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Cited References — Adding New Functionality to a Long History of Quality

APA announced the addition of cited references to PsycINFO at the American Library Association (ALA) annual meeting in San Francisco in June.

The newly enhanced database will debut at the ALA Midwinter meeting in New Orleans in January 2002 with demonstrations on APA's search system. It will be released to vendors on March 1, 2002 in anticipation that it will be available through the vendors who distribute PsycINFO as soon as possible. APA staff will be consulting with vendors throughout the development process to facilitate vendor loading of the new database in a smooth and timely fashion.

Quick Review of Cited References

The basis for the cited references feature is a linkable list—appended to the abstract record—of all works cited in the primary document, including journal articles, books and book chapters, published conference papers, and so on. From that expanded document, users can then pull up related articles with a single keystroke, they can click to find all the articles in the PsycINFO database that cited the work, or they can conduct other searches in the cited references database. And they can link to cited references that are in the database.

Cited reference searching is a quick, effective means of following the development of any particular area of research. With cited references, researchers can follow the evolu-

tion of a field starting from any given work, as they learn how scholars used the ideas and findings in their own writing. They can easily look forward and backward in time for relevant articles found through other searches. Searching for records that cite the same references allows researchers to track common themes and similar issues across time. Searching cited authors reveals the influence any given author has on a field. And, of course, authors can trace citations to their own papers.

Cited References on PsycINFO

PsycINFO is particularly well suited to providing a strong cited references feature for a number of reasons. "PsycINFO has built a very large file of high quality content back to 1887, and our rigorous indexing assures researchers of precision in recall. The cited references feature is the third key component of a complete research tool," said Linda Beebe, senior director of PsycINFO.

Adding cited references enhances PsycINFO's important attributes. Among the ones that have made it such an important tool for researchers across disciplines are the following:

- * Controlled vocabulary using a high quality thesaurus
- * Classification codes with 22 broad and 135 narrower categories
- * Several searchable fields including key phrase, country of publication, and population location

- * Exacting coverage standards
- * DOIs and other links to full text
- * Publisher URLs

In July 2001, PsycINFO covers more than 1,700 journals, 97% of them peer reviewed, in psychology and related fields. The database also includes a large number of authored books and chapters of edited books, which are important sources because the book literature accounts for approximately 35 percent of citations in the psychological literature. With the breadth of literature covered,

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Timeline for Cited References

June 2001	APA announced Cited References coming soon
July-August 2001	Ad hoc advisory council formed to aid in development
July-Dec 2001	PsycINFO develops advanced features and populates database
January 2002	PsycINFO Cited References debuts at ALA-Midwinter
March 2002	2002 Edition of PsycINFO delivered to vendors and available to customers via APA interface

Cited References

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PsycINFO is widely used by a multidisciplinary audience.

Also, in general, the literature in psychology has a shelf life of more than 20 years, and it's not unusual for references to date back to the 19th century. Because of the depth and breadth of the PsycINFO file, researchers will be able to link directly from the reference list to an abstract for a high percentage of cited references. From the abstract, publisher links in PsycINFO may take users to the full text, ordering information, or document delivery, whichever the publisher provides.

Building on Standard Cited

References. Experienced researchers know that there are some issues to keep in mind in interpreting cited references. For example, self-citation may account for some of the cited references. Not all cited references are positive. And authors with the same surname and initials may be different people, writing in totally different fields. These caveats will always be there, so researchers will always need to factor them in and make judgments on the literature they find.

Other types of concerns *can* be addressed. For instance, researchers using cited reference searching know all too well that variations in reference style and the degree of author accuracy greatly affect search results. Another issue is that any cited reference database can reveal only the citations in that particular database. The fact that citations in current psychological literature go far back in time, combined with the depth of the PsycINFO file, will help APA build a solid cited references database quickly.

Determining whether references are indeed a match will be easier using PsycINFO for several reasons. Once again the depth of the file comes into play, as references will be resolved against the PsycINFO database first. APA will also verify the abbreviated journal titles, used so frequently

in biomedical and some other sciences, and display them as full journal titles for standardization. (This feature is one that users are eager to have.) Then, too, users will see the entire reference with all of the elements of a standard APA-style citation, and the references will be assembled in alpha order in APA style.

User Input to Development. For years APA has relied on user feedback in the ongoing development of PsycINFO. For this project, APA is recruiting a cadre of *ad hoc* reviewers to provide suggestions and to react to trial designs during the fast-track development stage. Any reader interested in participating in the feedback process—which will take place primarily via e-mail—should write psycinfo@apa.org or call 1-800-374-2722. Although APA will continue to evaluate and refine both cited references and the overall PsycINFO database, the initial feedback process will take place in 2001. (See timeline on page 1.)

