

**UC Libraries Use of Google Scholar**  
**August 2005**  
*E. Meltzer 8/10/05*

On June 22, 2005, the CDL requested information from the campuses about librarian and library staff use of Google Scholar in their own work and at public service desks. Eight of ten campuses responded with a wealth of information about the creative ways in which the libraries use Google Scholar, as well as with their objections to its use. Immediately below is an overall summary of responses, followed by a document containing all the detailed responses received. At the end of the second section is a report from UCLA detailing how the UCLA library integrates and positions Google Scholar along with the rest of their electronic resources.

The replies indicate a core of respondents do not use Google Scholar at all. Others use it rarely, instead strongly preferring licensed article databases purchased by the libraries for use in specific disciplines. Some are reluctant to use it because they are unsure of what it actually covers.

Among those who do use Google Scholar, they value it as a way of getting at older, more obscure, interdisciplinary, and difficult to locate materials quickly and simply. It is open access and sometimes easier to use than traditional resources. It provides another point of entry to the world of scholarship. At public service desks, it is used as an entrée into the use of OpenURL or licensed resources, and as an option for non-UC affiliated users.

Some campuses are beginning to adopt Google Scholar in their teaching.

Whether one is “for” or “against” Google Scholar, it is clearly a topic of lively and passionate dialogue within the University of California libraries.

**Uses for Google Scholar:**

- For citation verification
- To locate chapters within multi-authored books and conference proceedings
- For interdisciplinary scholarship
- For cross-disciplinary topics not found via searches in traditional bibliographic databases
- As a quick starting point to decide which subject resource is appropriate
- For background info
- Good start up database/search engine
- To learn background info on a topic
- Use its SFX capabilities
- Only after exhausting other resources
- Picks up web-based materials not in databases
- To try to replicate user's search
- It's faster for locating a full text source
- A fast way to search for both free and library-only stuff at the same time
- When need something from a source where it is not accurately covered in our subscribed A&I databases
- For extremely old or seminal works
- For obscure works
- As an adjunct to other databases
- It searches full-texts of covered content - allowing one to find elusive occurrences of keywords embedded within an item. For example, author references to particular named data sources, publications, or institutions.
- For subject areas where there is not much from specialized databases
- To locate the online full-text to obscure government reports
- When I'm having trouble getting access to the full text via UC-eLinks because UC links to the publisher are not working, for whatever reason

- It's faster for the user to access a full text journal we own, if it's in Google Scholar, since it's a one-click service. They don't have to navigate through one of our databases, and then figure out how to use UC-eLinks to get the article.
- For scientific material at a lay person (undergraduate) level
- For non-UC affiliated users
- After regular Google
- Use Google undiluted instead
- Go to article databases first
- Can find information quicker in article/specialized databases
- Do not use—11 responses

**Reasons for usefulness:**

- Its speed
- It searches things Google doesn't search
- Allows libraries to brand with SFX
- It's fast and simple
- It's freely available
- It's open access
- May have government documents eventually
- It is a diverse database that covers book catalogs, journal publishers' sites, article databases such as PubMed, etc.
- It is another entry point for references and papers not found through normal channels
- The technology allows me to be as vague or as specific as I need/want.
- It's a great mechanism to find the pivotal works in a particular subject (the works that appear on a variety of sites are good candidates).
- Simplicity of its search interface
- Quick and simple
- It's easy and quick to search and linking to full text is available
- It provides far quicker access to the full article than navigating through database and using UC-eLinks
- Teaching tool to introduce people to other resources
- It puts pressure on ISI
- To find library professional literature, especially very current references
- It's sometimes good for bibliographic verification
- Needle in the haystack searches but usually use the mother Google for those
- Eliminates a lot of extras from mother Google.
- Sometimes to find items quickly rather than searching through library's databases
- Finds web-based white papers and specialized reports

**I don't use it because:**

- Have not found it to be useful
- I do use it, but not as a substitute for scholarly indexes and databases. Students usually want some verification from me or their professor that what they've found is really peer reviewed and from a reliable source.
- We have access to better tools
- We have other excellent resources; no need to use it
- Use "real" databases instead
- I can do a much better search in a subject specific database
- Advanced Search lines in Google Scholar don't offer me as much searching power as, say, the Advanced Search lines in the CSA databases
- I'm waiting for Google Scholar to evolve some more--it's in its early stages. I'm mostly in a wait-and-see mode.
- I'm not sure what it includes
- It's hit or miss

- I am not sure what I am getting or missing. I do use Mother Google very frequently to track down "impossible" citations and often find things on non-scholarly sites that point back to a very elusive citation.
- I find it very difficult to DO anything with the results in GS except looking result by result.

