

Flight Tracker Consortium Meeting

March 4, 2026



<https://edgeforscholars.vumc.org>

https://redcap.link/flight_tracker

Meeting Agenda



Current Version:
v6.23.2

What's New?
Sprint for **v6.23.3**

Deep Dive: The Scholar Portal

What's Next?
Major Additions in **v6.24.0**
Summer/Fall Plans
Flight Connector: Build a Network



**FLIGHT
TRACKER**
FOR SCHOLARS

What's New?

Ongoing Work on v6.23.3



- Include all surveys in Scholar Portal's survey page
- Add Translational Science questions to Flight Tracker surveys
- Four bug fixes, including:
 - ERIC pubs showing in Publication Wrangler
 - Backfill ORCID biography information
- Vanderbilt-specific improvements



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Deep Dive

The Scholar Portal

Outline



- Motivations
- How It Works
- Your Info menu
- Your Graphics menu
- Your Network menu
 - Find a Collaborator
- Live Demo
- Administration
 - Spoofing Users
 - Getting the Word Out

Motivations

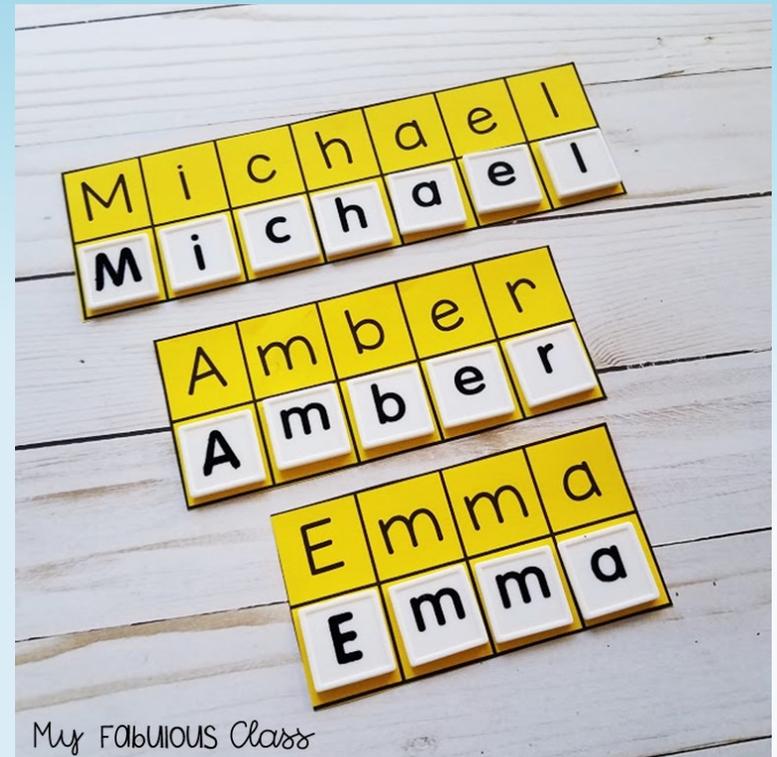


- Allow scholars to access their own data
 - Job applications, promotion applications
 - Be aware of their own career development
- Coordinate publication wrangling?
- Submit data to Flight Tracker
- ***Collaboration***



Being “in the Scholar Portal”

- Being “in the Scholar Portal” means that a scholar is tracked by a Flight Tracker project on your REDCap server
 - Can be in more than one project
- Achieved by name-matching their first and last names in Flight Tracker with their name in REDCap
 - Inherently imprecise



How It Works



- Access link & log in to REDCap
- The Scholar Portal reads your name from your REDCap login and matches it against all Flight Tracker projects
 - Inherently insecure: name-matching
- You have access to your data in any of the matched projects
- The system does NOT reconcile the projects' data together!

Matches in All Flight Trackers Across Vanderbilt: Select One

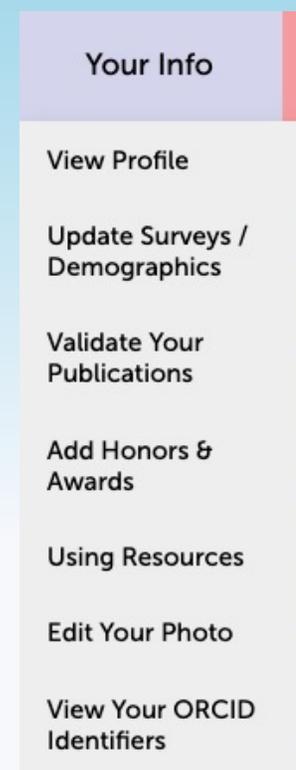
Select a Flight Tracker Project to Use Their Data

Each Flight Tracker project you have ever been a part of is listed below, including ones where you are no longer being tracked. Choose the project for which you wish to view your information.

