

# **Use of Portals by Academic Chemists and Chemistry Students**

Gary Wiggins  
Indiana University  
wiggins@indiana.edu

# Mules, Foxhorns, and Portals

## ◆ Aunt Fannie's Mule



# The ACS Portal Project

- ◆ Under development with input from ACS Division representatives
- ◆ GOAL: “. . . to create a site that will provide a compelling, dynamic, and interactive experience that can be customized to meet the needs of individual users.”
- ◆ To promote group collaboration and special-interest community building among existing communities and future self-defined groups

# Academic Portals: Refs on the Web of Science SCI, 1987-

- ◆ Search for "portal\*" (1987-) yielded 19,974 articles on August 19, 2001
- ◆ Found 42 with the strategy:  
portal\* sent (Web or Internet)
- ◆ Only 2 articles if you AND previous set with:  
(college\* or universit\* or academ\*)

# An Academic Portal Company: Campus Pipeline

## ◆ Campus Pipeline

- Unites multiple technologies (e-mail, student information system, course tools, alumni info, news services, etc.) into an electronic community

<http://www.campuspipeline.com/>

## ◆ Improve access to information

## ◆ Improve ways to collaborate

# Forthcoming Book on Portals

- ◆ Designing Portals: Opportunities and Challenges
- ◆ Editors: Ali Jafari (jafari@iupui.edu); Mark Sheehan (sheehan@montana.edu)
- ◆ Publisher: Idea Group Publishing
- ◆ To submit a chapter proposal:  
<http://designingportals.org/call4chapters.htm>

# The Jafari-Sheehan Survey

◆ Ongoing survey:

<http://designingportals.org/survey01.htm>

◆ Results to date:

<http://134.68.174.102/s1results/Default.htm>

# To Be Considered a Portal (Jafari-Sheehan Results as of 8/19/01):

- ◆ A site must allow customization.  
50 of 69 agreed.
- ◆ A site cannot display advertisements.  
18 of 69 agreed.
- ◆ A site must require identification of the user (authentication).  
45 of 69 agree.



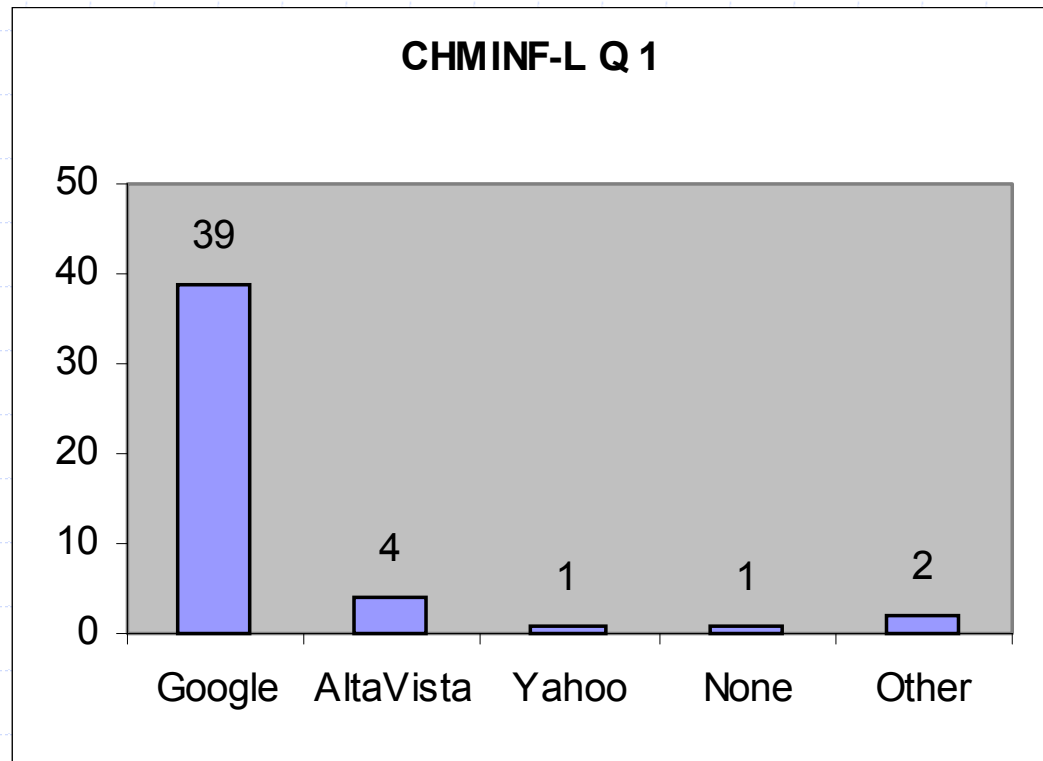
# Survey of Academic Chemists and Chemistry Students, 7/01

- ◆ Sent to CHMINF-L on July 21, 2001:  
49 responses
- ◆ Sent to Indiana University graduate students on July 21, 2001:  
12 responses
- ◆ Five questions concerning the use of portals, without defining what a portal is.