**Use of Google Scholar at public service desks and in teaching:**

- Temper enthusiasm by reminding it's still in beta
- A great source for unaffiliated patrons
- Caution users that it doesn't have everything; use licensed databases
- Fees pay for licensing full text in field with scholarly and peer reviewed content
- Can find some things because GS searches through full text
- Teach about OpenURL and subscription resources
- Used in research consultation sessions
- Used as a discussion topic in an online forum (UCSD)
- UCSD Science & Engineering Library links to a Google Scholar Info page: [http://scilib.ucsd.edu/howto/guides/google\\_faqs.htm](http://scilib.ucsd.edu/howto/guides/google_faqs.htm)
- When looking for seminal articles
- Use in undergraduate classes
- No, faculty want students to use licensed content
- Use with summer session classes
- Use for faculty development workshops/seminars
- Point out to medical students
- Use in other classes

**Other comments:**

- Real research is often difficult and time-consuming, no matter how much one might wish otherwise, and not every problem can be solved by technology alone.
- The Google search engine and Google Scholar have made a difference in library research and instruction. The site deserves kudos.
- I am so happy to see such a resource. I would like to see CDL forge a relationship with Google to perhaps consult on enhancements to it.
- I think GS is a great search tool - like many of the other library resources. However, GS is just a tool... It should never be treated as the "end all" search tool, nor should it be ignored. It's a great way for librarians to *teach users* how to evaluate sources, how to build a very targeted search strategy, etc
- The interface is very "comforting" to our users - so the GS interface is also less intimidating. Some of our users can benefit from the familiarity, and use it as a diving board into the more complex article databases that librarians are more familiar with.

*Google Scholar Responses*

August 2, 2005

EMeltzer  
8/15/05

diva.cdlib.org/projects/google\_scholar/assessment/google\_scholar\_summary\_0805.doc

Following is a consolidation of the complete replies from the campuses responding to the survey, followed by UCLA's response.

1. Do you use Google Scholar in your own work? Please provide examples.
  - a. Yes. To find publications or articles for myself. And to prepare my presentations for my BI classes.
  - b. I use it to clarify citations when I can't find the citations in our databases.
  - c. My input is not very informative, I never use Google Scholar; when I need to move outside of our database subscriptions, I go to Google undiluted for such things as spelling, class bibliographies and reading lists from other universities, bio-bibliographies of scholars, etc. etc.
  - d. So far I have not, although I use regular Google quite often. For articles I still go to article databases first. I think I was particularly turned off by the study done shortly after it came out that documented gaping holes in the coverage, even within a title or publisher they said they covered. That shortcoming may be fixed or better now, but I've not gone back to check.
  - e. I don't use it much but I do for citation verification sometimes. I don't other than when I'm helping someone track down a difficult citation. For my own research/work, I use the databases we have subscriptions to, because I need access to subject-specific scholarly content and also subject-headings / descriptors, etc.
  - f. No
  - g. I've used it to search for scholarship on specific films and comics/graphic novels, since both of these topics tend to generate interdisciplinary scholarship that pops up all over the place. At least half the time, though, the hits are either false or I get the citation of a citation that one has to trace back carefully.
  - h. Only in that is a tool we are evaluating for our web pages, metalib and/or sfx.
  - i. Yes. I use it in order to get a quick starting point to figure out the proper context or subject area for a word or topic with which I am unfamiliar. Usually the results in Google Scholar will help me determine which subject resource is most appropriate.
  - j. YES, when I want to conduct an interdisciplinary literature search with unstructured language from a variety of resources, including some academic and other trade sources
  - k. Not very much because I can usually find it quicker in a specialized database and have the UC-eLinks.
  - l. I have used Google Scholar for my research work and instruction materials since it becomes available. This is a good start up database/search engine for me to get a good grip of the topic that I am looking for.
  - m. Yes. I have used it during citation checking to locate chapters within multi-authored books, and conference proceedings. I was not able to locate this info within traditional bibliographic database due to the restrictions of the search engines or coverage of the databases.
  - n. Yes! Definitely as a student - it was a good starting point for me. The SFX capabilities are extremely useful. I recently completed a paper on the history of PI, and Google Scholar (GS) was helpful! I've also used it as library staff. For example, I'm working on some technology training, and I used GS to identify potential "other sources" for the audience.
  - o. From one campus:
    - 1 Yes
    - 6 Occasionally's
    - 7 No's
    - Examples:
      - only after exhausting all other possibilities
      - for hard to find items such as meetings, proceedings, etc.