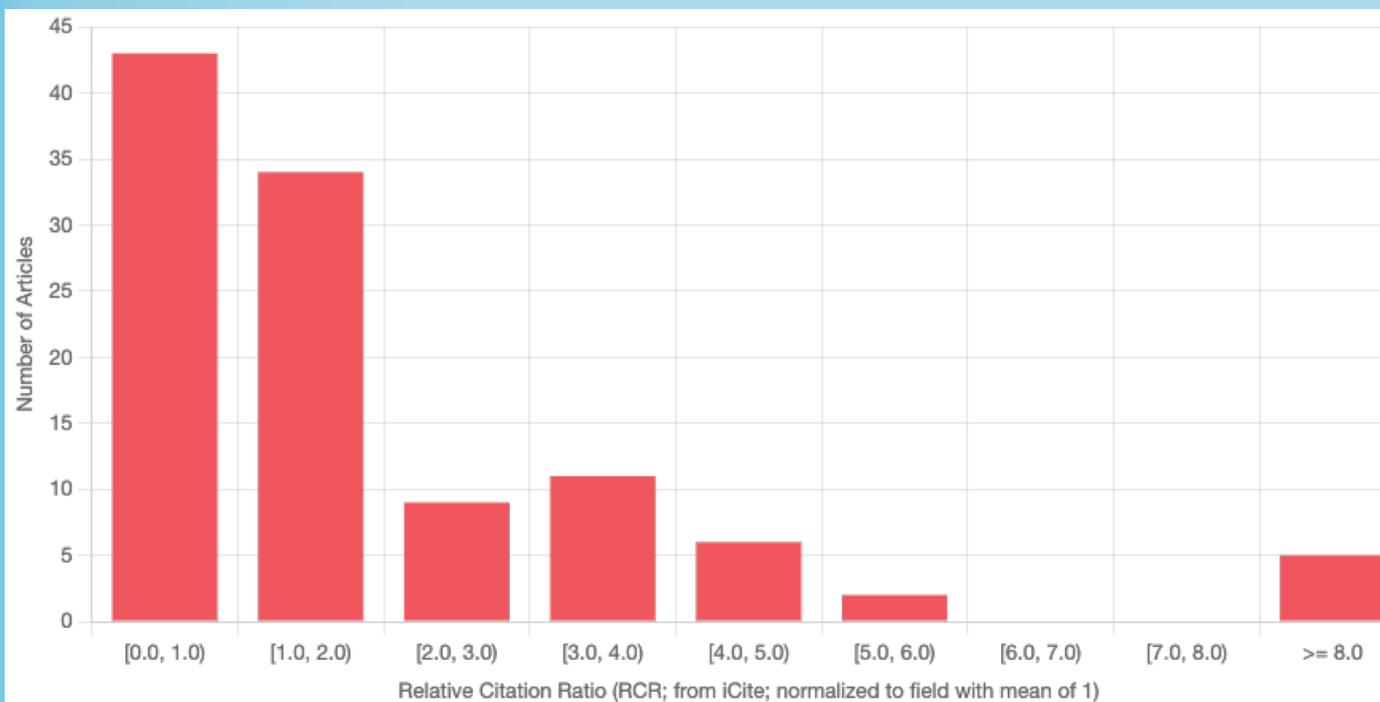
Newman Society [copy] Matched Name: Julie Bastarache remove match	EFS Leaders Matched Name: Julie Bastarache remove match	Mentor Test Matched Name: Julie Bastarache remove match
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Your Info Menu

- Scholar's profile
- Verifying publications [i.e., publication wrangling]
- Keeping track of awards
- ORCID information
- In **v6.23.3**, all surveys, even custom-made ones, will be accessible