# CHMINF-L Response to Q 1

## ◆ Use most frequently

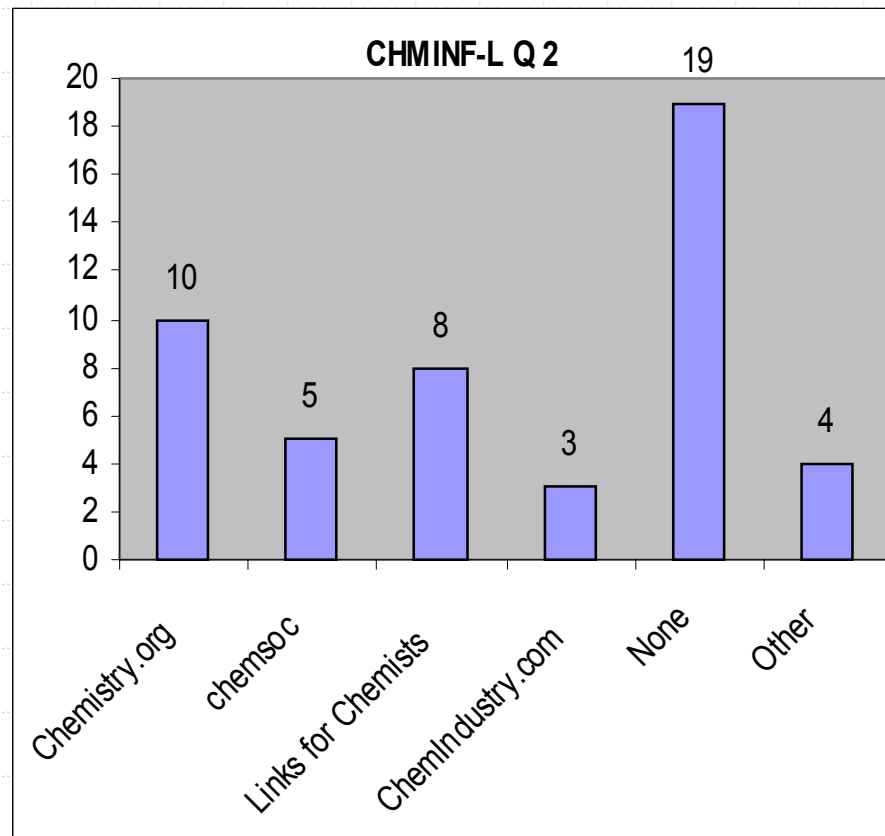
- Google: 39
- AltaVista: 4
- Yahoo: 1
- Other: 2
- None: 1



# CHMINF-L Response to Q 2

## ◆ Use most frequently

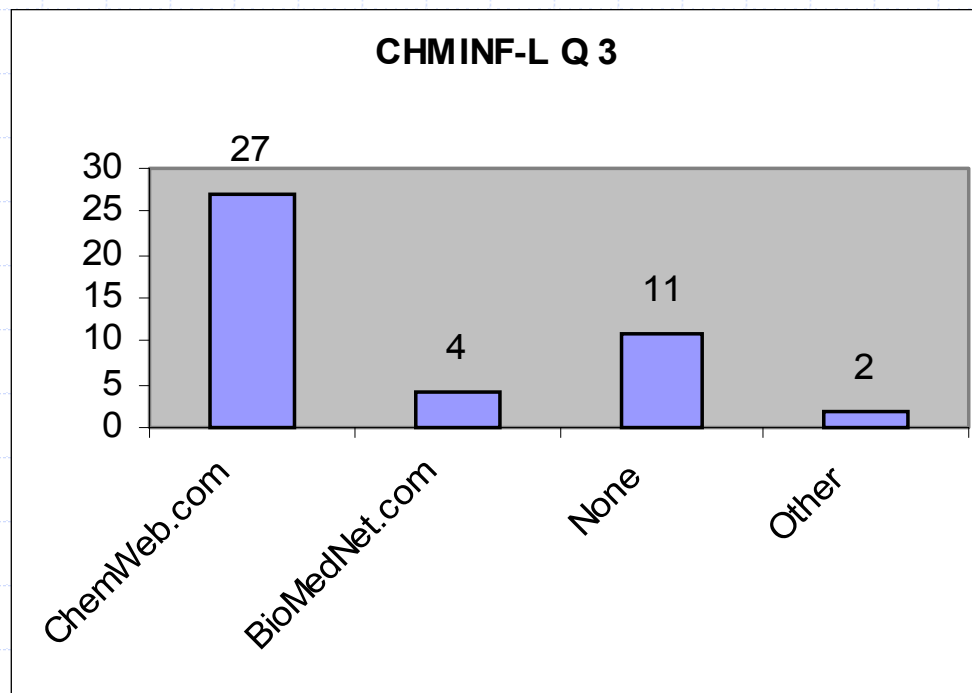
- chemistry.org: 10
- chemsoc: 5
- Links for Chemists: 8
- BUBL Link: 0
- ChemIndustry.com: 3
- ChemSpy.com: 0
- Other: 4
- None: 19