Contents of 2002 Release

The cited references database will be part of a major new release of PsycINFO in early 2002. Other enhancements will include mapping the peer review label back through the PsycINFO database and adding affiliations for all authors from late 2001 forward.

The main focus, however, will be cited references. At release, the 2002 edition of PsycINFO will cover cited references from all journals and books added to the database in 2001 and most of 2000. In addition, it will include all cited references from the PsycARTICLES database, which currently includes 25,000 articles back to 1988. APA expects that PsycINFO will contain more than 10 million cited references in a short time. More retrospective coverage will be added in 2002.

“Our announcement at ALA precipitated a loud chorus of approving comments from users, librarians, and the third party vendors who are our partners in delivering the database,”

said Beebe. “We’re looking forward to working with all three constituencies to develop and deliver what we believe will truly be the most outstanding research tool in the social and behavioral sciences.”

Reactions ...

Christian Schunn, an Assistant Professor of Psychology and Research Scientist, Learning Research & Development Center, at the University of Pittsburgh, has been using PsycINFO for several years as both a student and a researcher and has also used other cited reference databases for many years.

“Tracking cited references serves two roles for me. First, it is useful for keeping track of citations to my own papers.... Second, it is very useful as a supplement to the standard topic and paper search facilities because it allows one to quickly track the surrounding literature (forward and backward in time) for articles that one finds through standard searches. Without this facility, the search back in time was tedious and the search forward in time was impossible.”

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E-Mail in the Workplace

This search illustrates the variety of phrasing that is needed for comprehensive retrieval of information in free-text searching and the use of classification categories.

Question

How do you search for computer-related topics with psychological aspects? How do you limit your retrieval to a particular setting? This sample search shows you how to do it.

Discussion

Free-Text Searching. PsycINFO's *Thesaurus of Psychological Index Terms* contains a new, general term ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION. However, because we added this term in the 2001 edition of the *Thesaurus*, we want to use a free-text search to ensure that we retrieve records published prior to 2001. In addition, because ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION is a very general term, a free-text search results in more targeted retrieval. This search illustrates the variety of terms needed for comprehensive retrieval in free-text searching.

Limiting to the Workplace Setting. PsycINFO uses the classification code 3600 Industrial & Organizational Psychology or one of its subcategories for research with applications in the workplace. Searching the 2-digit code will, on most search systems, retrieve categories 3600–3670 (see www.apa.org/psycinfo/about/classcodes.html for the entire list of categories).

Search Examples. When we combine a free-text search for words and phrases related to e-mail with a search of the 3600 classification code, we retrieve records targeted to our specific topic, as demonstrated in the following example.

Set #	Search Statement	Records Retrieved
1	(e mail or email or electronic mail) in title or key phrase	179
2	36 in classification codes	78,345
3	Set 1 and Set 2	30

Accession Number: 2000-16541-004.

Author: Case, Carl J.

Title: Electronic mail dysfunction: A reality check.

Source: *Cyberpsychology & Behavior*. Vol 2(5), Oct 1999, 413-418.

Publisher: US: Mary Ann Liebert Inc., www.liebertpub.com

Abstract: Examined the role of electronic messaging in business firms. Specifically, this research investigated the usage of inter-organizational electronic messaging in intermediate-size firms. 750 electronic mail messages were analyzed in a 3-site case study. Results indicate that dysfunctional electronic mail uses such as personal use and flaming have minimal incidence in a business environment. Implications relate to organizational professionalism and the use of students as electronic mail research subjects. (PsycINFO Database Record © 2000 APA, all rights reserved)

Accession Number: 1999-00475-002.

Author: Sarbaugh-Thompson, Marjorie; Feldman, Martha S.

Title: Electronic mail and organizational communication: Does saying "hi" really matter?

Source: *Organization Science*. Vol 9(6), Nov-Dec 1998, 685-698.

Publisher: US: Institute for Operations Research and the Management Sciences.

Abstract: Examined the impacts of a multi-year trial with electronic mail. Overall, organizational communication declined as use of electronic mail increased. Much of the lost communication was greetings, raising questions about the role that greetings, and other forms of casual conversation, play in an organization. A communication matrix based on presence vs absence and availability vs unavailability was developed. Attention was directed to the role of casual conversation in presence availability and to the parts that presence unavailability and absence unavailability can play in organizational communication. (© 1999 APA/PsycINFO, all rights reserved)

Accession Number: 1997-08437-013.