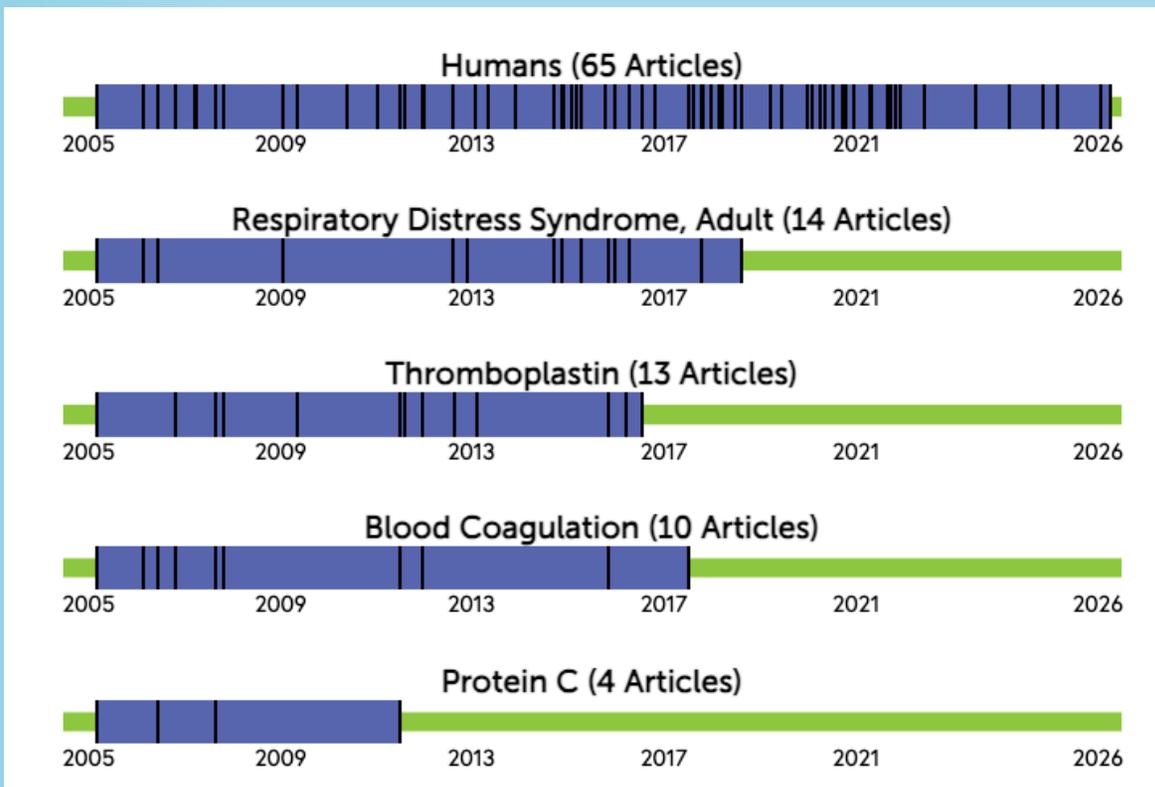


Your Graphics Menu



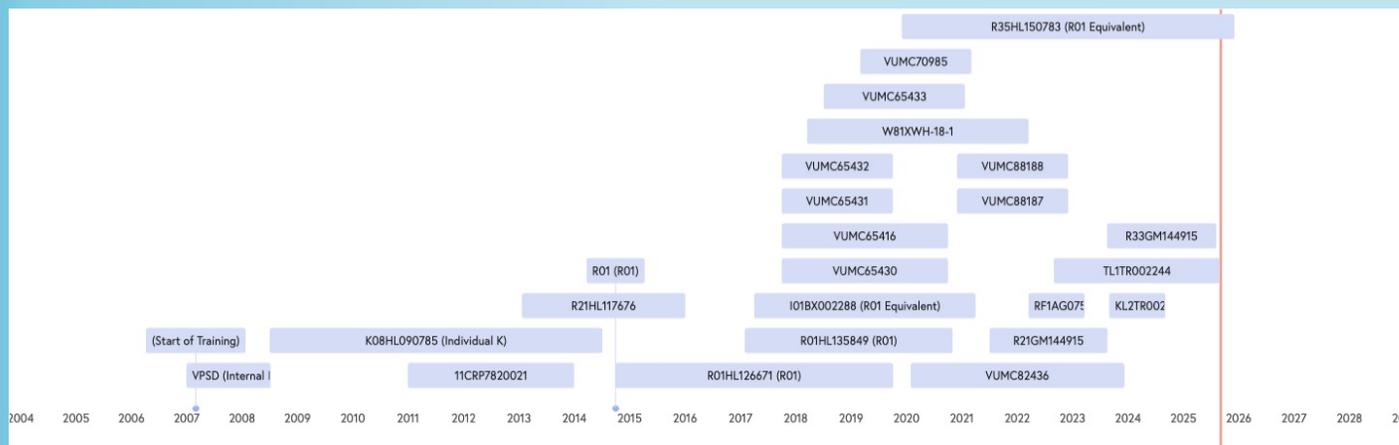
- Your Graphs
- Publishing Collaborations
- Publishing Impact
- Publishing Research Timelines
- Grant & Publication Timelines
- Publishing Collaborations (Computationally Expensive)
- Grant Funding by Year

