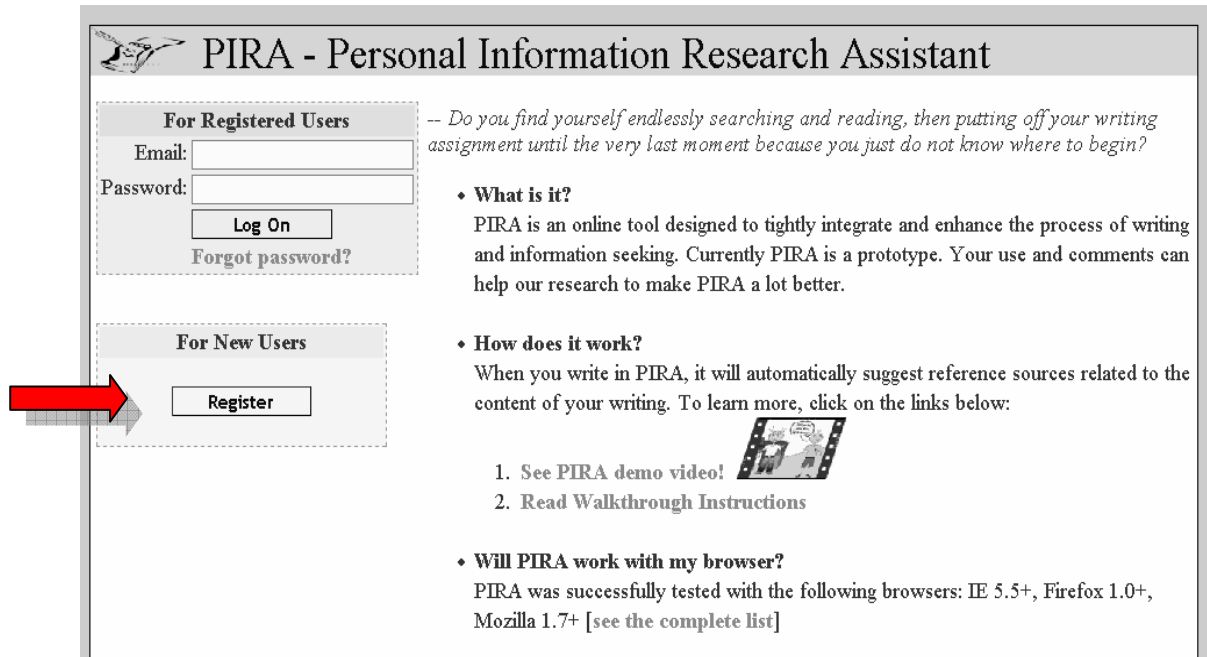


PIRA - Personal Information Research Assistant Walkthrough Instructions

Step 1. Open your web browser and go to <http://pira.isrl.uiuc.edu>

Step 2. Register

Step 2.1. Click on the "Register" button to create a new account



PIRA - Personal Information Research Assistant

-- Do you find yourself endlessly searching and reading, then putting off your writing assignment until the very last moment because you just do not know where to begin?


For Registered Users

Email:

Password:

[Forgot password?](#)

