

OPAC (Online Public Access Catalogue) -BLIS

NAME – DEEPIKA KUMARAI

INSTITUTE OF LIBRARY AND INFORMATION SCIENCE (PATNA UNIVERSITY)

AS A GUEST FACULTY

PAPER- VI , (UNIT –V) SEMESTER-II

PHONE NO.- 7479959129

EMAIL ID – (DEEPIKAJYOTI.KUMARAI@GMAIL.COM)

OPAC- Developed to replace card catalogs

- 1960s : First OPAC
- 1975 : Large OPACs developed at Ohio State University and the Dallas Public Library
- 1980 : Improved search mechanisms, keywords searching developed, and checking materials in and out became available
- 1990 : Online catalogs
- Today : More sophisticated search technologies , ranking , reviews and suggestions

DEFINITION:-

- ▶ The A.L.A Glossary defines OPAC as a computer based and supported library catalogue (bibliographic database) design to be accessed via terminal so that library user may directly and effectively search for and retrieve bibliographic records without the assistance of a human intermediary such as a specially trained member of the library staff.

TYPES:-

- ▶ **FIRST GENERATION OPAC** – OPAC has been derived from traditional catalogues or computerized circulation system. They are also referred to as phrase – indexed or pre-coordinated OPACs and it demands exact matching between the search term and pre-coordinate phrase.

SECOND GENERATION OPAC-

Originated from common bibliographic information retrieval system and so there is a growing similarity between second generation OPAC and traditional information retrieval systems. This generation OPAC provides keyword searching that is post coordinate searching together with phrase searching or pre-coordinate subject heading.

COMPONENTS OF OPACs- There are three main components of OPAC. They are:-

1. Computer and Terminal – The hardware requirements for OPAC i.e. computer terminal and server from which database can be accessed.
2. Software Enabling Networking – The network enabling software which will be able to manage the entire database.
3. Database – The database of books , serial , dissertation, etc. can be generated by two different ways. One is developing database by direct entry and the other is developing database through retrospective conversion process.

SEARCHING AND BROWSING OPAC-

When the searchers known precisely what he wants i.e. when user information need is fairly well

- ▶ defined he/she can use word truncation, range search , field level search , Boolean combination , word adjacency /proximity operator etc. Which are of generally two types.

I. PHRASE SEARCHING- is done on pre-coordinate subject heading.

I. KEYWORD SEARCHING / POST COORDINATE SEARCHING- When a query is formulated using Boolean expression.

▶ BROWSING- is used when users information need are not precisely defined . By browsing one can determine the exact forms of entry of a subject heading or author name.

THANK YOU....