# CHMINF-L Response to Q 3

## ◆ Use most frequently

- ChemWeb.com: 27
- BioMedNet.com: 4
- Scirus: 0
- eScience: 0
- ChemGuide: 0
- Chemistry 2000: 0
- Other: 2
- None: 11



# CHMINF-L: Q4

## Which is a portal?

◆ ChemWeb.com:	18
◆ Google:	10
◆ chemsoc:	6
◆ BioMedNet.com:	5
◆ chemistry.org:	5
◆ Links for Chemists:	4
◆ AltaVista:	3
◆ ChemIndustry.com:	1
◆ Other:	1

# CHMINF-L: Q5

## What makes it a portal?

- ◆ Allows me to customize it to look exactly the way I want: 8
- ◆ Portal is just a site that links to many other pages: 25
- ◆ Portal assesses info about my use and customizes subsequent info presented to me: 12

# CHMINF-L: Q5

## What makes it a portal?

- ◆ A portal is linked to a database of information about me, and as my characteristics in the database change, the website must present different information to me: 7
- ◆ A portal requires me to identify myself to it (authenticate) each time I access it: 7

# IU Chem Grad Students: Q1

## ◆ Use most frequently

- Google: 6
- Yahoo: 3
- Other: 1
- None: 2



# IU Chem Grad Students: Q2

## ◆ Use most frequently

- Links for Chemists: 2
- Other: 2
- None: 8

# IU Chem Grad Students: Q 3

## ◆ Use most frequently

- ChemWeb.com: 2
- BioMedNet.com: 4
- Other: 1
- None: 5

# IU Chem Grad Students: Q4

## Which is a portal?

◆ Yahoo:	1
◆ Google:	2
◆ Links for Chemists:	2
◆ BioMedNet.com:	2
◆ ChemWeb.com:	1
◆ Other:	1

# IU Chem Grad Students: Q5

## What makes it a portal?

- ◆ Allows me to customize it to look exactly the way I want: 1
- ◆ Portal is just a site that links to many other pages: 7
- ◆ Portal assesses info about my use and customizes subsequent info presented to me: 2

# Association of Research Libraries (ARL) Scholars Portal Project

- ◆ A suite of web-based services
  - to connect the higher education community with quality information resources
  - to provide a discovery tool to search across selected websites, library catalogs, and databases to retrieve and integrate results in a single presentation
- ◆ Covers both licensed and free sources

# ARL Scholars Portal: Phase I

- ◆ Library OPACs
- ◆ ARL libraries subject Web pages
- ◆ Public domain A&I services
- ◆ Finding aids for special collections
- ◆ Resources digitized locally
  - ARL Scholars Portal Working Group Report  
<http://www.arl.org/access//scholarsportal/>

# Schoolzone--An Example of a Portal: [www.schoolzone.co.uk](http://www.schoolzone.co.uk)

MyZone - Microsoft Internet Explorer

File Edit View Favorites Tools Help

Address <http://www.schoolzone.co.uk/documents/myzone.htm>



Search Resources



Subject Search



- Events
- Schools
- Software
- Resources
- Books
- Suppliers
- Lessons
- News
- Teachers
- Students

## MyZone


## Register now

Share your favourite sites with other web-users, instantly!

### MyZone - your own page of links

- Preparing lessons for your class?
- Working on a project with others?
- Want an easy way to share web-based resources?

That's what MyZone is all about!

1. First you need to enter MyZone: enter your PIN in the box above.
2. Enter your password in the login box to edit the page - add your own title, image and text for your own page.
3. To add your own links to the page just use the Schoolzone site and click on the  which you'll

Go to MyZone:



Just enter the PIN

It's so simple! You can create your own page on the Schoolzone site and link to it from other pages on other sites.

### Build your own website

Quick, easy, instant and free! Use our web-building kit to create your own school website, entirely free, right now!

Mail this page to a friend

Help us keep SZ free



Students & Children



Teachers



At Home

# Gary Wiggins' Page on Schoolzone

MyZone! - Microsoft Internet Explorer

File Edit View Favorites Tools Help

 back

Search Resources

GO

Subject Search

**SZ**  
home

Events

Schools

Software

Resources

Books

Suppliers

Lessons

News

Teachers

Students

## Gary Wiggins' Zone

## Register now

Chemical Information Science and Chemical Informatics

Follow these links:

- [Bioinformatics](#)
- [WHAT IF](#)
- [RasMol Home Page](#)
- [PDB WWW Home Page](#)



## CHEMINFO

Indiana University

chemical information sources

Login

to edit this page

To create your own MyZone page of links [register](#) with Schoolzone

**SZ**  
home



# The Fox in the Horn

- ◆ Kind of looks like a porthole, doesn't it?

