagepoint.com/](https://www.thevantagepoint.com/).

Profile of synthetic biology research by clusters and subjects generated using Vantage Point and Gephi. Based on analysis of science linkages of 5,806 synthetic biology papers, 2000-2015 (Shapira, Kwon & Youtie, 2017).
What training will I receive?

**Introductory Training (no prior VantagePoint experience necessary).** This session will take participants through the steps necessary to generate a useful basic research profile using VantagePoint text-mining software. Topics to be covered:

- Importing data into VantagePoint
- Data cleaning and consolidation,
- Basic analyses and visualizations.

**Advanced “Seeing the Forest for the Trees” Text-Analytics (for those already familiar with VantagePoint wanting to advance their skills).** This session will demonstrate advanced text-mining applications for refining themes in datasets in preparation for deeper discovery:

- ClusterSuite – self-organizing approach for identifying major themes/topics in research area
- Auto Classifier – artificial intelligence aided approach for pre-determined classification
- Technical Emergence – identifying emergent terminology in a research area as well as associated emergent “players” (authors, countries, and affiliations)
- Heat-Mapping with amCharts – interactive and multi-variable visualization of bibliometric indicators (e.g. technical emergence, patent counts, etc.)

Where will it take place?

The training will take place at the University of Manchester. The campus is close to Manchester UK rail stations (Manchester Piccadilly and Manchester Oxford Road) and easily accessible from Manchester Airport. Nearby paid car parking is available. Participants will cover their own travel and accommodation expenses.

How do I sign-up?

If interested, email Nicholas Matthews (n.matthews@postgrad.manchester.ac.uk) by 30 June 2018 (subject line: “Manchester VP Training”). Briefly indicate (1) current or planned research; (2) how VantagePoint might help your research; and (3) experience with VantagePoint and training choice (introductory or advanced). There is no charge for training registration or participation but training seats are limited.

**ALSO IN MANCHESTER:** On the 5th September the Forum on Data Analytics, Tech Mining and Innovation Policy invites researchers to present and discuss leading-edge data analytics and tech mining approaches applied to science, technology, and innovation. We invite submissions on innovative applications, including advances in bibliometrics, patent analysis, social and web media analysis, the use of large-scale unstructured data, mapping and visualisation, and applications to novel questions. Please send a title with a short abstract of your paper (300 words maximum) to penelope.polson@postgrad.manchester.ac.uk by 30 June 2018 (subject line: “Manchester Data Analytics and Innovation Policy Forum”). There are two formats: full presentations of developed papers (15 minutes plus time for Q&A); and shorter presentations for early-stage work-in-progress (5 minutes plus time for Q&A). Indicate your presentation preference, although we reserve the right to allocate presentations based on review.