**WISER Finding Stuff: Conferences**Full PPT available from http://www.bodleian.ox.ac.uk/wiser

**Summary**

**Identifying and Monitoring Conferences**

* Don’t overlook developing personal contacts and serendipity
* You should identify relevant organizations/websites and use efficient ways of gathering information (RSS feeds, email alerts [www.jiscmail.ac.uk](http://www.jiscmail.ac.uk))

**Identifying Proceedings**

* Search library catalogues for print holdings
* Use Inter-library loan service for printed items not held locally
* There are specific databases for conference proceedings
* Many general or subject indexing databases allow you to search for conference proceedings
* Your subject librarian is always ready to help - see http://www.bodleian.ox.ac.uk/libraries/subjects/librarians

**General sites for upcoming conferences**

Science: *Nature* events: <http://www.nature.com/nature-events>

General: *Conference Alerts*: http://www.conferencealerts.com

**Use:**

1. Personal contacts - colleagues and supervisors
2. Organisational web-sites
3. Mailing lists (jiscmail.ac.uk good starting point) and RSS feeds
4. Google (for upcoming)/Google Scholar (for papers) or Gateways (INTUTE.ac.uk)
5. Brochures, mailshots, Department notice-boards, Ads in journals
6. Track key, active organizations from previous relevant proceedings
7. Ask your subject librarian and look out for library subject guides
8. Monitor conferences through Blogs, Twitter, iTunes, etc.

**Searching in Oxford University’s Library Catalogue for conference papers:**

1. When searching SOLO for a conference paper you need to search for the proceedings of the conference rather than the specific paper
2. Conferences are treated as corporate authors
3. Published proceedings may have different title to the original
4. Publisher may be different from conference organiser
5. In SOLO default search is by keywords which will include the Library of Congress Subject Heading ‘Congresses’ (note the plural)
6. So best to search for title / subject words and also include ‘congresses’

**Other Library catalogues**

British Library is a key source of information about published conferences and has a very strong collection which can be searched from catalogue.bl.uk/

Conference proceedings can be borrowed from the British Library by Oxford Libraries using the Inter-Library loan system – ask at the Radcliffe Science Library or see http://www.bodleian.ox.ac.uk/services/ill

**Conference indexes** – all available through OXLIP+ – use title index

1. ISTP – Index of Science and Technology Proceedings – now known as Conference Proceedings Citation Index & available through Web of Science
2. Conference Papers Index – available through CSA
3. PapersFirst and ProceedingsFirst – note that these titles are all one word.

Most **Subject-specific bibliographic databases** include conference papers and proceedings**.** Find those relevant to your subject via OxLIP+

You can check subject and general databases (via OxLIP+) for options to limit by conference as document type eg:

* SCOPUS
* BIOSIS Previews
* SIGLE : System for Information on Grey Literature in Europe
* SciFinder Scholar (Chemical Abstracts)
* Engineering Index – Compendex
* INSPEC (for physics)

**Institutional repositories** becoming good source for conference papers – make sure you send yours to our own Oxford Research Archive http://ora.ouls.ox.ac.uk/

Search them via:

OAIster http://www.oclc.org/oaister/

Google / Google Scholar

SCIRUS http://www.scirus.com

**Newspapers**

1. Often report on major conferences, usually while being held
2. Frequently do not give any indication of where proceedings / website can be found
3. Search newspapers through LexisNexis Nexis UK (Global Business and News Service), available via OxLIP+
4. Worldwide coverage, in English and some European languages

**Quoting conferences**

1. Be consistent and follow a standard system, e.g. Harvard, when referring to papers or proceedings.
2. Give as much detail as possible – remember how much trouble you had finding it! An accurate reference will help others.
3. Generally include:

Author(s) of paper - surname and initials Year of publication, 'Title of paper - in single quotation marks' [in] Editor (if applicable), *Title of published proceeding which may include place held and date(s) - italicised*, Publisher, Place of publication, Page numbers.

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