Keeping Up to Date
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Introduction
This guide will introduce you to resources and services that will keep you up to date with new research and developments in your field. You can set up the following types of alert:

- Table of Contents (TOCS) Alerts
  - TOCs from newly published journal issues
- Search Alerts
  - New articles and other sources that match your search criteria
- Citation Alerts
  - When a journal article or conference paper references a paper you have specified as being of interest

Alerts are normally received by email or RSS (using a news or feed reader). More explanation regarding RSS is available from http://zetoc.mimas.ac.uk/rss.html

Table of Contents (TOCs) Alerts
Zetoc: The monitoring and search service for global research publications
Zetoc is a British Library Service which provides access to over 30,000 journals and 52 million article citations and conference papers through the British Library’s electronic table of contents. It allows you to set up table of contents (TOCs) alerts for journals to receive a notification each time a new issue is published. An online guide with information on how to set up alerts is available at http://zetoc.mimas.ac.uk/quickguide.html

Access Zetoc from the A-Z list of Databases at http://isguides.hw.ac.uk/databases

Select Zetoc Alert - Access
Type in Heriot-Watt University

Login with your Heriot-Watt University username and password

Enter your email address (this does not need to be your university email) and a name for your alert
Select add journals

JournalTOCs: A free scholarly journal tables of contents (TOCs) service
Provides access (by email or RSS feed) to the most recent tables of contents of scholarly journals from publishers.
JournalTOCs is available at http://www.journaltocs.ac.uk/

Publishers
Some publishers also provide alerting services. They will send an email notification every time a new journal issue is published. Most publishers will ask you to register for this service. Publishers with free alerting services include:

- Elsevier/Science Direct
Search Alerts
You can set up search alerts to receive automatic notification whenever new search results are published that match one of your saved searches.

Discovery
Discovery is a search tool to help you find books, journal articles, reports, theses and other material on your topic. You can use Discovery to find articles from over 50,000 journals and 20,000 conference papers.

Go to Discovery at http://discovery.hw.ac.uk/, click ‘Guest’ in the top right corner and then ‘Sign In’

Run a search and view your search results.

Discovery restricts the results to items held in print or subscribed to online by the Library. To expand your search to include all publications, select ‘Search outside Heriot Watt’

At the top of the results page, select ‘Save query’
Your query will be saved to your ‘My Favourites’, which you can access from the top right of the screen by clicking on the pin button.

From ‘My Favourites, select ‘Saved Searches’ to find your query, then click the bell button next to your search to set an alert. An alert will be sent to your Heriot-Watt email address

Other Databases
Most databases allow you to set up a search alert. They generally operate in the same way to Discovery search alerts; allowing you to specify your search terms and criteria, save and receive an automatic notification whenever new search results are added to the database that match the criteria. An A-Z list of the databases available is at http://isguides.hw.ac.uk/databases

Citation Alerts
Citation searching (or cited reference search) allows you to specify a key article and look forward to find other works which have included it in their bibliographies, or backwards to see the works the article cited and responded to. Tracking the citations backward and forward can help put an article into context, broaden understanding of the research and help you discover other useful articles.

You can create an alert to notify you when authors cite a specific work using the following databases available from the A-Z list of databases at http://isguides.hw.ac.uk/databases

- Web of Knowledge
- Scopus
- Google Scholar

Web of Knowledge
Access Web of Knowledge from the A-Z list of databases at http://isguides.hw.ac.uk/databases
Search for article.

From the full record select **Create Citation Alert** to receive notifications when a new article is added to the Web of Knowledge database which cites the article.

NB. You will need to register.

**Scopus**

Access Scopus from the A-Z list of databases at [http://isguides.hw.ac.uk/databases](http://isguides.hw.ac.uk/databases)

Search for article.

From the full record select **Set citation alert** to receive notifications when a new article is
added to the Scopus database which cites the article.

NB. You will need to register.

Google Scholar

Access Google Scholar at http://scholar.google.co.uk/ and search for article.

From the list of results select Cited by.

From the list of citing articles select Create Alert.

NB. You will need to enter your email address.

Further Help

For further information and assistance contact the Library Enquiry service at libhelp@hw.ac.uk