Author: Kraut, Robert E; Attewell, Paul.

Chapter Title: Media use in a global corporation: Electronic mail and organizational knowledge.

Source: Kiesler, Sara (Ed); et al. (1997). *Culture of the Internet*. (pp. 323-342). Mahwah, NJ, USA: Lawrence Erlbaum Associates, Inc., Publishers. xvi, 463 pp.

Abstract: (from the chapter) There is reason to think that the availability of more communication media increases the amount of communication employees receive, with positive effects on their organizational knowledge and commitment, but negative effects on their perception of being overloaded. Prior research suggests that electronic mail may differ from other media by more effectively spreading organizational information to peripheral employees, and doing so while interrupting them less than other styles of communication. This chapter uses survey data from a large US-based multinational corporation to examine the effects of communication by electronic mail and other media. Results are that employees who used electronic mail extensively, net of their communication over other media, were better informed about their company and more committed to its management's goals.

One reason for their superior organizational knowledge seems to be that electronic mail promotes 'information spillover' from a focal recipient of a message to others who are less directly interested in a message, but does so without subjecting the marginal parties to the burdens of interruption and information overload. (© 1997 APA/PsycINFO, all rights reserved) ♦

PsycINFO Record Enhancements in 2001

PsycINFO records have been enhanced in three ways this year.

- * Peer reviewed articles identified
- * Key Phrase field re-formatted
- * Author e-mail addresses captured

Peer Reviewed Label

Beginning with the July 2001 updates to PsycINFO, articles from peer-reviewed journals are identified in the Special Features field. This addition will make it easier for students to find individual articles from current peer-reviewed journals.

The peer-reviewed designation will be mapped back throughout the PsycINFO database in 2002, so that students can limit a search to peer-reviewed journal articles. Professors emphasize the importance of peer review to students searching the literature so that they will be reading from the very best scholarship available. This designation will facilitate that part of the academic search. In addition, beginning in August 2001, the PsycINFO coverage list will indicate which journals are peer reviewed. (See www.apa.org/psycinfo/about/covlist.html)

Approximately 97% of the currently-covered journals are peer

reviewed. With PsycINFO's rigorous standards, journals are now accepted only if they demonstrate standard peer review processes. As we add different media—some potential types are government documents and professional magazines, the peer-reviewed label will be increasingly important.

Key Phrase Re-Formatted

Starting with the Spring 2001 updates to PsycINFO, the structure of the Key Phrase field has been changed slightly. Instead of consisting of a phrase format, the field contains key words. This change will give indexers more freedom to pick highly relevant free-text terminology to enhance the title and augment the Descriptor field and will align PsycINFO with other social science databases that provide keywords in this field. The policy of not standardizing the terminology in the Key Phrase continues.

Author E-Mail Captured

Beginning in July 2001, the author's e-mail address was added to PsycINFO records. Generally the corresponding author's e-mail is supplied. If this is not available, the first author's e-mail address is given. ✦

PsycARTICLES Direct Debuts

Individuals and institutions can now access, then download or print individual articles using PsycARTICLES Direct.

PsycARTICLES is APA's online database containing more than 25,000 searchable full-text articles from 42 journals published by the APA and allied organizations covering from 1988 to the present, with earlier years in production. The PsycARTICLES database covers general psychology as well as specialized, basic, applied, clinical, and theoretical research in psychology.

The price per article is just \$9.95 payable by credit card.

Visit www.apa.org/psycarticles/ to find out how well it works for you.

APA Journals Update

A Web Site with Style

The page on the APA Journals Web site that tells how to cite electronic references has been one of APA's most frequently visited pages. Building on that content, APA Journals has launched a separate site with tips on using APA style and other related information from the *Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association*. Visit www.apastyle.org and you will find "Ask the Experts," a feature designed for thorny problems along with an e-mail signup for notification of style changes in the 5th Edition as they occur.

A Change in Policy

APA Journals has announced a change in the policy for permission to post publications published in APA journals. This policy covers postings on both the author's and the author's institution's Web sites. See www.apa.org/journals/posting.html for the details. ✦

PsycARTICLES Available from EBSCO & Ovid

The long-awaited institutional access to the full-text database through traditional third party vendors is almost here. Two major vendors—EBSCO and Ovid—plan to have the database available to customers in Fall 2001.

