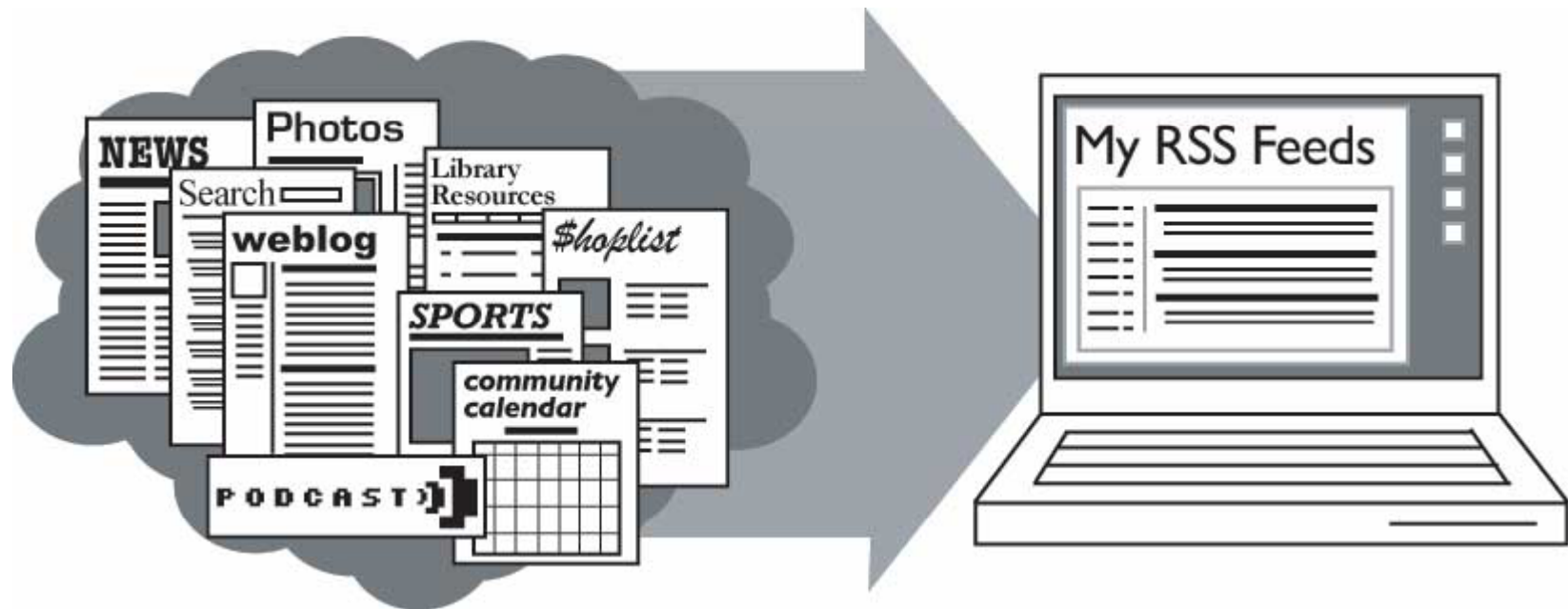


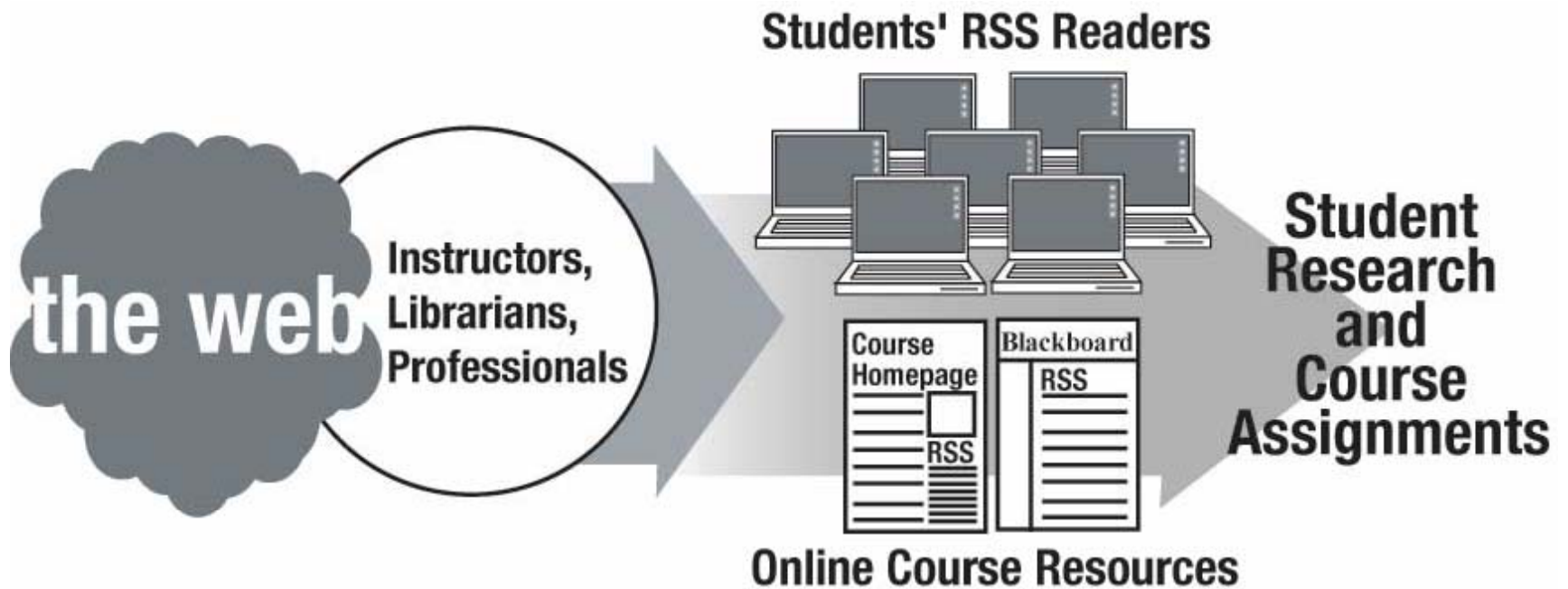
RSS FEEDS FREED FROM READERS: GETTING THE BENEFITS WITHOUT TRAINING THE USERS

*Greg R. Argo | Concordia University - Saint Paul
March 18, 2010 | <http://gregargo.info/rssfreed.pptx>*

RSS: What it is



What if?



