

Create Your Own Dynamic Research Website using IUP Resources

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Step 1. Create a personal blog at <http://iblog.iup.edu>

Personal blogs are provided by IUP for free. The webpage address (URL) of the personal blogs is in the form of iblog.iup.edu/<username> (e.g. iblog.iup.edu/htang). To create and manage the site, you must login with your IUP network account username and password.

Step 2. Convert the blog to a research website

- a. Go to **Dashboard**, mouse hover on **Appearance**, click **Themes**, search **Twenty Thirteen**, and then activate the theme. This will completely change the look of your site.
- b. **Customize** the theme with your **site colors**, **header image**, and **static front page**.
- c. Go to **Dashboard**, click **settings** to fill in your site title and choose your preferences.
- d. Go to **Dashboard**, click **Pages** to create/delete and view all pages. Please note we will use **Pages** (Not **Posts**) as our site menu, because it is easier to track and edit. We will use **Posts** to create individual event webpage and you will need to manually link those **Posts** to the **Pages**.
- e. Explore **Plugins** to make the website more powerful.

Step 3. Optional advanced methods to make the link to your website look more professional

Hate to have [iblog](http://iblog.iup.edu) in your website address? There are two methods to bypass it.

1. If you prefer to use the link of www.people.iup.edu/<username> (e.g. www.people.iup.edu/htang) as your website address, you need to do the following:
 - a. Find a folder called **wwwiup** in your network home directory. It is where the www.people.iup.edu web pages are stored. You can submit an ihelp ticket if you cannot see this folder, and the IT Service will create one for you.
 - b. Open **Notepad**, copy and paste the following codes to the notepad and save as **index.html** to the root of **wwwiup** folder. Remember to replace **htang** with your username.

```
<html><HEAD><TITLE>Webpage Redirect</TITLE><META HTTP-EQUIV="refresh"
CONTENT="10;URL=http://iblog.iup.edu/htang"></HEAD><body bgcolor=white><p>This page will
automatically direct you to my research group page in 10 seconds...</p></body></html>
```
2. If you prefer to use a top-level domain name, the domain name needs to be purchased from elsewhere (e.g. godaddy.com). The cost of a top-level domain name (e.g. **.com**, **.org**, etc) is about \$10 per year. Then, you need to do the following.
 - a. Login your domain name provider's website
 - b. Find **DNS management** under **my domains**
 - c. Find **Forwarding**, and fill in iblog.iup.edu/htang in the **domain** field and check **forward with masking** in the **settings**. (Again, remember to replace **htang** with your username)