

## 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>](http://iblog.iup.edu/<username>) (e.g. [iblog.iup.edu/htang](http://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>](http://www.people.iup.edu/<username>) (e.g. [www.people.iup.edu/htang](http://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](http://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](http://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](http://iblog.iup.edu/htang) in the **domain** field and check **forward with masking** in the **settings**. (Again, remember to replace **htang** with your username)