RSS: The Good and The Bad

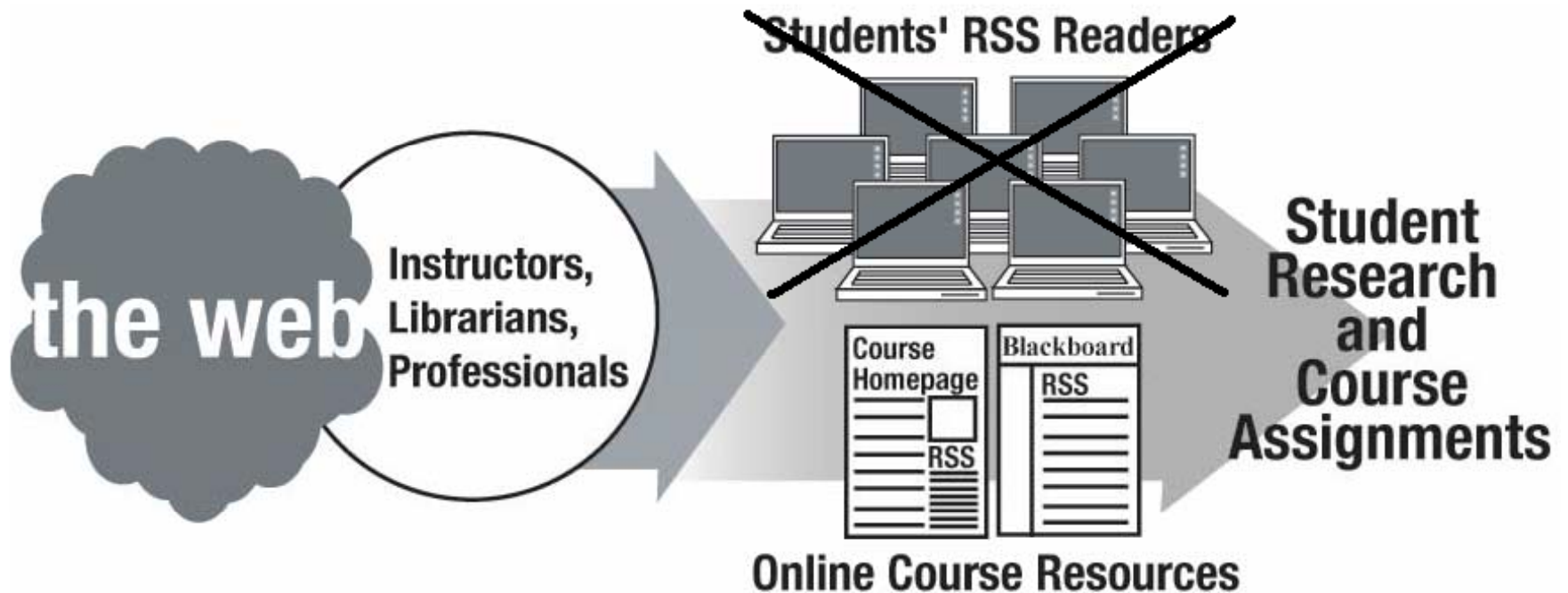
The Good

- ❑ Free
- ❑ Automatic
- ❑ Build Current Awareness
- ❑ Idea Generator
- ❑ Personally Meaningful
- ❑ Goodbye Email Alerts
- ❑ In Academic Databases
 - ❑ Consistent Searching

The Bad

- ❑ User Training
- ❑ Requires Maintaining Another Account
- ❑ Demanding of Attention
- ❑ Can Be a Distraction
- ❑ Full-text Embargo
- ❑ More load for Information Overload

So with an eye towards...



...we will learn



- Which academic databases offer RSS feeds
- How to configure these to work off-site
- How to display feeds on a library website
- How to develop current awareness feeds by combining multiple feeds into one
- How to create your own feeds
- How to port feeds through other services

An Easy Non-Library Example

GREG ARGO



WORK COMPLETED

Resume

- University of Texas School of Information / Augustana College
- Academic Libraries / Law Libraries
- Reference / Instruction / Electronic Resources / Web Development / Cataloging

Music

- Greg Argo / Stoked in the Head / vibrätär / Chillablé / RSS / The Filthy Hand

Art

- Oil Painting / Acrylic Painting / Watercolor Painting / Pen and Ink / HTML

Music Writing

- [Clearinghouse: The Clientele](#)
- [Manuel Gttsching E2-E4 & Inventions for Electric Guitar](#)
- [Landing Following Daylight](#)
- [Review: The Besnard Lakes Are the Roaring Night](#)
- [Review: Endless Falls by Loscil](#)
- [Review: Constellations by Balmorhea](#)
- [Syntaks Blue Sunshine](#)
- [Castaways and Bowsprits](#)
