UC San Diego

Presentations and Posters

Title

Don't forget the qualitative: Including focus groups in the collection assessment process

Permalink

https://escholarship.org/uc/item/1nn9f7h0

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Don't forget the qualitative: Including focus groups in the collection assessment process



Teri M. Vogel, Susan Shepherd Science & Engineering Library, UC San Diego ACS Meeting, August 22, 2010



Why Focus Groups?





Participants

Departments	Faculty	Grad Students	Total
Electrical Engineering/ Computer Science	5	7	12
Math/Physics	4	8	12
Mechanical/Structural Engineering	4	7	11
Chemistry/Biochemistry	2	10	12
Bioengineering/ Materials Science	2	14	16
Total	17	46	63



Chemistry Grad Students

- Biochemistry (5)
- Inorganic/Organometallic
- Computational
- Nanomaterials
- Organic
- Physical



What Resources Do You Use?









- Awareness of access limitations
- Dislikes login, downloading
- Useful for structure searching
- Interface isn't that useful







- Google (Scholar) + PubMed
- Direct access to journals
 - Problems getting to fulltext
- Search on specifics (words in article, title)
 - ✓ Find articles you wouldn't find in PubMed

- Filtering works
 - Filtering fails (vs. WoS)
- More content than journals
 - ✓ Good for finding relevant, most cited
 - Advanced publications don't show up





- Can find relevant articles, easy to search by author
- For broad searching
- More journal-focused, more specific

- Does more, easier (vs. WoS)
- Easier to identify most recent articles (vs. GS)
- Not in love with PubMed
 - ✓ Doesn't cover [student's] journals well



What resources...?

SciFinder Web

Web of Science

Google Scholar

SciFinder Web

Google

Wikipedia

Web of Science













- Becoming important to see if someone's doing something
- Find things that are remotely related, not directly related to search
- Avoid reinventing wheel
- Can save time looking for papers (Google Scholar)
- Students rely too much on Google; stop searching when they can't find 'it.'

- Google Scholar?
- Google not authoritative, but journals not always authoritative



Who showed you...?

- Advisors/Pl's/grad students
- Carried over from undergrad
- Self-taught
- Some lab preferences
- Librarian workshop



How do you keep up?

DELETE!

TOC, ASAP alerts

- RSS:
 - uses, experimenting, don't use, RSS?
- E-Mail
 - Can keep up
 - Too many emails



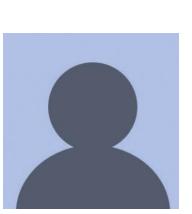
"Check back"

- Database searches
 - (PubMed, Google)
- ASAP browsing



How do you keep up?

- Checks journals weekly
- Dislikes RSS
- Discovery > Efficiency

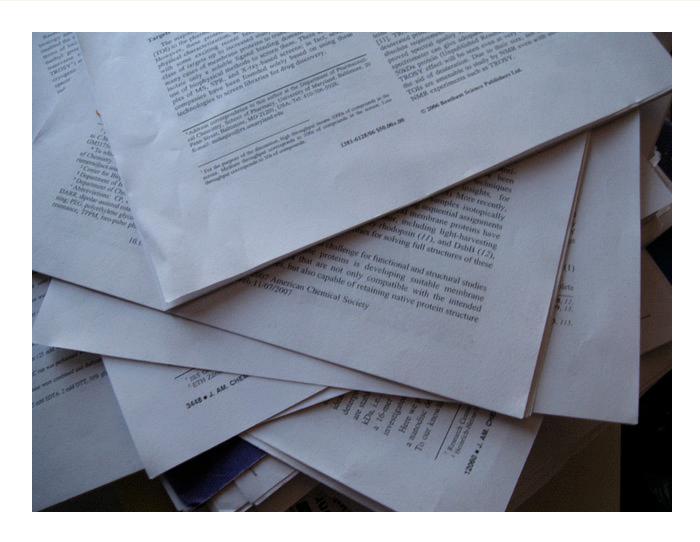


- Despairs of keeping up
- Used to review TOC's of 15-20 journals
- SciFinder KMP
 - Narrowing for good results a challenge





How do you manage?

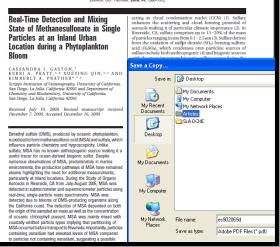




How do you manage?













http://flic.kr/p/7pHHia (Jessica Norman) http://flic.kr/p/4F4408 (brokenthoughts) http://flic.kr/p/3EeHuB (pgoyette) 15



How do you manage?



















What About E-Books??







- Students prefer print textbooks
- Used as undergrad
- Likes books they have used
- Has been using Google Books
- Don't know what we have
 - If you aren't thinking about e-books, you're not going to think about going to them.



₹UCSanDiego Other questions, concerns?

- Nature Chemistry
- Generally find what I need and ILL
- Questions
 - Dissertations
 - Books scanned
 - SciFinder usage
- Instruction
 - Workshops
 - A-Z Lists
 - Won't look at emails until they need to



What WE Learned*

Observations

Surprises

*and how we can apply what we've learned





 Conduct a survey of same departments to gather quantitative data.

 Model survey on one conducted by Niu et al of STEM researchers at 5 US research universities. Journal of the American Society for Information Science and Technology 61, no. 5 (2): 869-890



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