-for recent conference proceedings  
-literature search (in addition to dbases); picks up some good web-based material that's typically not indexed in dbases

- p. Only for testing
- q. No
- r. Yes, when I conduct mediated search I use Google Scholar to pull out a couple of full text articles to learn the background information on a given topic.

2. Do you use GS yourself when you work at a reference/public service desk? Please provide examples.

- a. Yes. Use it for finding citations at the Reference Desk
- b. Usually only to clarify citations. Or if a patron is not affiliated with the university.
- c. So far, no
- d. I do only when I am trying to duplicate a patron's search if they got stuck or are unable to verify a citation. But once I have that information, I go back into the resources we subscribe to for more context.
- e. No
- f. As for myself, I'm actually more likely to use just plain Google (or another search engine like Metacrawler or Vivisimo, because the algorithms are clearly different), since I use the internet searches for basic quick info questions like business addresses, scholar CVs, government agencies, etc.
- g. Very rarely.
- h. Yes. Sometimes it's faster for locating a full-text resource I know the library must have or that I suspect is full-text online as opposed to completing the Citation Linker form. (sorry) The other day a patron wanted a full text article by Albert Einstein. The citation wasn't exact, but I suspected this would be sited many times and perhaps even available online for free. I searched for it and found the link easily in GS. It simply linked us back to the online subscription, but it was a fast way to search for both free and library-only stuff at the same time.
- i. Occasionally, especially when I need something from a source where I have not determined it is accurately covered in our subscribed A&I databases.
- j. Not usually.
- k. No
- l. I use GS regularly at the reference desk in particular for subject areas that I don't seem to find much from specialized databases.
- m. Yes. I have used it to locate the online full-text to obscure government reports. I have also used it to locate references to cross-disciplinary topics not found via searches in traditional bibliographic databases.
- n. Yes! In one particular instance, the patron approached the desk with a paper that they claimed was a landmark case. We could not find it in any of our resources, so I did a quick GS search. I came up with a modified citation, which I was able to plug into Library Resources to find the appropriate item. In another instance, I was asked to locate an article that was extremely old - again, it was a pivotal piece of research. When I plugged the search into GS, I was able to find the full-text for the patron. In yet another instance, we were looking for a very obscure work. We were able to find a citation in GS. This more complete citation was used to place an InterLibrary Loan Request.

Whenever I point someone to GS, I indicate that the indexed works are pieces that *Google* deems as "intellectual works". I ALWAYS instruct them to evaluate the sources, and consult the library if they need any help with this!

- o. One campus:
  - 7 Occasionally
  - 5 No

▪Examples:

I use it as an adjunct to other products, both subscription and free. GS is good for finding pre-pub (working paper style) content in the social sciences, including economics. In this way, it is akin to SSRN and Repec and CIAO. One strength of GS is that it searches full-texts of covered content - allowing one to find elusive occurrences of keywords embedded within an item. For example, author references to particular named data sources, publications, or institutions.

-After exhausting all other possibilities; if info can't be found in a licensed dbase

-After regular Google

-For obscure literature

-I have used Google Scholar at the Reference Desk several times and my feelings are mixed. On one incident an undergrad. was looking for scientific material of a lay person's level. We searched our databases including Applied Science and Technology and Academic ASAP, but the materials were too advanced. A search in Google Scholar got him exactly what he wanted.

