

# Article Database Usage Survey

This survey is about science researchers' use of article databases and how you keep up to date on research. The results will help the library better understand your preferences and inform our decisions about allocating scarce resources.

This survey should take around **ten minutes** to complete. In return for your participation, you can be entered into a **drawing for one of two \$100 Amazon.com gift cards.**

The results of this survey are anonymous. If you wish to be entered into the drawing for the \$100 Amazon gift card, you will be asked for your contact information at the end of the survey. Responses will be analyzed in the aggregate only, and individual responses will not be associated with individual participants. The gift cards were purchased using research grant funds. No library materials funds were used for this research.

Eligibility requirements to receive the gift card:

- 1) You must have a UCSC campus identification card.
- 2) You must provide us with an accurate email address (we are not responsible for incorrect addresses)
- 3) If you are **employed by the Library** you are **not** eligible to win (and please do not fill out the survey).
- 4) Each person should answer the survey exactly once.

Please complete the survey by **Saturday, October 31, 2009.**

Please contact [ucscscilib@gmail.com](mailto:ucscscilib@gmail.com) if you have any questions about the survey.

**Click Next below to begin the survey.**

## \* How often do you use article databases?

- Daily
- Weekly
- Monthly
- Other (please specify)

# Article Database Usage Survey

**\* When you are searching for articles online, which TYPE of article database do you use the MOST? (choose one)**

- A big multi-subject database (e.g., Web of Science, Google Scholar)
- A preprint database (e.g., arXiv.org)
- A publisher-specific database (e.g., IEEE Xplore, Science Direct)
- A subject-specific database (e.g., PubMed, BIOSIS, MathSciNet, GeoRef)
- Other (please specify)

**\* Which article database(s) do you use routinely? Check all that apply.**

- |   |   |  |
|---|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Academic Search Complete                 | <input type="checkbox"/> Earthquake Engineering Abstracts | <input type="checkbox"/> MathSciNet        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aquatic Sciences and Fisheries Abstracts | <input type="checkbox"/> Faculty of 1000 (Biology)        | <input type="checkbox"/> PubMed            |
| <input type="checkbox"/> arXiv.org                                | <input type="checkbox"/> GeoRef                           | <input type="checkbox"/> SciFinder Scholar |
| <input type="checkbox"/> BIOSIS                                   | <input type="checkbox"/> Google Scholar                   | <input type="checkbox"/> Web of Science    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> COMPENDEX                                | <input type="checkbox"/> INSPEC                           | <input type="checkbox"/> Zoological Record |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify)                   |   |  |

**\* Which database do you use the MOST?**

**\* Which of the statements below best describes your experience with Google Scholar?**

- I have used it and found it useful.
- I have used it and found it NOT useful.
- I have NOT used it, and I don't plan to use it.
- I have NOT used it, and I would like to try it.

# Article Database Usage Survey

## \* Comparing Web of Science with Google Scholar, which do you PREFER?

- Google Scholar
- Web of Science
- No preference
- I don't use either of these databases

## \* WHY do you prefer one over the other? (check all that apply)

- I get BETTER results
- I get MORE results
- It has more options to REFINE or SORT my search results
- It has more SEARCH OPTIONS (ways to search)
- It's FAMILIAR to me
- It's EASIER to use
- It's FASTER
- It's FREE
- Other (please specify)

## \* Because of the budget crisis, the Library must make cuts to its journal and database subscriptions.

Considering that there are good free databases (i.e. Google Scholar, PubMed), as well as open access journals and desktop delivery of interlibrary loan articles, would you prefer ...

- Option 1: the library to have subscriptions to the articles you need, but not necessarily to the databases in which to find them;
- Option 2: the library to have subscriptions to the databases to find the articles you need, but perhaps more will have to be obtained via interlibrary loan?

# Article Database Usage Survey

## \* Which of the statements below describes how you value "Times Cited" ?

- It's very important.
- It's nice to have but not critical.
- I only use it occasionally.
- I never use this information.
- I don't know what "Times Cited" is.

## \* Where do you get your "Times Cited" information?

- Google Scholar
- Web of Science
- SCOPUS
- CiteSeer
- I get "Times Cited" information from another source (please specify):

## \* How important are the following features to you?

	Critical	Important	Nice to have	Not important/useful	N/A
Sort Results by Times Cited	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Citation Alerts (get email when an article is cited)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Subject Alerts (get email when new articles are published on your topic)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Limit to Words in Title Only	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Search by Author Name	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Limit to Review Articles	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

# Article Database Usage Survey

## How successful are the following tools for finding ARTICLES?

	Often find articles	Sometimes find articles	Never find articles / Don't use
RSS feeds	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Email alerts from publishers	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Email alerts from databases	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Twitter	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Email listservs (i.e. from your society)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Blogs	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Email from individual colleagues	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Bibliographies at the end of articles	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Other (please specify)	<input type="text"/>		

## Ideally, how would you *PREFER* to discover articles in your field?

Please feel free to speculate, or to talk about current barriers you hope will be resolved.

## Is there an important question we forgot to ask about the topic of article databases? Or is there an important issue we forgot to address?

# Article Database Usage Survey

## \* What is your field of study or research?

- |  |  |   |
|--|--|---|
| <input type="radio"/> Agriculture            | <input type="radio"/> Chemistry, Inorganic                     | <input type="radio"/> Oceanography, Biological  |
| <input type="radio"/> Astronomy              | <input type="radio"/> Chemistry, Organic                       | <input type="radio"/> Oceanography, Physical    |
| <input type="radio"/> Bioengineering         | <input type="radio"/> Chemistry, Physical                      | <input type="radio"/> Optics                    |
| <input type="radio"/> Bioinformatics         | <input type="radio"/> Computer Science Hardware & Architecture | <input type="radio"/> Physics, Condensed Matter |
| <input type="radio"/> Biology, Cell          | <input type="radio"/> Computer Science Software Engineering    | <input type="radio"/> Physics, Other            |
| <input type="radio"/> Biology, Developmental | <input type="radio"/> Engineering, Electrical                  | <input type="radio"/> Physics, Particle         |
| <input type="radio"/> Biology, Ecology       | <input type="radio"/> Engineering, Manufacturing               | <input type="radio"/> Psychology                |
| <input type="radio"/> Biology, Evolutionary  | <input type="radio"/> Environmental Science                    | <input type="radio"/> Toxicology                |
| <input type="radio"/> Biology, Genetics      | <input type="radio"/> Geology                                  |   |
| <input type="radio"/> Biology, Molecular     | <input type="radio"/> Mathematics                              |   |
| <input type="radio"/> Other (please specify) |  |   |

## \* Please select your age group.

- Under 30
- 30 to 39
- 40 to 49
- 50 to 59
- 60 to 69
- Over 70

# Article Database Usage Survey

**\* Please select your status.**

- Faculty
- Postdoc
- Staff Researcher
- Student, graduate
- Student, undergraduate
- Other

**Please select:**

- Frosh
- Sophomore
- Junior
- Senior
- 5th year or more

Thank you. You have completed the survey.

If you would like to enter the drawing for one of two \$100 Amazon.com gift cards, please [CLICK HERE](#).