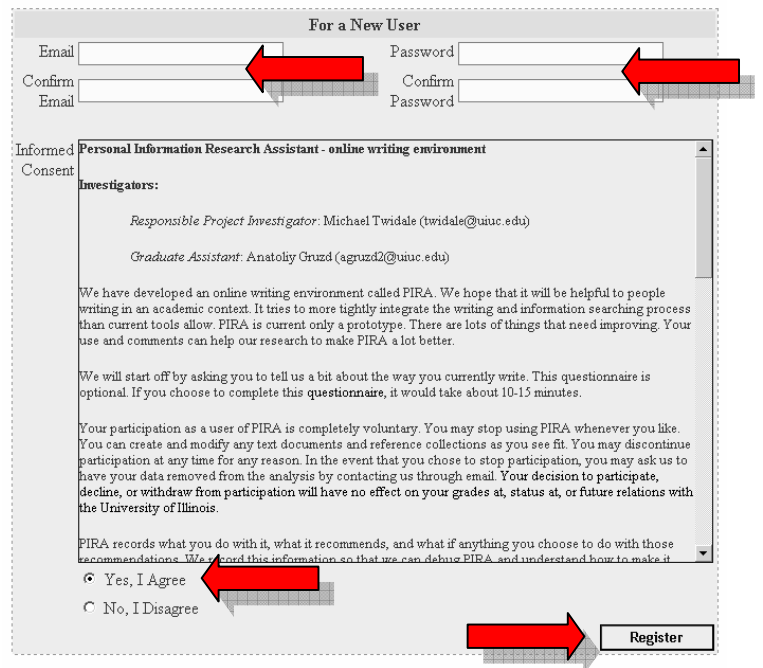
For New Users

- **What is it?**
PIRA is an online tool designed to tightly integrate and enhance the process of writing and information seeking. Currently PIRA is a prototype. Your use and comments can help our research to make PIRA a lot better.
- **How does it work?**
When you write in PIRA, it will automatically suggest reference sources related to the content of your writing. To learn more, click on the links below:
 1. See [PIRA demo video!](#) 
 2. Read [Walkthrough Instructions](#)
- **Will PIRA work with my browser?**
PIRA was successfully tested with the following browsers: IE 5.5+, Firefox 1.0+, Mozilla 1.7+ [[see the complete list](#)]

Step 2.2. Fill out the registration form

All fields are required. Your email address will also serve as your username. Your password (case-sensitive) must be at least 6 characters long.

Please note that you must read and agree to the terms of the Informed Consent document before you can register and use PIRA.



For a New User

Email Password

Confirm Email Confirm Password

Informed Consent

Personal Information Research Assistant - online writing environment

Investigators:

Responsible Project Investigator: Michael Twidale (twidale@uiuc.edu)

Graduate Assistant: Anatoliy Gruzd (agruz42@uiuc.edu)

We have developed an online writing environment called PIRA. We hope that it will be helpful to people writing in an academic context. It tries to more tightly integrate the writing and information searching process than current tools allow. PIRA is current only a prototype. There are lots of things that need improving. Your use and comments can help our research to make PIRA a lot better.

We will start off by asking you to tell us a bit about the way you currently write. This questionnaire is optional. If you choose to complete this questionnaire, it would take about 10-15 minutes.

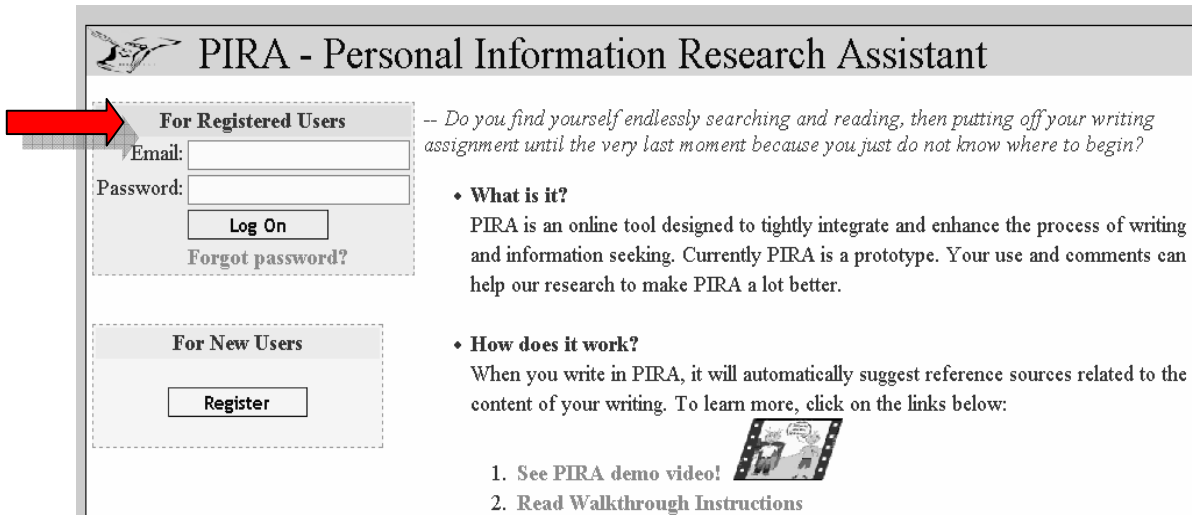
Your participation as a user of PIRA is completely voluntary. You may stop using PIRA whenever you like. You can create and modify any text documents and reference collections as you see fit. You may discontinue participation at any time for any reason. In the event that you choose to stop participation, you may ask us to have your data removed from the analysis by contacting us through email. Your decision to participate, decline, or withdraw from participation will have no effect on your grades at, status at, or future relations with the University of Illinois.