- p. No
  - q. Rarely. I occasionally use it to locate an article for a patron when I'm having trouble getting access to the full text via UC-eLinks because UC links to the publisher are not working, for whatever reason. It's also faster for the user to access a full text journal we own, if it's in Google Scholar, since it's one click service. They don't have to navigate through one of our databases, and then figure out how to use UC-eLinks to get the article.
  - r. Only if I can't find any articles or only few articles were found after exhausted searching all databases available to the Library.
3. Do you point others (students, faculty) to Google Scholar at public service desks? Please provide examples.
- a. If needed, yes. When citations are not found using other databases, then we try to use GS. Most of times, info can be found.
  - b. No. They often already know about it. I find myself trying to temper their enthusiasm a little by reminding them GS is still beta, and we don't know what they are indexing so it's impossible to know what GS is missing. But it's a great resource for unaffiliated patrons, and I point them to it.
  - c. No. In fact I more often do the opposite: caution them that GS does not have everything and that if they don't also use a relevant article database they are probably missing a lot of important references.
  - d. One reason I don't direct patrons to GS is that they often want to see the full-content and they may not get that full-text through GS. And their fees here pay for licensing the full-content. In addition, they get the context, relationship to other material in the same genre/field, and access to scholarly and peer-reviewed information.
  - e. No
  - f. Never as the first course of action; it does depend on the question and how much we've found. I've used it for very specific purposes in film/television studies and other interdisciplinary topics, because it can be difficult to find comprehensive scholarship. For example, I was able to find an article with significant content about the film "Office Space" because Google Scholar searched through full article content (the title was "The Celluloid Cubicle: Regressive Constructions of Masculinity in 1990s Office Movies" and most databases did not index the film titles covered by the article). It's worth noting, though, that the only really useful content I've found is within subscription resources like Sage and Blackwell.

Faculty I've talked to are more interested in the Google Print project, partly as a way to do some quote verification (not as a replacement for the books themselves). Because of the fields I work with (literature, performing arts, etc.), the scholars I know are more likely to go into JSTOR or Project Muse for broad searching than Google Scholar.

- g. No
- h. Yes. If the patron mentions Google or Google Scholar, I'll take the opportunity to teach them about the OpenURL settings and the concept of subscription resources.
- i. Occasionally - especially when they want heavy fulltext and user has available remote access.
- j. I point off-campus people to it because they can search for information there without coming into the Library. But they tell them there is not free access to everything they might locate there.
- k. No
- l. I do, in particular with users that are not affiliated with UCI. GS is a good database for them to access outside of UCI when other licensed databases are not available to them.
- m. Yes. I have used it for the above reasons during a couple of Research Consultation Sessions.
- n. Yes! I worked with a student who had done a regular Google search for a complicated topic. They had been completely overwhelmed by the results, so I suggested they try GS - in addition to pointing them to library resources. I've also used GS as an option for non-affiliated users who wanted to do research from off-campus. In this particular instance, the individual was on vacation in the area, and wanted to do some research when they returned home. They were looking for older works that were landmark pieces. I suggested they attempt a GS search. I also indicated that their local library could also help them with the research. They were very interested in at least getting started in GS. Again, whenever I point someone to GS, I indicate that the indexed works are pieces that *Google* deems as "intellectual works". I ALWAYS instruct them to evaluate the sources, and consult the library if they need any help with this!
- o. One campus:
  - 7 Yes, occasionally (most indicated that they mention its limitations)
  - 5 No
  - Examples:
    - Worked with a graduate student who had no results in BIOSIS when she got hundreds in GS. There were unique citations in each set.
    - Have a discussion topic on Google Scholar in an online discussion forum about the libraries. The forum, called Study Break, is integrated into a digital community for undergrads. The discussion thread has received 975 views and a few student comments related to intellectual property & copyright.
    - Science & Engineering Library has an online Google Scholar FAQ linked from its homepage.  
[http://scilib.ucsd.edu/howto/guides/google\\_faqs.htm](http://scilib.ucsd.edu/howto/guides/google_faqs.htm)
    - Included a feature article in the Libraries quarterly newsletter (Spring 05, print & electronic)  
<http://libraries.ucsd.edu/services/navigator/spring05.pdf>
- p. No
- q. Occasionally. If someone is looking for the seminal article on a particular topic, if such an article is in UC-eLinks, because it has likely been cited a lot, it should appear at the top, or near the top of the Google Scholar retrieval list when searching that topic.

