

Webcite—<http://www.webcitation.org/index>

Fed up with reading articles where the web citations have disappeared?

Fed up with *writing* articles and wishing you could cite a website knowing it would be a bit more permanent?

“Authors increasingly cite web pages and other digital objects on the Internet, which can “disappear” overnight. In one study published in

the journal *Science*, 13% of Internet references in scholarly articles were inactive after only 27 months. Another problem is that cited web pages may change, so that readers see something different than what the citing author saw.”

Webcite is an archive which can be used by

writers and publishers to ensure that material which is cited can be referred to by readers of the future.

It’s free and straightforward to use—and handily there are even three useful references

you can follow up if you want to know more about what people are writing about the service.

(All archived by Webcite, naturally).

<http://www.webcitation.org/index#ref1>

R@P Redux

Referencing@Portsmouth—the Library’s referencing tool—has made it into *Intute* (“the best web resources for education and research”).

<http://www.intute.ac.uk/>

They describe R@P as:

“An online tutorial in citing and referencing created for students by staff at Portsmouth University Library. Although, originally intended for students of the University it is well written and contains much basic advice that could be applied elsewhere. Most sections focus on American Psychological Association (APA) variety of Harvard style referencing, although there is also help in using the OSCOLA legal referencing system and Vancouver biomedical referencing. Each section includes FAQs, examples, worksheets and glossaries of terms.”

With some 200,000 hits on R@P each year, it’s being well used by our students, but also by others from around the country.



The screenshot shows the WebCite website interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with links: HOME | FAQ | NEWS | APPLY | MEMBERS | SEARCH | COMB | ARCHIVE | BOOKMARKLET. Below this, the main content area is titled "The Problem" and discusses the issue of disappearing web references. It mentions that 13% of Internet references in scholarly articles were inactive after only 27 months. The text explains that the problem is that cited webpages may change, leading to different content than what the author saw. It also notes that the lack of routine digital preservation of cited digital objects has been referred to as an issue "calling for an immediate response" by publishers and authors. Below this, there is a section titled "What is WebCite®?" which describes WebCite as a member of the International Internet Preservation Consortium, an on-demand archiving system for webreferences. It states that WebCite can be used by authors, editors, and publishers of scholarly papers and books to ensure that cited webmaterial will remain available to readers in the future. It also mentions that if cited webreferences in journal articles, books etc. are not archived, future readers may encounter a "404 File Not Found" error when clicking on a cited URL. At the bottom, there is a section titled "WebCite® enhanced reference" which explains that it is a reference which contains - in addition to the original live URL (which can and probably will disappear in the future, or its content may change) - a link to an archived copy of the material, exactly as the citing author saw it when he accessed the cited material.

Citation Success

Congratulations to Bob Nichol and the ICG for their mentions in Science Watch’s ‘Featured Analysis’ entitled *The U.K.’s Citation Elite, 2003-7* by Christopher King.

<http://sciencewatch.com/ana/fea/08mayjunFea/>

Dr Nichol comes in at no.7 in a list of UK authors of high-impact papers, with 3441 citations to his 17 papers, while the University of Portsmouth comes 21st in a list of institutions ranked by citation impact.

King writes: “Among the list’s space scientists, Robert C. Nichol, Jon Loveday, and Avery Meiksin made the most of their participation in highly cited papers from the Sloan Digital Sky Survey”.



In Memoriam

On Tuesday the 21st October **Philip Dance**, our Acquisitions Librarian died as a result of renal failure. Although he’d had an unplanned operation during the previous weekend, the Library and many other staff were shocked to get the news on Wednesday.

With his grasp particularly of our deals with electronic resource publishers and the likes of NESLI, his presence is

already much missed. His love of words, literary knowledge and quickness at *Times* cryptic crossword clues makes the staffroom a duller place without him. His funeral was held at Portchester Crematorium on 3rd November and many members of staff—both past and present—were in attendance; a testament to the respect in which he was held.

Our sympathy goes out to his family at this time.