KEEPING UP TO DATE

February 2018

ISS – Swansea University
Keeping Current with Journals & Table of Contents Alerts

If you have a few key journals that publish a lot in your field, then you will find that there are many ways to keep current. With most alerting services, you can opt to receive alerts either via email or RSS. (If you are unfamiliar with RSS, see the section further down.)

1. **Individual Journal websites.** You will frequently see options to sign up for alerts. You can be emailed when new articles are published online.

2. **ZETOC** ([http://zetoc.jisc.ac.uk](http://zetoc.jisc.ac.uk)) Zetoc is a service providing access to the British Library's Electronic Table of Contents database of around 30,000 journals, and is updated daily. It allows you to create a list of several journal titles from which to receive alerts of new tables of contents. (Note: The individual journal alerts may be quicker with new events in some cases – particularly for items “published ahead of print”.)

**Setting up alerts using Zetoc**

Go to Zetoc [http://zetoc.jisc.ac.uk](http://zetoc.jisc.ac.uk). Select Alert:

Type in Swansea University or search for Swansea University in the list and sign in.

![Zetoc Interface](image)

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You will be taken to the page below. Type in your email details and give your list a name, e.g. child poverty. Select Create.

To complete the alert list, add journals, or add authors and/or title keywords about which you would like to receive information. E.g. The words child poverty have been added to the Keywords from the Title search box. To confirm, select Add to list.

A Zetoc Alert list will continue to search for your topic a year. For more information about using Zetoc alerts please go to: http://zetoc.jisc.ac.uk/videos.html#Alerts1

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JournalTOCs (www.journaltocs.ac.uk) JournalTOCs is a free, searchable collection of the Tables of Contents (TOCs) of over 29,904 scholarly journals from 2951 publishers.

Sign up and you will receive a confirmation email to complete your registration. On the top left of the screen can search for journals by title or ISSN, and for articles by keywords.

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A list of ‘Most Followed Journals’ is in the centre of the screen. Select ‘View all’ to see all the most followed journals. Tick the checkboxes to follow the journals. You can follow up to 30 journals.

Once you have selected your journals, return to the Home page. Then click on the Email Alerts is Off box to activate your TOC alerts.

For more information, go to: http://www.journaltocs.ac.uk/help.php

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Setting up email alerts on iFind  [iFind.swan.ac.uk](https://iFind.swan.ac.uk)

Go to iFind and sign in on the top right of the screen. Select Articles & more. Type in your search terms. On the left-hand side select Save query.

Give your query a name. Select Save & alert. Select Save.

Setting up email alerts for database searches.

**Web of Science**

1. Access Web of Science: Core Collection. (Make sure you select Core Collection.) You must be logged in for this function to be available.

2. Create a search string to represent your research topic (or a key part of it) e.g. **Subjective wellbeing OR subjective well-being**
   Search on this topic. Refine your search if you wish by limiting to subject categories etc. Or search only one of the databases (e.g. Social Science Citation Database).

3. On the Results page, click on Create Alert.

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If you are not already signed in, you will be asked to do so now.

Give your search a name and save the alert. Choose weekly/monthly alerts by email.

EBSCO - Medline, CINAHL, Business Source Complete, PsycInfo...

1. Repeat steps 1 & 2 as for the Web of Science example
2. On the Results page, select the search you wish to save. Then click on Save Searches/Alerts.
NOTE: You will need to create a username and password with My EBSCO host in order to activate your search alerts. There are other advantages to creating a MyEbsco account, as this will allow you to save search results and other search strategies in the future.

This is the next screen you will see. You will need to create your own individual account with My EBSCOhost in order to save the search and create an alert.

Create your account, give your search a name, then select Alerts. You will be given the option to specify the frequency of the alerts. Then Save.

SCOPUS To create alerts in Scopus, you need to register for a personal account.

1. Run your search
2. Click on Set Alert

3. You will then be asked to log in. If you haven’t already created your own personal Scopus account, click on Not Registered? And then register for an account.

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4. Emails will be sent every time a new record is added that matches your search criteria. You can view your Alerts at any time and cancel or change them as needed, simply by logging in and clicking on ALERTS at the top of the page.

**PROQUEST – ASSIA, IBSS, Business Collection, MLA International Bibliography**

**Search Email Alerts**

1. Login to ProQuest and run a search.
2. On the search result screen, click **Save search/alert**

3. Complete the form to give the alert a name etc. and click **Create alert**.
4. You will see a confirmation screen that the alert has been created. A confirmation email will be sent to your email address, and the alert will only be activated once you have responded to that verification email.

**Alerts from the Web**

**Google Alerts** are easy to set up and can be very useful. Do you have a Google Account? If not, you can create one. You can do this at: [https://accounts.google.com/signup](https://accounts.google.com/signup)

*You can receive email alerts without a Google account. If the email address you enter is not linked to a Google account, then Google will forward an email verification link for you to accept. Once you have clicked on the link, you will be set up to receive results.*

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Create the search
e.g. child poverty site:.wales.gov.uk (this would alert you to mentions of child poverty but only on the Welsh Government website). Or you could try child poverty “Swansea University”

Create the alert
2. In the "Create an alert about" box, enter your search terms.
3. Click Show options to say how often you get alerts, what types of results you want to get, and more.
4. Click Create Alert.
5. Once your alert is set up, you'll start getting emails any time new search results for your keywords are found.