4. Do you point people to Google Scholar in classes you teach? Please provide examples.
- a. Yes. I taught GS at my CS/CE undergraduate classes.
  - b. I talk about the invisible web, and GS is a way to try to uncover some of this material, but it's library subscriptions that provide access to the full text of many of these journals.
  - c. No.
  - d. No, for the same reasons as in #3. They have access to peer-reviewed, scholarly and general information in our licensed databases, and that is what we teach in our classes.
  - e. No—2 times
  - f. No, most faculty I work with assume their students know about Google in all its forms, and want them to learn how to use the subscription databases since they are seen as less intuitive and better in content. We pay a lot for our databases, so we might want to encourage people to use them.
  - g. I mention Google scholar in all my instruction sessions, but I do not demonstrate or use it, or recommend that students use it, mainly because it's still not clear what's in it and what is not.

I actually think it would be great if CDL entered into an agreement with Google Scholar to make MELVYL and UC's licensed databases searchable on Google Scholar. As I understand it, some of our indexes are included and some aren't, and UC's catalog records that are in OCLC are in.

- h. Yes. I know undergrads are going to use Google and might know about GS. If I take a few minutes to show them, I am acknowledging Google's legitimacy. Since students use Google, it helps build familiarity and trust. Familiarity because they understand comparisons between GS and library databases and thus better understand the value of library resources. Trust because instead of encountering a librarian who disparages Google and GS, they encounter a librarian who values Google and GS for what it can provide while acknowledging its weaknesses.

I usually bring up Google and GS when I begin to talk about online resources from the library. It is a good segue.

- h. Not often - results are often too plentiful and it is hard to determine when relevancy is established
- i. Only one was mostly summer school special class who could use it from their home or school when access via special databases is not available to them.
- j. No
- k. I point my faculty to Google Scholar in faculty development workshops/seminars. I sometimes also pointed it out to medical students that I taught.
- l. Not yet.
- m. NA. If given the opportunity to teach a class on evaluating sources, I would definitely use GS in the exercises!!!
- n. 3 classes taught by librarians address Google Scholar:
  - Making of the Modern World, lower division, writing program course
  - Biomedical Library will offer a Google Scholar/Advanced Google class Fall 05
  - Have mentioned it (but have not demonstrated it) in some of the classes – usually when talking with undergraduate students. For example, we have a few sessions with students in bioengineering. Their field is cross-disciplinary, and I have mentioned Google Scholar as one place to begin fishing for information on their topic of interest.
- o. No - 2 times
- p. Occasionally



5. I find Google Scholar useful because...
  - a. of the speed, info can be found most of times; if no full text, locations would be provided or one can do Web searches as well.
  - b. it searches journals and sites Google previously didn't index. And GS allows libraries to place SFX brands to allow affiliated users to access material easily.
  - c. So far I've not found it useful at all, but I will say that I have not been spending time trying to find a use for it either.
  - d. Only in verifying sometimes difficult or incomplete citations.
  - e. It's one tool among many for finding citations on difficult interdisciplinary searches. It usually works better for a very specific phrase or concept, rather than a general topic.
  - f. It's another option to find resources.
  - g. I find Google Scholar useful because it's fast and simple. It has a little info on just about any topic – at least enough to help point you in the right direction and sometimes much more.
  - h. Eventually, it might have many older government documents available, hopefully free.
  - i. It is open access available to anyone who has Internet access. Furthermore, it is a diverse database that covers book catalogs, journal publishers' sites, article databases such as PubMed, etc.
  - j. It is another entry point for references and papers not found through normal channels.
  - k. The technology allows me to be as vague or as specific as I need/want. Once I understood the mechanism of Google, I was able to refine searches a bit more. I could also approach GS with a very vague topic, and use this search to help me narrow. It's a great mechanism to find the pivotal works in a particular subject (the works that appear on a variety of sites are good candidates). Also, the freely available nature of GS is very enticing, as is the simplicity of search interface.
  - l. Easy interface, good starting point
  - m. Teaching tool to introduce people to other resources
  - n. It's free and available to the general public
  - o. It puts pressure on ISI
  - p. To find library professional literature, especially very current references
  - q. It's sometimes good for bibliographic verification
  - r. Needle in the haystack searches but usually use the mother Google for those.
  - s. Eliminates a lot of extras from mother Google.
  - t. Sometimes to find items quickly rather than searching through library's databases
  - u. Quick and simple
  - v. Finds web-based white papers and specialized reports
  - w. It's easy and quick to search and linking to full text is available
  - x. It provides far quicker access to the full article than navigating through database and using UC-eLinks.
  - y. It's so easy and quick to find full text articles.
  