- [Review: Magic Chairs by Efferklang](#)
- [Review: 5 Pieces by MuskoX](#)

Book Reviews

- [Look inside the David Foster Wallace Archive](#)
- [Point Omega](#)
- [Rogue in Space](#)
- [Mao II](#)
- [The Heretic's Daughter](#)
- [The Memory Keeper's Daughter](#)
- [Into the Silent Land](#)
- [Bel Canto](#)
- [Wittgensteins Poker](#)
- [Hardboiled Wonderland and the End of the World](#)

Before getting in too deep...



Create a document to organize and keep all of your RSS feeds and Feed Creation Tools

- RSS Feed Combiners
- RSS Feed Displayers
- RSS Feed Creators
- RSS Feed Porters
- RSS Feeds

RSS in Academic Databases

Which ones offer RSS feeds?

- ProQuest
- CSA
- Gale
- EBSCO
- Others
 - BioMed Central
 - PubMed

Are there any issues?

- Off-Campus Access
- Proxy Server
- Permalinks
- Infomarks
- Bookmarks

My Configuration Experiences

- ProQuest – Emailed and asked. They did it.
- CSA – Login to My Research to create feeds.
- Gale – “We can...No wait, we can’t for you.”
- EBSCO
 - ▣ Add this line to EZProxy config file:
 - NeverProxy rss.ebscohost.com
 - ▣ In [EBSCO Admin](#), under Customize Services>Linking
 - Use this Profile for Persistent Links? YES



Customize Services

Authentication

Local Collections

Reports & Statistics

Database Title Lists

Current Site: CONCORDIA UNIV

Current Group: Main User Group (main)

Customize EBSCO services - [Tutorial](#)

Edit profiles for your library that determine which search options, databases, and collections are available to your patrons.