PIRA records what you do with it, what it recommends, and what if anything you choose to do with those recommendations. We record this information so that we can debug PIRA and understand how to make it

Yes, I Agree

No, I Disagree

Step 3. Sign in



PIRA - Personal Information Research Assistant

-- Do you find yourself endlessly searching and reading, then putting off your writing assignment until the very last moment because you just do not know where to begin?


For Registered Users

Email:

Password:

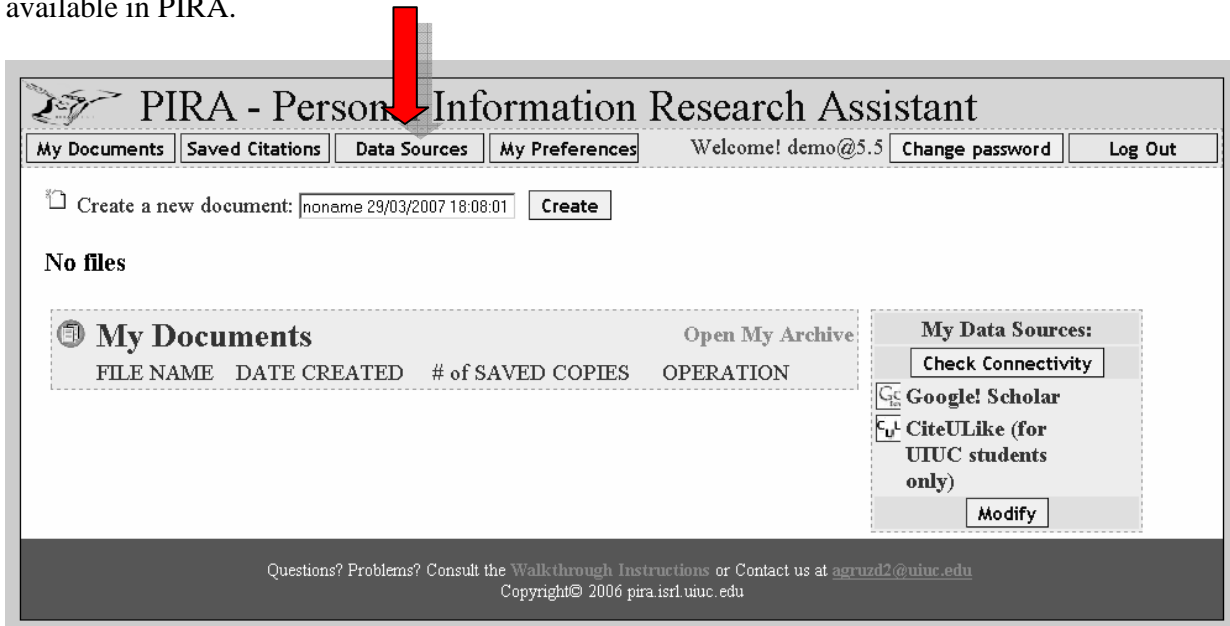
[Forgot password?](#)

