

Structures vs articles? Teaching students the place of primary crystal structure databases in the information landscape

Judith Currano¹

¹*University of Pennsylvania*

currano@pobox.upenn.edu

Doing quick text-based searches for information has become ubiquitous to all aspects of human life, and, as a result, students' confidence in their ability to find scientific information frequently outweighs their actual proficiency in doing so. This presentation will outline efforts in a graduate chemical information course to teach students how to search primary crystallography databases, as well as other, non-textual methods of locating actual crystal structure data in the journal literature. The goal of the course is to teach students to be efficient and effective searchers of the literature, and we will outline the positioning of crystallography resources in the syllabus, some suggested topics to teach students at the advanced undergraduate and beginning graduate level, and methods of encouraging students to go beyond their preferred tools for greater, more time-efficient returns.