Your Graphics Menu



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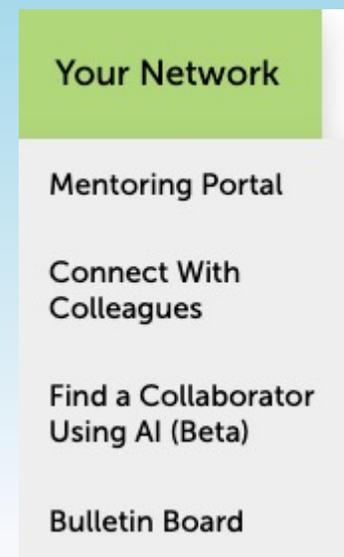
Your Graphics Menu



- Your Graphs
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Your Network Menu

- Bulletin Board
- Find a Collaborator
 - Under work in **v6.24.0**
 - Will be described next in Live Demo



Live Demo



[Live Demo]

Administration



Help Guide

<https://edgeforscholars.vumc.org/scholar-portal-the-admin-side/>



Spoofing Users



- Under Scholars menu → Scholar Profiles
- You can spoof one scholar at a time
- Helpful to:
 - Gain confidence
 - Demo the system
 - Troubleshoot problems

Julie Bastarache



[Spoof This Scholar in the Scholar Portal for This Project Only](#)

Spoofing or mimicking a scholar allows you to see what they might see or to troubleshoot issues as they arise.

Getting the Word Out



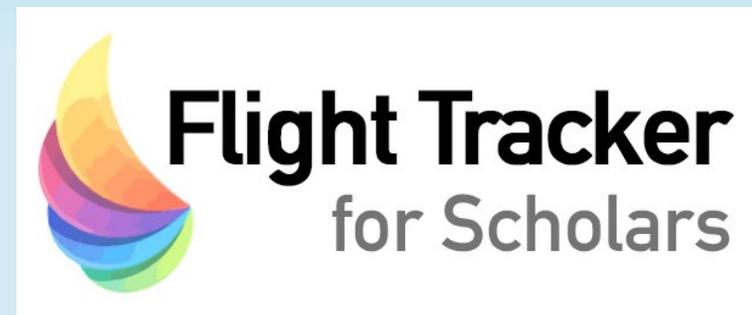
- Only if you want to, you can send out the link in one of two ways:
 - The Flight Tracker Home page [leftmost on menu] – under the headers in small print



- Using the Scholars menu → Configure an Email page, there's an option to send out the Scholar Portal link in an email
- The link will give them access to all the Flight Tracker projects they're in, not just yours!

Recap

- Motivations
- How It Works
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What's Next?

Flight Tracker v6.24.0



- Find a Collaborator – a way of searching across all Flight Trackers on a server for who publishes on a given topic
 - Advanced search
 - Search interface for admins, not just Scholar Portal
- Rebrand with new logo & colors
- Smaller improvements

Summer/Fall Forecasts



- **v6.25.0** – Federal data about R&D with small businesses
 - Small Business Innovation Research [SBIR]
 - Small Business Technology Transfer [STTR]
- **v6.26.0** – Data Aggregation across multiple Flight Tracker projects

Flight Connector: Build a Network



- In the next two months, we plan to release a free, new tool for meetings of around 15-500 people.
 - Flight Connector: Build a Network
 - Not a part of Flight Tracker
- It's a professional networking tool
- I will describe it on a Deep Dive when we release it



**FLIGHT
CONNECTOR** RESEARCH
COLLABORATION

Support Resources



Forum: Flight Tracker Community
Free accounts available

Monthly Troubleshooting Call
Wednesday, March 18, 1pm CT

Monthly “Newbie” Call
Tuesday, March 17, 11.30am CT

Monthly Getting Started Workshop
Friday, March 20, noon CT

Type your email in the chat for more info



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