For New Users

- **What is it?**
PIRA is an online tool designed to tightly integrate and enhance the process of writing and information seeking. Currently PIRA is a prototype. Your use and comments can help our research to make PIRA a lot better.
- **How does it work?**
When you write in PIRA, it will automatically suggest reference sources related to the content of your writing. To learn more, click on the links below:
 1. See PIRA demo video! 
 2. Read Walkthrough Instructions

Step 4. Select your preferred external information data sources

Click on the "Data Sources" button in the main menu to see a list of bibliographic databases that are available in PIRA.



PIRA - Personal Information Research Assistant

My Documents | **Data Sources** | Saved Citations | My Preferences | Welcome! demo@5.5 | |

Create a new document:

No files

My Documents

FILE NAME	DATE CREATED	# of SAVED COPIES	OPERATION
No files			

My Data Sources:

Google! Scholar

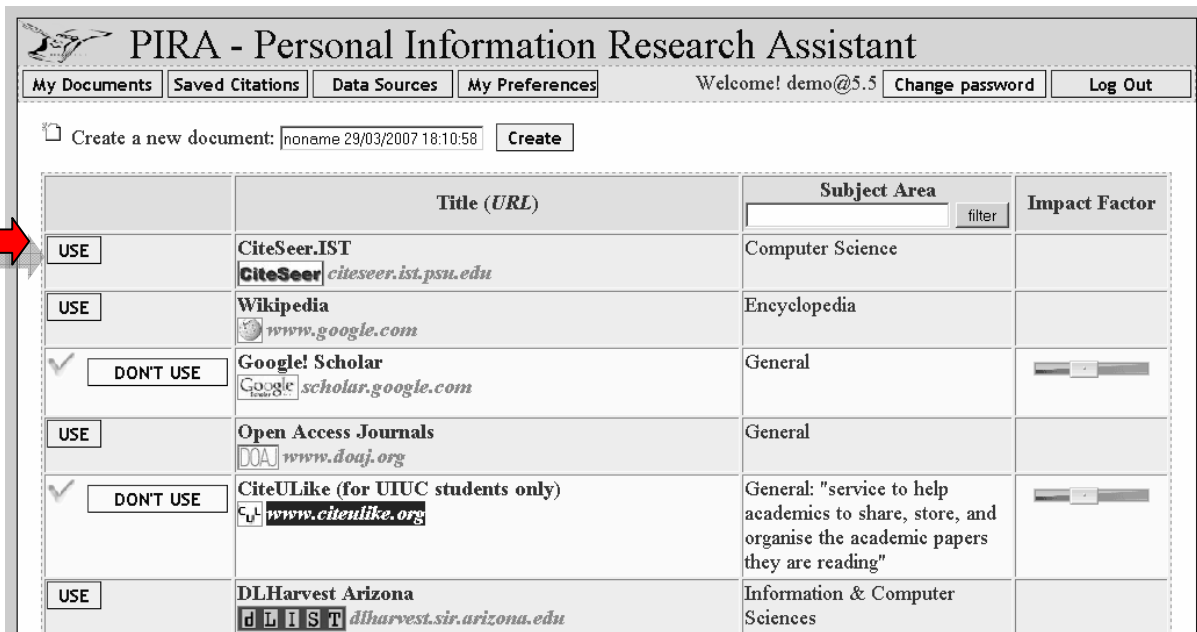
CiteULike (for UIUC students only)

Questions? Problems? Consult the [Walkthrough Instructions](#) or Contact us at agruzd2@uiuc.edu
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By default, Google!Scholar (scholar.google.com) and CiteULike (www.citeulike.org) are automatically selected. You can leave the default selection or build your own personal list. For example, depending on your research topic, you may prefer to only use specialized data sources like *CiteSeer.IST* (Information & Computer Science – oriented), or you might choose to use only general sources like *Google!Scholar*. To select or deselect an external data source, just simply click the “USE” or “DON’T USE” button accordingly.