6. I never use Google Scholar because...
  - a. I use it rarely
  - b. I have tried it several times and not found it useful.
  - c. I do use it, but not as a substitute for scholarly indexes and databases. For all the talk (based on a lot of assumptions) about students preferring Google and having no patience for other tools, the sharpest critiques I've heard of Google Scholar have been from undergraduates. I've shown it to students who immediately question its validity since their instructors are being much more harsh about taking anything from the Internet. The students usually want some verification from me or their professor that what they've found is really peer reviewed and from a reliable source.
  - d. I rarely use it because we have access to better tools.
  - e. I've looked at it only a few times. While I did find useful things (and saw the difference between searching for the same Advanced Search in plain Google), I only go to any

Google when my searching in "licensed" databases (including Britannica online) doesn't yield what I'm looking for. The Advanced Search lines in Google Scholar don't offer me as much searching power as, say, the Advanced Search lines in the CSA databases. Just now I looked for something for a crossword puzzle I've been trying to finish. Who wrote the play, Streamers? I'm not familiar with the play but have heard the title. For the Advanced Search Streamers and (playwright or script) Google Scholar brought up tons of stuff unrelated to literature/drama. So, another problem I have with Google Scholar is that I don't know how to limit where it searches--is there a way to do that??? So, I'm waiting for Google Scholar to evolve some more--it's in its early stages. I'm mostly in a wait-and-see mode.

- f. I'm not sure what it includes
- g. It's hit or miss
- h. We have other excellent resources; no need to use it
- i. Use "real" databases instead.
- j. I use it but not that often. I don't use GS as my first choice because I am not sure what I am getting or missing. I do use Mother Google very frequently to track down "impossible" citations and often find things on non-scholarly sites that point back to a very elusive citation.
- k. I find it very difficult to DO anything with the results in GS except looking result by result.
- l. I know I can do a much better search in a subject specific database and am comfortable using a variety of them.

#### 7. Other comments?

- a. I'd like to examine how well GS searches scientific gray literature.
- b. I have seen complaints about GS on one of my UCSC faculty listservs regarding the linking being from Cross Ref and it having serious problems.
- c. I have no particular objection to it, if it works. It is to me a tool, like any other that I'll use if it is useful. But I do not find that it gives me different or better results than more specialized databases where the sources searched and the search mechanism have the advantage of being knowable. I will continue to try it when other methods fail, but so far it hasn't come through.
- d. I'm fine with UC-elinks being added to Google Scholar and I'm sure they get used as an entrance point that reassures users about what they are finding. I also hear this source being trumpeted a little too much by librarians who I assume are worried about being left behind in the technologically uncool dust. We shouldn't forget what we do best as a profession and telling people to use Google Scholar isn't it. Real research is often difficult and time-consuming, no matter how much one might wish otherwise, and not every problem can be solved by technology alone.
- e. I actually use regular Google far more often than Google Scholar. Usually when I'm head off to Google, it's because I've exhausted regular A&I/full-text resources and am looking for the needle in the haystack or the author that has posted a paper on their own site. Google Scholar doesn't pick those up.
- f. It is another source - output is far too overwhelming in most cases
- g. The Google search engine and Google Scholar has made a difference in library research and instruction. The site deserves kudos.
- h. I am so happy to see such a resource. I would like to see CDL forge a relationship with Google to perhaps consult on enhancements to it.
- i. I think GS is a great search tool - like many of the other library resources. However, GS is just a tool... It should never be treated as the "end all" search tool, nor should it be ignored. It's a great way for librarians to *teach users* how to evaluate sources, how to build a very targeted search strategy, etc. For the most part, I've used GS in tandem with library resources - for example, items with incomplete or erroneous citations. Essentially, it's a way for us to approach the user "where they live" - everyone's used to Google. The interface is very "comforting" to our users - so the GS interface is also less intimidating. Some of our users can benefit from the familiarity, and use it as a diving board into the

