Creating Research Group profiles in Google Scholar

Creating a group profile in Google Scholar (GS) is a very powerful way to demonstrate the impact of your group, and you can easily embed a GS web address in your departmental web page, email signature or PowerPoint presentations.

Step 1: All agree some simple rules from the start

To create a really professional looking group profile, a few simple rules should be agreed first.

1. Make sure everyone uses the same affiliation (e.g. “Department of History, University of Leicester, LE1 8RR”). This should contain sufficient detail to clearly distinguish you from the history department at DMU, say. Including your postcode may help.

2. Each researcher should provide up to six key words and phrases to describe their research interests. There is no standard list so it helps to agree these collectively and in advance to make it easier for people to find you. It makes sense if two researchers who work closely together use the same key words.

3. You should also agree what photographs you are going to use: ideally these should be the same size and shape and have a consistent style.

Step 2: Group members create individual web pages

Researchers are now ready to set up their own individual web page in Google Scholar.
Google Scholar lists your publications and their individual and total impact and it is updated automatically, so little or no further maintenance is needed.

To set up a web page, you need first to sign on to a Google account. This could be your personal account, or a group account with a shared password set up by your research lead. If you are setting up a Google account for the first time, click here.

Once signed up, create your individual web page by following these instructions.

You will be invited to:

- Enter your name, email, job and agreed affiliation
- Describe your research interests using agreed key words
- Upload your photo, as agreed

**Step 3: Research lead creates a group profile**

Colleagues in Mathematics have created a nice group profile on Google Scholar.

This was achieved simply by replacing XXXXXX in the web address below with the search string mathematics+leicester

http://scholar.google.co.uk/citations?hl=en&view_op=search_authors&mauthors=XXXXXX

A little trial and error may be needed until you find a search that finds all the members of your research group and no others. For this reason, your postcode is likely to be very helpful. You could of course be more sophisticated, creating a different profile for each research group as well as for the whole Department.

Ian Rowlands, University Library, 4 March 2013