What is the University Search facility?

The Computing Service provides a University-wide web search service that allows users both within the University and elsewhere to search for information on over 850 more-or-less “official” web sites operated by the University and Colleges. Authenticated users can also view search results from pages restricted to University access.

For institutions, the service offers flexible facilities to provide searching within individual sites, avoiding the need for webmasters to set up separate search arrangements. We also offer full control of institutional “Quicklinks” to ensure that your users can easily find the information you want them to find.

The search engine visits University sites on intelligent schedules based on the usual frequency of change on the site. At any time pages can be added to or removed from the index, and complete sites can be re-indexed immediately on request. This is a facility not offered by outside search engines, and can make an enormous difference to the ease of finding up-to-date information.

Features

- Searches University web servers, the Reporter and Google results for the University, by default.
- For Raven-authenticated users it also searches the University Lookup service, the user’s home institution, and pages restricted by IP address to clients on the University Network.
- Suitably authorised users (institutional editors in Lookup) can set up their own search filters (a direct replacement for packaged searches) and can add “Quicklinks” – prioritised links returned for searches with specific popular keywords.

http://www.ucs.cam.ac.uk/web-search
Managing search

To be able to administer the search for your institution a manager must belong to the relevant Lookup “Editors’ Group”. This will give editing rights to set up search filters and to add quicklinks.

Using search filters, a search box can be constrained to search a specific institution, a number of URLs, or a particular sub-directory. Administrators can set up and use such filtered searches as they like.

Quicklinks are used to add information at the top of the results page when particular search terms or phrases are used. They are particularly useful for focusing on targeted information that otherwise might be obscured by a quantity of search results.

The Computing Service can also add to the search indexing, on request, any external addresses that you use that are for University business, and can advise on steps you can take to make searching as efficient as possible for your users.

Charging

This service is free.

Further Information

Email:  web-support@ucs.cam.ac.uk
Web:  http://www.ucs.cam.ac.uk/web-search
University Search:  University search

Related Services

Lookup – the University directory.
Managed web server – Apache, PHP and MySQL.
Falcon – A fully featured Content Management System.

Managed services for institutions

Calendar – Google calendar with Raven authentication and calendars of University dates
Desktop – central filestore, managed print, application delivery, personal and group web pages
Directory – web- and email-based online directory with delegated management of content
Email – spam and virus filtering, managed mail domains, institutional mailing lists
Hosting – networked rackspace in a secure environment with redundant power, cooling, fire suppression
Consultancy and support – reviews and strategic advice, recruitment, induction and appraisal of staff, institution support service
Network – end-to-end network connectivity: IPv4, IPv6 or raw fibre, installation services, wireless, DNS
Search – institutional control of quicklinks and filtered searches, for web and directory searching
Telephony – VoIP telephony with institutional call-logging and billing access
Training Facilities – training booking system for any course provider, bookable facilities, customised training courses
Video – recording, encoding, storing and streaming institutional video content
Videoconferencing – fully equipped central facility, equipment hire, consultancy on institutional facilities
Web – hosted web servers, Wikis and content management system

General contact for managed services:  UCS Institution Liaison office
Phone:  34720/48477
Email:  institution-liaison@ucs.cam.ac.uk
Web:  http://www.ucs.cam.ac.uk/linkpages/managed

http://www.ucs.cam.ac.uk/web-search