If you have any questions, please contact Anatoliy Gruzd (agruzd2@uiuc.edu)

This document was created on 3/30/2007



PIRA - Personal Information Research Assistant

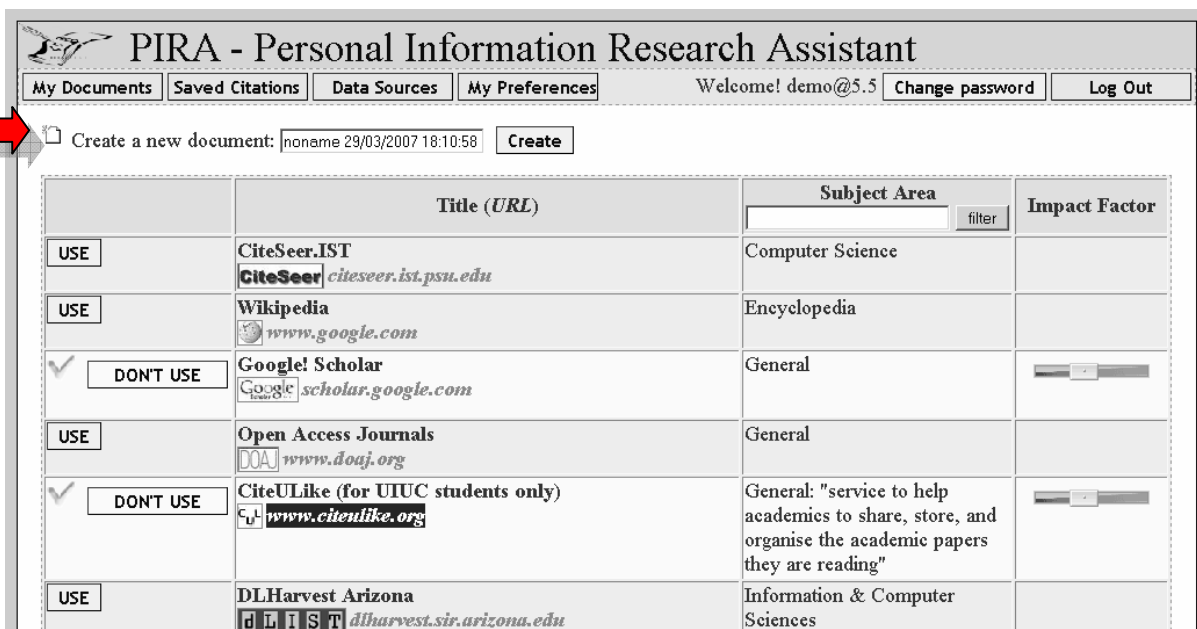
My Documents | Saved Citations | Data Sources | My Preferences | Welcome! demo@5.5 | Change password | Log Out

Create a new document:

	Title (URL)	Subject Area	Impact Factor
<input type="button" value="USE"/>	CiteSeer.IST CiteSeer citeseer.ist.psu.edu	Computer Science	
<input type="button" value="USE"/>	Wikipedia www.google.com	Encyclopedia	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input type="button" value="DONT USE"/>	Google! Scholar Google scholar.google.com	General	<input type="text" value=""/>
<input type="button" value="USE"/>	Open Access Journals DOAJ www.doaj.org	General	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input type="button" value="DONT USE"/>	CiteULike (for UIUC students only) CUL www.citenuke.org	General: "service to help academics to share, store, and organise the academic papers they are reading"	<input type="text" value=""/>
<input type="button" value="USE"/>	DLHarvest Arizona DLIST dlharvest.sir.arizona.edu	Information & Computer Sciences	

Step 5. Create a new document

Now PIRA is ready to assist you with your writing assignment. To create a new document, input a desired filename into the provided textbox (just below the main menu) and click the "Create" button.



