

Appendix I: Rice University Pageflake Assignment

Setting up a Pageflakes portal:

There is a lot of Web 2.0 information out there: blogs, rss feeds, delicious bookmarks, and wikis.

Wouldn't it be nice to have a well organized web site that has all of your important Web 2.0 tools in one place? AND, one that would help you keep up with your scientific research?

Introducing Start Pages!

Start Pages are easily customizable web pages that let you organize the information and tools you use on a daily basis. They're called start pages because you can set your web browser's home page to be your start page. Whenever you open your web browser, you'll be able to see all your custom information in one place.

There are quite a few places where you can create a start page; we will be creating a page in Pageflakes.

Pageflakes - www.pageflakes.com <http://www.pageflakes.com>

Pageflakes is unique in that it allows you to create Pagecasts, which allow you to share a start page with a selected group of people or the general public. Think about how you can create a start page with information and news feeds (**RSS**) that are relevant to a particular committee or academic class you are assisting with research. Be sure to browse some of the other public pagecasts to get some ideas.

What Is RSS? RSS feeds allow quick scanning of the latest headlines from hundreds of Web sites in a spam free way. RSS stands for Real Simple Syndication (or Rich Site Summary). Icons represented by **RSS** and **XML** indicate that online information such as news items, tables of contents, short summaries, or links to full-text articles can be automatically delivered via subscription to your personal news reader/feed aggregator.

The Assignment:

1) Create an account with Pageflakes and configure a start page to share with the class or the world. To add your own links to items not in the Pageflakes Flakes catalog:

- Click on the "button" in the upper right corner of the screen
- Click on "Browse Flakes" (on the left)
- Scroll down to "Tools II" in the list
- Look in the center panel for the "Anything Flake" icon ... click on this icon
- A new box will appear in the body of your Pageflakes page ... click on the "Start Editor" button that is in this new box
- Change the name of the Anything Flake to what will be useful to You!
- Enter the text, including any icons or URL links to the resource
- Click on "Build Flake" and then drag the Flake to the area of your PageFlake page where you want it to live ...

2) Choose an RSS feed from any commercial publisher to add to your page.

- EX: Science Direct: www.sciencedirect.com/science/journals/subscribed/all
- EX: Wiley: <http://www3.interscience.wiley.com/journal/40000761/home>

3) Choose 2 RSS feeds from a society publisher or scientific preprint server:

- EX: APS (<http://feeds.aps.org/>)
- EX: AIP (<http://www.aip.org/aip/rss.html>)
- Ex: [arXiv.org e-print archive](http://arxiv.org) (or choose from [mirror sites](#)) Example:
<http://export.arxiv.org/rss/physics.optics>

4) A physics current news site:

[Physics News](#) (from Google)

[Physics Today](#) (from AIP)

[PhysicsWeb News](#) (from IOP)

5) Add a conference/career site:

EX: <http://directory.google.com/Top/Science/Physics/Conferences/>

EX: [EventSeer](#): Aggregation service for Calls for Papers and academic events (Web-based, free)

6) A podcast widget.

7) A feed from Scopus or WOS:

<http://feeds.scopus.com/syndic8/htmlfeed/action/showOverview.do#latest>

[To subscribe to a Scopus RSS feed](#)

Scopus HTML Feeds directions

1. Go to www.scopus.com, run a search and select the orange **RSS** button, and then the **Continue** to get the RSS URL that you will use on this site in step 4.
2. If you are new to this site, [register](#) or [login](#) with your Email and Scopus HTML Feeds Generator password.
3. Once logged in to this site, click Create New HTML Feed.
4. Paste the RSS URL obtained from Scopus.com in step 1 into the form below and set the optional display parameters. Then click **Save and Generate HTML Feed**.
5. Copy and paste the HTML Feed Code from this site into your web site's code.

Tips for the Scopus portion: 1) create your user name and password first by following the register link above. 2) Run your search, while you are logged in. 3) You will get your search results back, and have the orange rss feed button next to the search string at the top of the page. (If you need help developing a good search for what you need we can work on that later.) For an example, I did a basic search of Rice university (and used the pull-down menu to affiliation, and put in Rice University. I then put physics to

appear in the abstract, or keywords. I then ran the search. When the search was complete, I got a page with the search string and the RSS button. I clicked on the RSS button, and it takes you to a page that says "Subscribe to your feed in two steps." You will then get a code of your RSS feed. You need to go into Pageflakes then, and do the "add RSS feed" and copy that code into the RSS feed box. NOTE: There is an option to generate the HTML to put on a website. This is a neat thing to do if you have a traditional website--the code creates a nice box with feed. For instance, I helped Dr. Cox in statistics put this on his page at: <http://www.stat.rice.edu/~dcox/>

BUT, we are using an RSS feed organizer, so we only need the code for the RSS, not the HTML generator! So, less steps!

<http://feeds.scopus.com/syndic8/htmlfeed/action/showOverview.do - latest8>) Freestyle: Your choice of a web url (use Anything flake)--add something of interest to your research: CBEN, Smalley Institute, IBB, Owlspace (will ask for password each time), etc.

9) Add a Fondren Library element: EJournals, link to Database, etc.

10) Begin a vendor database address book--two entries.