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Beyond the Chemistry Web

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Beyond the Chemistry Web

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The Chemical Safety Board (CSB) is an independent federal agency that investigates industrial chemical accidents. As part of their mission, they create CSB Safety Videos on some of their investigations. What sets these videos apart from other industrial hygiene safety videos is the coverage of real accidents – not staged ones. The videos show what really happens when chemicals are not handled, stored, or used correctly. CSB has produced about forty safety videos that can be downloaded and viewed for free. These videos should engage the attention of anyone who works in the chemical industry.

<http://www.csb.gov/videos>

The University of California at Santa Barbara has produced fifteen in-house Lab Safety Videos. These well done videos focus on safety issues in academic chemistry laboratories.

<http://blink.ucsd.edu/safety/research-lab/laboratory/videos.html>

Although the Ithaka S+R report Supporting the Changing Research Practices of Chemists studied British chemists, most of its results and conclusions likely apply to American chemists. The report examines research habits of chemists and what kinds of support they need, including support from libraries and librarians. Academic chemists have been slow to adopt online repositories and open access publishing. They feel overwhelmed by the amount of literature available and the difficulty to keep up-

to-date. They also function fairly independently from librarians and value libraries primarily for access to the journal literature.

<http://www.sr.ithaka.org/research-publications/supporting-changing-research-practices-chemists>

CrossRef is the organization behind the DOI (Digital Object Identifier), an invention which has quietly improved the lives of researchers, librarians, and publishers. The CrossRef database can be searched by journal title, journal title abbreviation, ISSN, or even subject. The CrossRef record for a journal provides its journal title abbreviation(s) and the years for which a DOI exists for the journal. CrossRef can also be searched with bibliographic information to find DOIs and links to specific articles but is unlikely to displace Google Scholar in this role.

<http://www.crossref.org>

Learn and share with other librarians what worked and what didn't at Library Success: A Best Practices Wiki.

<http://www.libsuccess.org>

The Wikimedia Foundation FAQ for Librarians – Outreach Wiki addresses questions about accuracy and other issues on Wikipedia. It offers four ways that librarians can help make Wikipedia better, including teaching information literacy skills.

http://outreach.wikimedia.org/wiki/FAQ_For_Librarians

Putting time in perspective gives timelines for the past day, the life of an American's thirty-year-old, the age of the universe and sixteen more time intervals. The timelines are a compelling way to visualize information which may appeal to many science librarians. It is from a new blog called wait but why whose eclectic entries aim to get at the bigger picture.

<http://www.waitbutwhy.com/2013/08/putting-time-in-perspective.html>