

GSB PhD Students

A Note From Paul, your PhD Liaison

a quarterly publication from the GSB Library



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HOW WE WORK WITH YOU

Over time the GSB Library has received numerous research requests from doctoral students. Here are some of the requests that have been received in the last year, to give you a sense of how we work with PhD students:

“I would like to get GDP data by state for the United States starting in the year 1990. I checked the Bureau of Economic Analysis, but they seem to have this data only starting 1990.”

“Looking for AM Best insurance ratings for the years from 2000 to 2013. I could only find the most recent data from the company website. Would you be aware of any source where I could get historical data?”

“I am looking for historical debt ratings for financial firms (banks and insurance) from the years 2000 to 2013. I know that Bloomberg has this, but generally requires accessing one firm at a time. Is there a better way to access this data?”

“Do we have databases of stock prices and company fundamentals of Chinese companies, traded in China and Hong Kong?”

“Which banks collapsed during the S&L crisis in the 1980s?”

“If I want to learn about an industry (say, car industry), where can I find reports that describe past and recent trends of the industry?”

“Need daily local temperatures in the U.S.”

“I’m looking for help finding data on beer TV advertisements during the NFL Playoffs. I have the time, the brand, and a short description of the ad, but I need to find the actual videos of the ads.”

Do you need help with your research project?

Just send us your request via [ASK US](#). A team of research librarians is here to help you. You are welcome to use the online request form or chat with us.

RSS & E-RESOURCES BROWSE

In Searchworks you can create an RSS feed on any search that you’ve done, including the use of facets to limit search results, by clicking on the orange RSS icon next to the result count on the upper right hand side of the search result screen. RSS feeds are automatically sorted by the “new to the libraries” option, a new sort option. If you want your feed to be of all the new books that are being added to a particular Stanford library, just select the library in the Library facet, and subscribe to the feed as described above.

Another new feature is call number browse for e-resources. An example is [Accounting for Carbon](#). Scroll down the bibliographic record, you will see the ‘Browse related items’ section. This feature only works for e-resource records that have a LC or Dewey classification number in the bibliographic record. E-resource records that lack such data will still be unbrowsable.

WRDS PERSONAL ACCOUNT

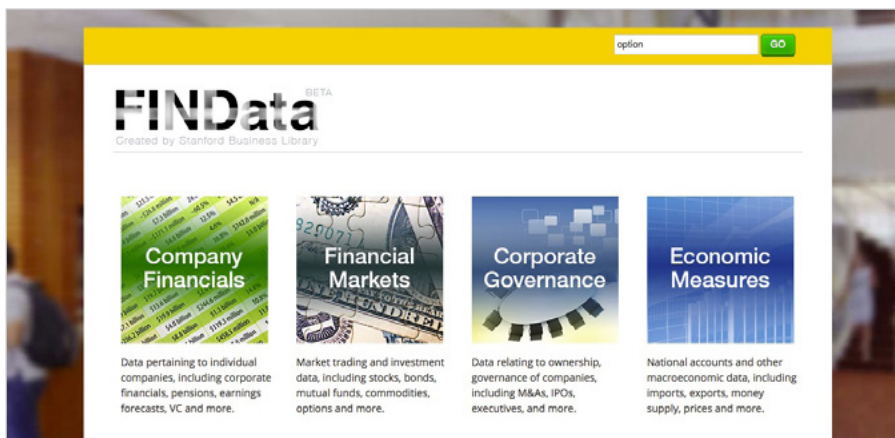
You can [request your personal WRDS account](#) by going to the home page of WRDS. Lately students have reported that after submitting a search in some of the databases available in WRDS after logging in through the Business Library site, the search did not initiate and the program returned back to the home page. This error does not seem to happen when using your personal account. In addition, a personal account will give you Unix access. It takes a day or so for the account to become active.

NOTE: A personal account is not necessary to access WRDS. You can go to the [Business Databases A-Z](#) and select the WRDS dataset you'd like to access.

FINDATA: A DATA DISCOVERY TOOL

Created by the GSB Library, [FINData](#) is a quick discovery tool for a wide range of online corporate and economic data sources found at Stanford (other outside sources like FRED are gradually being added.) It is organized into four broad areas — Company Financials, Financial Markets, Corporate Governance and Economic Indicators — but can be searched across categories using the Search box.

When FINData was first developed we obtained feedback from some of the PhD students. We greatly appreciate any and all continuing feedback from you. Help us make FINData help you!



DATABASE TRAINING

'Bloomberg Bullseye' sessions will be offered in February.

These are short (30 min. max) hands-on introductions to the basic functions and more popular data-finding functions of the Bloomberg, a widely-used tool of researchers and Wall Street analysts.

Please check the library Homepage for dates and times.

If you already signed up for any of these classes during the Open House in September last year, you will be notified in advance before the next class offering.

BUSINESS RESEARCH FAQ

Need to find some piece of information in a hurry? Try the Library's [Business Research FAQ](#) site.

Here there are hundreds of answers to commonly (or NOT so commonly) asked questions about resources for research. Some examples:

- “Where can I find stock splits?”
- “Where can I find a listing of exchange traded funds?”
- “Where can I find advertising rates in various media?”
- “Where can I find information of sovereign debt ratings?”

And if this doesn't work ... ask your friendly librarians, who put this site together.