Choose Profile:
Description (Profile ID) - Interface Learn more about [Integrated Search](#)

[Profile Maintenance](#)

- New Features
- Searching
- Databases
- Viewing Results
- Linking
- Delivery Options
- Multilingual Options
- Branding

[SetUp/Maintain Proxies](#)

Custom Links

[Modify](#)

A-to-Z Link

[Modify](#)

Persistent Links

Use this Profile for Persistent Links

On Off

Preferred Authentication Order for Persistent Links

Site Information on Persistent Links

On Off

Login Information on Persistent Links

On Off

Primary Proxy for Persistent Links

Secondary Proxy for Persistent Links

Include scope information on persistent links

On Off

Proxy SetUp

- This is most likely already setup at your library



The screenshot shows the EBSCO ADMIN interface. At the top left is the EBSCO ADMIN logo. Below it are five navigation buttons: 'Customize Services', 'Authentication', 'Local Collections', 'Reports & Statistics', and 'Database Title Lists'. A dark purple banner below these buttons displays 'Current Site: CONCORDIA UNIV (s8427708)'. The main heading is 'Setup/Maintain Proxies'. Below this is a link '◀ Back to Customize Services'. There are two tabs, 'Site' and 'Group', with 'Site' selected. A link 'Add New Proxy Definition' is visible. Below is a table with four columns: 'Proxy ID', 'Proxy Name', 'Proxy URL Mask', and 'Proxy IP'. The table contains one row with the following data:

Proxy ID	Proxy Name	Proxy URL Mask	Proxy IP
1	Concordia EZproxy	http://ezproxy.csp.edu/login?url={targetURL}	192.231.160.55

[Top of Page](#)

Display RSS Feeds On Your Website

HTML

- Javascript
 - ▣ <http://itde.vccs.edu/rss2js/build.php>
 - ▣ <http://feed2js.org/>
 - ▣ Some services give you the code you need
 - E.g.: FeedMingle
- Your IT department

LibGuides

- Just enter the feed using the RSS Feed Box Type
- <http://libraryguides.cs.p.edu/biology>
- Drawback: Only displays 10 items

Combining RSS Feeds

Services

- [FeedMingle](#)
- [RSS Mix](#)
- [Feed Combine](#)
- [Yahoo Pipes](#) ([video](#))

Watch Out For

- Downtime
- Insertion of ads
- Spontaneous Obliteration

Create Your Own Feeds



- RapidFeeds
 - Free
 - Add Links, Images, Podcasts
- Yahoo Pipes
 - Much more difficult than RapidFeeds

Port Feeds to Other Services

- TwitterFeed

- Kill two birds with one stone, both Twitter and Facebook

- Facebook

- Options
- Settings
- Imported
- Blog/RSS

The screenshot shows a Facebook profile for Greg Argo. The profile picture is a man with a beard. The cover photo is a dark image. The profile name is Greg Argo, and the bio says "Heading to lunch with Martha and Jeanine. on Wednesday clear". The navigation tabs are Wall, Info, Photos, Boxes, RSS/Blog, Music, and a plus sign. The main content area has a text input field "What's on your mind?" and a "Share" button. Below the input field are "Attach" options for photos, videos, links, and events. The profile is set to "Greg + Friends". The "Stories Posted by You" section shows "Imported Stories" with a list of "Available Sites" including Flickr, Digg, Picasa, Delicious, Yelp, Google Reader, YouTube, Pandora, Photobucket, and hulu. The "Imported sites" section includes Last.fm and Blog/RSS.

Uses



- Subject guides: pushes current awareness, breadth
- Department liaison: publicly post info for faculty
- Virtual book displays: e.g.: delicious feeds
- Manage content from multiple sources on your website
- Intranet: more permanence than email, less detailed than wikis
- Combined with blogging, could be an alternative to course message boards, while archiving student writing

Questions and Comments



□ argo@csp.edu