PIRA - Personal Information Research Assistant

My Documents | Saved Citations | Data Sources | My Preferences | Welcome! demo@5.5 | Change password | Log Out

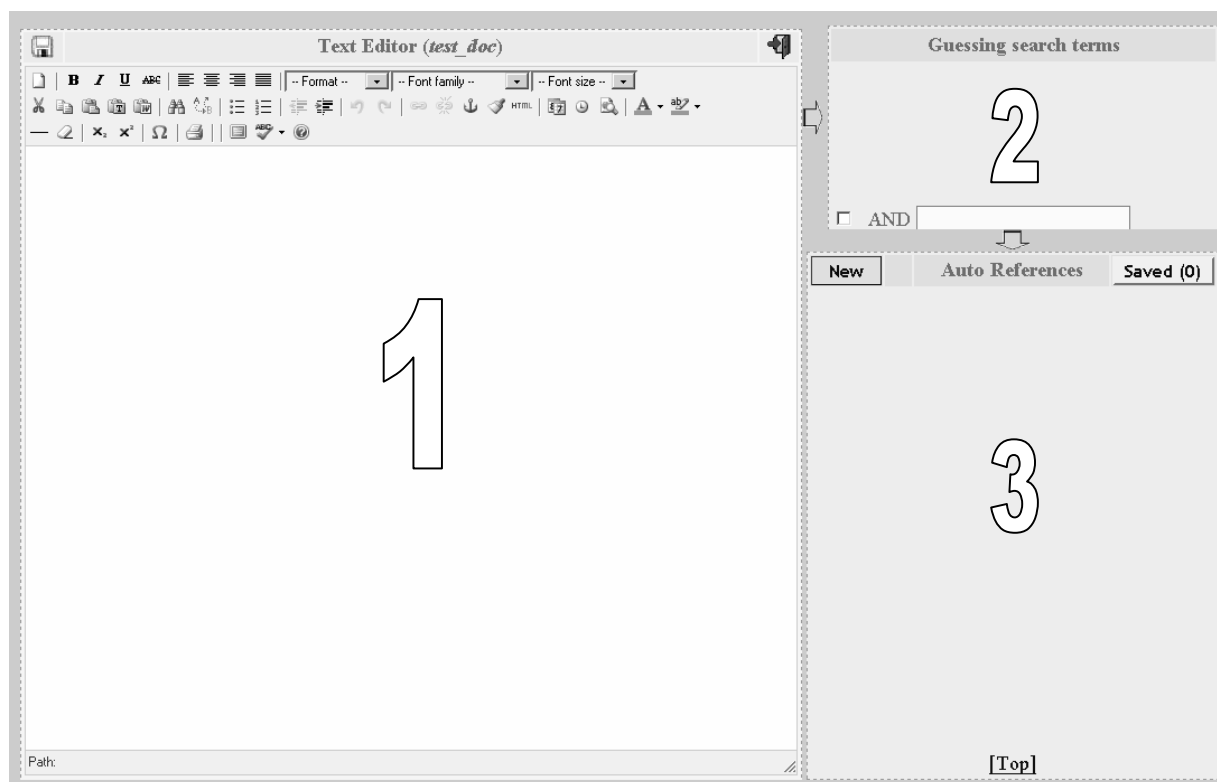
Create a new document:

	Title (URL)	Subject Area	Impact Factor
<input type="button" value="USE"/>	CiteSeer.IST CiteSeer citeseer.ist.psu.edu	Computer Science	
<input type="button" value="USE"/>	Wikipedia www.google.com	Encyclopedia	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input type="button" value="DONT USE"/>	Google! Scholar Google scholar.google.com	General	<input type="text" value=""/>
<input type="button" value="USE"/>	Open Access Journals DOAJ www.doaj.org	General	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input type="button" value="DONT USE"/>	CiteULike (for UIUC students only) CUL www.citenuke.org	General: "service to help academics to share, store, and organise the academic papers they are reading"	<input type="text" value=""/>
<input type="button" value="USE"/>	DLHarvest Arizona DLIST dlharvest.sir.arizona.edu	Information & Computer Sciences	

