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Web 2.0

In the mid-1990s, the Web began as a repository of static information. By the turn of the century, the Web became much more interactive, allowing users to dynamically create, share, and interact with content. Thus, the term "Web 2.0" was coined as a description for this 21st century phenomenon.

Web 2.0 describes advanced Internet technology and applications like blogs, wikis, RSS and social bookmarking. The two major components of Web 2.0 are advances in technology and the user empowerment that these advancements engender. As Web applications become more user-friendly, researchers can easily develop elaborate personal Web pages, create professional blogs, and also share their research to a wider—and sometimes new!—audience.
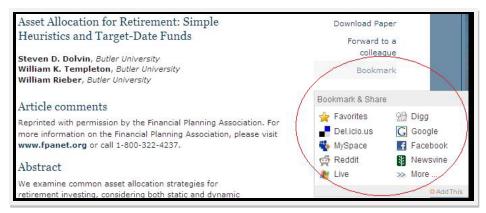
How Digital Commons is Web 2.0

Digital Commons allows contributors to actively and passively utilize Web 2.0 technologies to promote their scholarship. It does so in three main ways:

1. The platform is optimized for fast and accurate indexing by Google and Google Scholar. Therefore, contributors to a Digital Commons site are often ranked high in Internet search results.

2. From your SelectedWorks site colleagues can subscribe to e-mail notifications or an RSS feed that will notify them when new content is added to your page.

3. All contributions to the repository can be shared through such popular social networking sites as Facebook, Delicious, and StumbleUpon. To take advantage of this capability just mouse over the "Bookmark" link at the top of any record.

Please share this newsletter with your colleagues!