EBSCO will offer PsycARTICLES through EBSCOhost, their online service, and they will support linking from PsycINFO to PsycARTICLES. Interested librarians should call their sales representative at EBSCO Publishing, 1-800-653-2726.

Ovid Technologies will offer PsycARTICLES to Ovid and SilverPlatter customers with full linking between PsycINFO and other A&I services on their systems. Interested librarians should call their Ovid representative at 1-800-950-2580 or their SilverPlatter representative at 1-800-343-0064.

Thirty-day free trials are available to institutional customers. APA is working with other vendors and expects to announce additional availability soon.

News About PsycARTICLES

PDFs Coming

In response to requests from PsycARTICLES users, APA is adding PDF (Portable Document Format) display to the current SGML/HTML display. PDFs will be added throughout 2001. All articles in the database should be converted by November 2001. As additional years of the journals are digitized and added to PsycARTICLES, PDFs will be generated for them as well. PDFs display the look of the print journal, complete with tables, figures, and page numbers. APA will also continue to provide the articles in SGML format to facilitate searching and reading on-screen.

OPAC-Ability

Users have requested that PsycARTICLES be accessible through their Online Public Access Catalogs (OPACs). The database will soon provide journal titles and tables of contents so the titles can be added to the subscriber's OPAC. The tables of contents will be distributed to vendors and to direct lease sites for their use and will be included in the APA-delivered database.

PsycARTICLES from APA

If you are accessing PsycARTICLES directly from APA, look for these enhancements.

- * There is a new search screen that makes it easier to search by journal, year of publication, and individual issue. Scroll to the bottom of the PsycARTICLES search screen – it's the last set of search boxes.
- * APA has signed a linking agreement with Cambridge Scientific Abstracts (CSA) to establish links from PsycINFO and their other A&I databases to PsycARTICLES on APA's system.
- * If you have both PsycINFO and PsycARTICLES from APA, you can now link from the references of articles to the PsycINFO record and then to the full text of the article, if it is in PsycARTICLES. If you are searching on PsycINFO and the full-text article is available from APA, you will see a link to it in the list of citations.

Example: Psychologists' ethical responsibilities in the Internet-based groups: Issues, strategies, and a call for dialogue. By Humphreys, Keith; Winzelberg, Andrew; Klaw, Elena. *Professional Psychology: Research & Practice*. 2000 Oct Vol 31(5) 493-496

[Abstract and Citation | Full PsycINFO Record | Full Text of Article](#)

Pricing News for Libraries

Two things you should know about price quotes for site licenses for APA databases—

- ✓ We now use Full-time Equivalent (FTE) numbers to determine the size of schools, rather than potential users.
- ✓ APA depends on institutions to supply this information. It should be provided to vendors or to APA if you are ordering directly from us so that we can prepare a quote.

Cited References

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He urged PsycINFO to be explicit about what is included in the cited references database and to take advantage of the opportunity to resolve references against the PsycINFO database.

Chris added "[this] puts in one place PsycINFO's high quality traditional search facilities with the cited reference search making it possible to now search seamlessly using the two methods I especially look forward to combining this method of searching for research articles with the PsycARTICLES facility for quickly getting relevant papers."

Reactions...

Margaret (Maggie) Ressel, a librarian at the University of Nevada, Reno, has used PsycINFO for her own research and in teaching students how to conduct searches. Having used cited references for both current awareness and "topic exploration from a known item," she considers cited references "an excellent way to cover peripheral areas of research that a researcher may not have thought of otherwise."

Maggie thinks that adding cited references to the PsycINFO database will "make it one-stop shopping for many users." She intends to show PsycINFO's new cited references capability "to all users of the database, pointing out its usefulness." She also encouraged APA to "standardize journal titles and author names (quite a bit harder.) It would make it much better if we could interpret abbreviations consistently."

Maggie commented that she is "very excited about cited references coming to PsycINFO, and my users will be, too." ✦

2001 EXHIBIT SCHEDULE

Attending any of the following meetings? Stop by the PsycINFO booth in the exhibit hall. We'd be delighted to see you.

IFLA (International Federation of Library Associations), Boston, MA, August 19-22

American Psychological Association, San Francisco, CA, August 24-27

Charleston Conference Vendor Showcase, Charleston, SC, October 31

Online Information 2001, London, UK, December 4-6

Thesaurus of Psychological Index Terms Ninth Edition

The Thesaurus now contains more than 7,000 standard or cross-referenced terms covering PsycINFO®, ClinPSYC®, and PsycARTICLES® databases with maximum precision.

2001. Hardcover. Item #3100082 • ISBN 1-55798-775-0

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