If you have any questions, please contact Anatoliy Gruzd (agruzd2@uiuc.edu)

This document was created on 3/30/2007




PIRA will then open a new web page consisting of three parts. Part 1 is a **Text Editor**; part 2 is the **Suggested Search Terms** pane and part 3 is the **Auto References** pane (see screenshot below). To get some recommendations from PIRA, just start typing into the text editor pane.



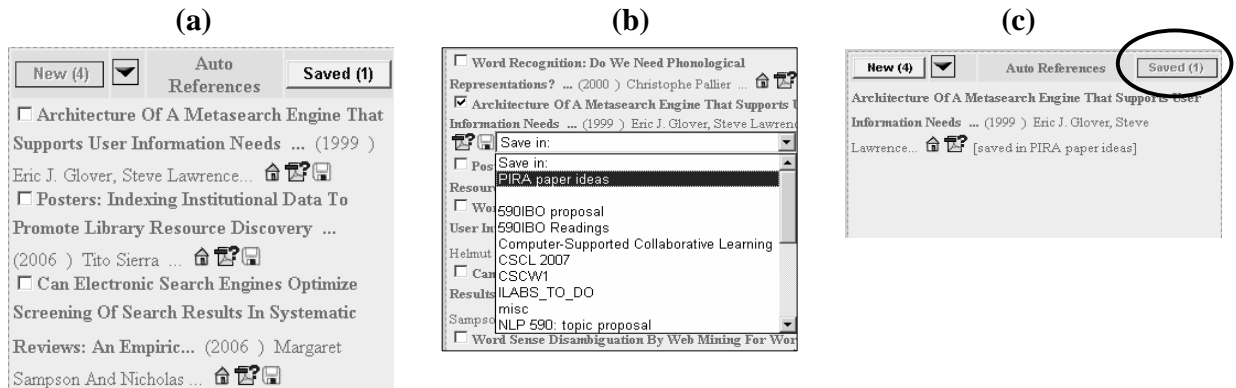
Note: PIRA will save your work at every **3 minutes** interval. If at any point you want to revert back to or review a recent version of the document you are working on, click on the “Open my archive” link on the PIRA default “My Document” opening screen.

PIRA has been programmed to **automatically** and continuously suggest new reference sources related to the content of your writing. As you add new content, newer suggested references will be presented for your consideration and earlier suggested references will be pushed down the list and eventually will disappear. To ensure that you don’t miss any potentially relevant references, you should periodically glance at the sources suggested by PIRA.

If you find a potentially useful citation among the sources suggested by PIRA you can temporarily lock the citation in the “Auto References” pane by clicking on the checkbox in the front of the suggested reference. Along with temporarily locking the citation, you can also choose from one of three other possible actions by clicking on the appropriate icons at the end of each citation:

-  - read the full citation and abstract of the article from the digital library;
-  - open a full-text PDF in a new window if provided by the digital library;
-  - save the citation for use in future sessions.