- more complex article databases that librarians are more familiar with. (i.e. wouldn't it be great if we could limit this GS search to only peer-reviewed journals? OR wish we could... - actually, we can with an article database. Let me show you how...)
- j. UC-eLinks suggestions:
    - No matter what we decide to do, no matter how imperfect it is, students will use it because they know about it. So if we can add an UC-eLinks with a text link that rewards something like "there may be more info available to you" that would be best.
    - The link below found in GS does \*not\* have the UC-eLinks even though we have the journal and I have set my preference to UCSD in GS. When I clicked on the link however, I could access the full text (is it by IP, I don't know).  
Nanotube Molecular Wires as Chemical Sensors. J Kong, NR Franklin, C Zhou, MG Chapline, S Peng, ... - Nature, 1999 - sciencemag.org
  - k. For detail on GS scope, coverage, functionality:  
[http://www.galegroup.com/free\\_resources/reference/peter/current.htm#google](http://www.galegroup.com/free_resources/reference/peter/current.htm#google)
  - l. I haven't had much need to use Google Scholar but I anticipate using more in the future
  - m. One librarian is putting together a page to be placed on the Library 's web site, advising patrons when to use Google Scholar vs PubMed

## **Google Scholar™ @ UCLA**

Gabriella Gray, UCLA User's Council Representative

*With input from the UCLA Google Scholar™ Team*

July 29, 2005

At UCLA a Google Scholar™ team was formed to address how best to address, incorporate or otherwise integrate Google Scholar™ into the Library's website. As a result of their work a direct link to Google Scholar™ has been added to the 'Search and Find' drop down menu located on the Library's home page: <http://www.library.ucla.edu/> . This menu also includes links to the UCLA Library Catalog, Other Catalogs, Article Databases and E-resources.

The team framed its approach by thinking about the research process writ large, and, within that context, thinking about scholarly search engines, of which Google Scholar™ is but one example. The team also recognized that while Google Scholar™ is a single evolving product, it is nonetheless a URL our users will want to bookmark. Finally, the team agreed on the need to reinforce the library's role by emphasizing not only the value of searching Google Scholar™ through the Library's home page, but also the value of the Library's E-resources, and, perhaps most importantly, the added value provided at the "front line" by librarians and staff.

The team agreed on the desirability of taking advantage of this educational opportunity to teach users about the research process and the various pluses and minuses of the myriad research tools available today. The link to Google Scholar™ is augmented by a series of webpages and online tutorials relating Google Scholar™ to the larger research process at UCLA.

***Google Scholar™, Search Engines, Databases, and the Research Process***

<http://www2.library.ucla.edu/googlescholar/index.cfm>

Describes the research process and contains links to two short movies designed to users decide which search engines to use.

***Google Scholar and...***

<http://www2.library.ucla.edu/googlescholar/searchengines.cfm>

Links to several search engines including Google Scholar™.

***Google Scholar or PsycINFO?***

<http://www2.library.ucla.edu/googlescholar/exercise.cfm>

Helps users decide whether to use Google Scholar™ or a more subject-specific search engine.

At UCLA, library staff places high value on "search as service" and also on information literacy. Google Scholar™, as other scholarly search engines, allows and enables users to search over scholarly content. Our decision to "elevate" Google Scholar™ to our home page reflects and supports these values. Our decision to nest Google Scholar™ within the context of the research process writ large similarly reflects these values, serving, at the same time, to reinforce the Library's relevance to the academic success of our users.