RSS feeds

Using RSS feeds is a way of bringing together information from a number of different sources in one place. You can use RSS feeds for your journal alerts and to get the latest information from websites and blogs.

A popular RSS feed reader is Feedly (feedly.com), although others are available.

Feedly

Go to feedly.com. Select GET STARTED FOR FREE.
Type a topic, e.g. medicine

Select a feed to follow. Then select a feed name.

Then select Create.

For more information, go to Feedly’s blog: https://blog.feedly.com/get-the-right-content-on-your-feedly/

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Frequently checked websites

Always check for their alerting services: email or RSS. If you are working in policy, you will probably have some key sites (e.g. Nuffield Trust, Kings Fund, JRF etc.) that you check regularly and this is more efficient.

APPS for Keeping Up to Date with Journals

There are many apps around all offering ways for you to browse the table of contents of new issues of journals. For example, the Nature, BMJ apps. These are for individual journal titles, but there are also ones that cover a range of journal literature - particularly in the medical field (e.g. QxMD and DocWise).

BrowZine – (http://browzine.com/) This is a free app for tablets and smart phones (Apple and Android). What makes it different is that it is directly linked to the University journal holdings so that when you browse the latest table of contents, you can automatically download anything you want to read. It works by you setting up a bookshelf of your favourite journals.

BrowZine can also be used on a PC or Laptop. You will find more details in the journal section of your Library guides: libguides.swansea.ac.uk

Numbers on red circles indicate the number of new articles since you last looked at that journal.

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TWITTER

Many such organisations will announce new reports, events etc on Twitter. This is another way of keeping abreast of what is going on. Other researchers will also be on Twitter.

If you aren’t already signed up, then join Twitter and have a look at some of these:

• @JRF_UK @ahrcpress @ESRC @wellcometrust
• @RoyalStatSoc @PhdForum @TimesHighered

Search in Twitter to find the Twitter feeds for these organisations.

NETWORKING

Whether online or at conferences, this is a great way to keep abreast of developments in your field and become known amongst others with similar interests.

Twitter

Twitter is a useful tool for keeping up to date, but can also be used to raise you profile as a researchers and promote you research. If you don’t currently use Twitter consider joining the next Swansea University 5 days of Twitter (#SU5DOT) course, which will help you get started using Twitter as a researcher: https://su5dot.wordpress.com/2015/11/16/first-day-of-su5dot-setting-up-your-profile-and-sending-your-first-tweet/

• Use the advanced Twitter search https://twitter.com/search-advanced?lang=en
• Follow the right people https://twitter.com/LSEImpactBlog/lists/stem-academic-tweeters/members https://twitter.com/swanseauni/lists/swansea-university
• Create list and/or follow other people lists
  Find help here https://support.twitter.com/articles/76460?lang=en#

Social networking sites for academics

ResearchGate (www.researchgate.net) and Academia.edu (www.academia.edu) are social networking sites specifically for academics. LinkedIn (www.linkedin.com) is often used in a similar way by academics.

Tips for making the most of social networking sites

• Follow researchers in your field
• Keep your publications list up to date
• Add research keywords to your profile

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Email discussion groups

*JiscMail [http://www.jiscmail.ac.uk/] hosts over 9000 educational and research email mailing lists and has over 1,500,000 unique subscribers. For more information go to: [http://www.jiscmail.ac.uk/help/subscribers/groupsubscriptions.html]*

*Google Groups* allows you to create and participate in online forums and email-based groups with a rich experience for community conversations. For more information go to: [https://support.google.com/groups/answer/1067205?hl=en]

Conferences

Conferences are an important way of keeping up to date with the latest research in your field. Find out about relevant conferences using conference listings, personal contact and social media.

Conference listing sites

- COMS ([www.conference-service.com](http://www.conference-service.com))
- Conal conference alerts ([www.conferencealerts.com](http://www.conferencealerts.com))

If you cannot attend the conference you will often find that you can follow what is happen on Twitter using the conference hashtag. It is also possible to find many conference papers via iFind and in subject databases.

Help and Advice

Please don’t hesitate to contact the library if you need any help and advice from us.

Research Librarians
Research Skills Library Guide: [http://libguides.swansea.ac.uk/researchskills](http://libguides.swansea.ac.uk/researchskills)
Website: [http://www.swansea.ac.uk/iss/researchsupport/](http://www.swansea.ac.uk/iss/researchsupport/)
Blog: [https://researchnews.wordpress.com/](https://researchnews.wordpress.com/)
Twitter: [@SULibResSupport](https://twitter.com/SULibResSupport)
Email: iss-research@swansea.ac.uk

Library Guides: [http://libguides.swansea.ac.uk/](http://libguides.swansea.ac.uk/)

For details of your subject librarians: [http://libguides.swansea.ac.uk/c.php?g=656553](http://libguides.swansea.ac.uk/c.php?g=656553)

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