

## Information Skills for Language and Linguistic Science

### Worksheet 6: Keeping up-to-date with information

The library provides some general guidance on keeping up-to-date with information:

<http://www.york.ac.uk/library/howdoi/keepuptodate/>

You can keep yourself up-to-date with specific news and developments in Linguistics in the following ways:

#### 1. Newspapers

The library subscribes to a range of newspapers in both print and electronic format. Many newspapers, such as the TES or the Guardian, also provide a lot of free content online via their webpages so it is worth getting in the habit of bookmarking these sites and then checking them regularly.

#### 2. Journal Table of Contents: alerting services

There are a number of alerting services which send you details of newly-published journal articles in your area of study or research. An example of this is **Zetoc**, the British Library's alerting service which provides access to around 20,000 current journals and approximately 16,000 conference proceedings published every year. The database covers 1993 to the present day and is updated on a daily basis. Using your York single sign-on you can set up an account and start receiving alerts to your email account or RSS reader.



To access Zetoc, go directly to the website (<http://zetoc.mimas.ac.uk/>) or consult the library's online guide to Zetoc:

<http://www.york.ac.uk/media/library/documents/librariystaffac/nonsubject/current-awareness.pdf>

**ticTOCs** also deliver Table of Contents alerts by RSS feed. It is limited to publishers who supply RSS feeds but still has over 14,000 journal titles available. You can use the service as a one-off or register for free to keep receiving alerts from your own specified list of journals: <http://www.tictocs.ac.uk/>.



#### 3. Saving and running database searches

Many bibliographic databases allow you to save a search. The database then automatically runs the search on your behalf at periodic intervals (e.g. fortnightly) and sends you an email when new articles

matching your search parameters are added. Procedures for setting up these search alerts vary in different databases but in general, after you have run your search, look out for boxes such as “Create Alert”. Database help pages will give you more information, or speak to your Academic Liaison Librarian for guidance on specific resources.

#### 4. Citation alerts from the Web of Science

Using MIMAS Web of Science (<http://wok.mimas.ac.uk/>), you can set up an e-mail alert when articles you select are cited. You can also use this feature to keep a list of your favourite articles. Look at the library’s keeping-up-to-date guide for details.

#### 5. Mailing lists

Mailing lists can be an excellent way of sharing ideas and information with others working in your research area, as well as finding out about relevant conferences and other events.



JISCMail (<http://www.jiscmail.ac.uk/>) hosts a large number of academic groups specifically related to Language and Linguistic Science, for example the CorpusCALL mailing list for discussing “issues relating to the use of corpus resources, tools and methodologies in CALL.” You will need to sign up to the site and to individual groups.



#### 6. Blogs and Twitter

There are a number of language and linguistics-specific blogs, as well as Twitter groups, which may be helpful to join if you are researching a particular field of education. To find relevant blogs, you can use dedicated search engines like Google blog search (<http://www.google.com/blogsearch>) or go via specific websites such as the Academic Blog Portal: (<http://www.academicblogs.org/wiki/index.php/Education>).

#### 7. Research Outputs: pre-publication

Remember to look out for conferences in your research field (*see worksheet 4 for details of how to locate conference papers and proceedings*). You may also find some journal pre-prints in the White Rose Research Online repository: (<http://eprints.whiterose.ac.uk/>).

And finally... keep a look out for updates from the library (on the library webpages or on York Extra). If you need further help please email your Academic Liaison Librarian.