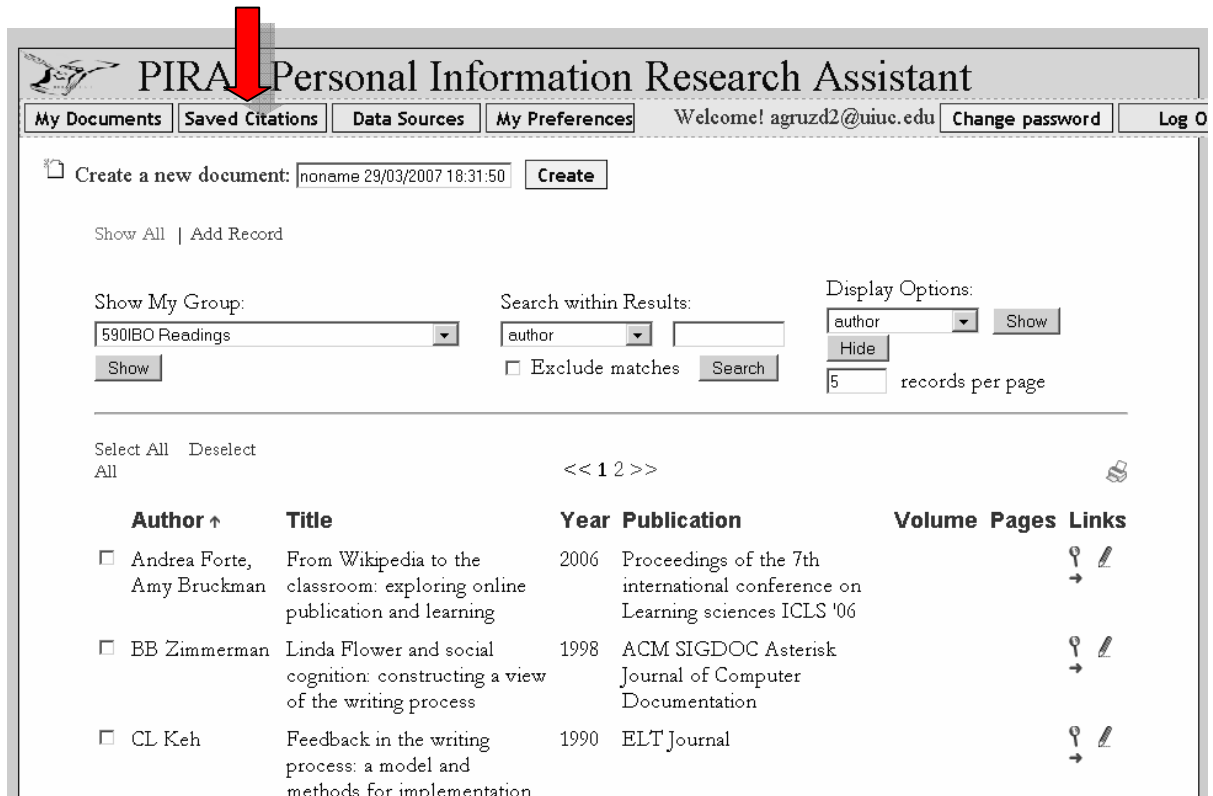
If you decide to save a citation for later use, you will have the option of associating the suggested reference with the current document that you are working on or any other (saved) documents in your “My Documents” folder. (To confirm that the citation is saved for later use, you may click on the “Saved” button at the top of the Auto References pane, see Screenshot C below).



Step 6. Managing your collection of citations

You can manage your collection of saved citations by clicking on “Saved Citations” from the main menu. On that page you can

- Edit saved citation(s)
- Search within saved citation(s)
- Export citation(s) into Bibtext, EndNote, or XML format
- Create a new subject group
- Add citation(s) to a subject group



If you have any questions, please contact Anatoliy Gruzd (agruzd2@uiuc.edu)

This document was created on 3/30/2007

Upon your third sign-on to PIRA, you will be asked to complete a brief Evaluative Questionnaire. Please be as candid as possible. Your comments will be use to improve future versions of PIRA. After you have completed the questionnaire, you can then proceed onto PIRA as normal.

PIRA Evaluative Questionnaire	
Welcome back! We would like to ask you some questions about what you think about the use of PIRA, and how you think it might be improved.	
1.	Which PIRA features did you found MOST useful? Can you tell us why? <input type="text"/>
2.	Which PIRA features did you found LEAST useful? Can you tell us why? <input type="text"/>

You are welcome to come back and use PIRA at anytime for any academic writing projects during the duration of this study!!!