

Business Research Tips is a monthly email with practical ideas for managing business information and research.

Beyond bookmarking

There are a number of online shared bookmarking sites for storing and sharing your favourite links to web sites, podcasts and blog articles, such as Furl, Del.icio.us, and Digg. These types of sites are free, fun and useful for uncovering and sharing the weird and wonderful from the web.

Academics and researchers can also benefit from free shared book marking sites. Citeulike and Connotea are designed for storing bibliographic records of journal articles and other web material for academic sources. Both sites allow the user to store a record that links to a relevant journal article, and with a simple one click feature, extract the key bibliographic details from the journal article, such as the author, title and abstract details. Citeulike and Connotea both work with the commercial online vendors of academic publications, allowing the users that are registered subscribers to the vendor's suite of sources to easily store and link to articles from these vendors.

The next step up for organising reference records for large research projects are commercial online tools, such as RefWorks Online. Beyond the shared bookmarking features of storing and sharing details of web material, and simple importing of bibliographic details from the web source, RefWorks aids with citing the references in the users preferred bibliographic format and creating the extensive bibliography at the end of the research project.

Writing projects that require extensive references becomes much easier when using RefWorks write-n-cite feature. From Microsoft Word, RefWorks users are able to link through to their list of references, select the required reference, and the citation is added as a footnote or endnote.

When the writing is complete, the RefWorks user only needs to select "create bibliography" and hey presto, a bibliography appears in the desired bibliographic format. Too easy.

Links

This month's tip is a summary of Heather's review of RefWorks Online, published in *Online Currents*, May 2007.

Furl < www.furl.net >; Del.icio.us < <http://del.icio.us/>>; Digg < www.digg.com >
Citeulike < www.citeulike.org > Connotea < www.connotea.org >
RefWorks online < www.refworks.com > is \$US100 per annum.

Upcoming speaking engagement

Heather will be running a workshop at the upcoming Ark Group conference on *Management Strategies for Library and Information Service Centres*. (19 – 21 Sept 2007, Rydges World Square, Sydney).

The workshop will cover: Identifying the research skills your library offers, marketing your library's research expertise and tailoring research services.

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