

Online public access catalogue: A study of Sri Guru Granth Sahib World University, Fatehgarh Sahib

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Abstract

In the changing scenario of libraries and information centres in digital world. The process of information searching and dissemination has totally been changed. Nowadays users are very much aware about the use of OPAC and other services of libraries to search information. The present paper discusses the use of Online Public Access Catalogue (OPAC) by the post graduate students of Sri Guru Granth Sahib World University, Fatehgarh Sahib. The paper explores the various aspects of information searching by the students.

Keywords: OPAC, Resources and Services, Information Searching.

Introduction

In the era of information and communication technology libraries are the major repositories of knowledge and playing a systematic role to collect, process, storage and dissemination of information in various ways through different media. With the advent of library networking and resource sharing the functioning of libraries have totally been changed. In the era of information communication and technology, university libraries are the most important place to acquire, store, process and dissemination of information in various formats. Nowadays, there is a big shift from print media to electronic media, traditional services to online services, card catalogue to OPAC and Web-OPAC. In this changing environment the role of librarian and other library staff has also changed. Now they are handling multiple operations of library i.e. ordering of electronic resources and their management, online reference and other services, training to user to access different type of electronic resources and e-mail alert services etc.

Shri Guru Granth sahib World University

Sri Guru Granth Sahib World University (SGGSWU), Fatehgarh Sahib has been set up by Shromni Gurdwara Prabandak Committee (SGPC) to commemorate the historic event of the 400th anniversary of the compilation and first installation of holy Sri Guru Granth Sahib, Located at Fatehgarh Sahib, a place sanctified by the unique martyrdom of the younger Sahibzadas of Guru Gobind Singh Sahib. The University is fast evolving as a seat of higher learning in the sphere of religious studies as well as in Emerging Technologies.

The University has a mandate to focus on intensive study, research and training in areas of world religions; cultures and civilizations; eastern and western thought and other related disciplines of arts & humanities, social sciences, pure & applied sciences, engineering sciences

and medical sciences. In order to prepare the young men and women to be 'Global Professionals', the university is simultaneously focusing on 'Emerging Technologies' including Biotechnology, Nano-technology, Information technology as well as emerging disciplines like Environment, Human rights and Empowerment of the Women and the Downtrodden. The University is running twenty five departments under eleven Schools focusing on intensive study, research and training in areas of world religions; cultures and civilizations; eastern and western thought and other related disciplines of arts & humanities, social sciences, pure & applied sciences, engineering sciences and medical sciences

The University Library is named after a great scholar of Persian, Bhai Nand Lalji who had the privilege of one of the fifty-two poets of Sri Guru Gobind Singh Ji. University Library is on a rapid & consistent path of expansion and development since its inception, catering to the learning & research requirements of faculty and students. The University Library has more than 25000 books, 80 current Journals and 18 daily newspapers. The Library is also subscribing the major online databases (IEEE, ProQuest, JStore, JGate, etc.).

Review of Literature

Sohail et al. (2012) conducted the study on the use of library resources by the students of University of Kalyani. They found that there is the need of user awareness programme about the use of library resources and services for the users to meet their information needs. Study also found that text book, journals, and lecture notes were the most utilized sources of information by the students. Moreover latest edition of text books and more research journals should be added in the library collection.

Brar's (2012) paper deals with the information seeking behaviour of researchers of Guru Nanak Dev University, Amritsar. The results are based on a survey.

The study discusses the use of library, different methods of consulting library services, and purpose of information finding. The study also analyzes the use of different type's recourses including the electronic versions. The Paper also discusses awareness and use of electronic resources, problem in finding information and satisfaction of researchers from library resources and services.

Thangapanday (2014) has conducted a study on Utilization of Library Resources by the Students of G D Institutions: The study indicates that more than 36.7% of the students recommend that library has good circulation service and 18.7% prefer to use reference service. Study explains that most of the students (42%) seek the help of library staff to access the library resources and services and 23.3% students locate the resources independently.

Maan(2012)examined the use of library resources and services of Adesh Institute Engineering and Technology Faridkot. The study reveals that majority of students (88%) are aware of electronic information resources and services. More than (40%) respondents visit the library daily to consult different type of resources. The study further describes that (47%) respondents' prefer to search information by title of any document.

Objectives of Study

- To determine the search method of library materials.
- To know the search pattern of University OPAC.
- To explore the usefulness of OPAC.
- To know the behaviour of library staff.
- To determine the level of satisfaction of users towards library resources and services.

Methodology

Keeping in view the objective of the study, a structure questionnaire was designed and distributed to collect the data and distributed to 200 post graduate students of various departments under different schools of Sri Guru Granth Sahib World University Fatehgarh Sahib. 182(91%) out of 200 questionnaires were completed and returned. Data was analysed using percentage method.

Data Analysis

Table 1: Sample size & response rate

Item	No. of Questionnaire Distributed	No. of Questionnaire Received	Response Rate
Male	100	88	88%
Female	100	94	94%
Total	200	182	91%

The given Table shows the total sample of respondents and their response rate. It shows that 200 questionnaires (100 to males and 100 to females) have been distributed among the Post Graduate students of the university. The total response rate is 91 percent of the

total sample. Out of 182 respondents 88 were male and 94 respondents were female.

Table 2: Search of Library Materials

Method of search	Respondent	Percentage (%)
Through OPAC	69	37.9
With the help of Library staff	43	23.7
Directly from selves	34	18.7
Through Web OPAC	21	11.5
With the help of friends	10	05.5
Any other	05	02.7
Total	182	100

Table 2 shows the method for search of library materials by various approaches of respondents. It indicates that most of the respondents 69(37.9) search the library materials through library Online Public Access Catalogue(OPAC), while 43(23.7%) respondents search the library material with the help of library staff .Moreover 34(18.7%) respondents search the library materials directly from selves and 21(11.5%) users search the library materials through Web OPAC. Few respondents 10(05.5%) search library materials with the help of friends and 05(02.7%) respondents search library materials with the help of teachers and other staff.

Table 3: How to search University OPAC

OPAC Search	Respondents	Percentage (%)
Author	33	18.2
Title	38	20.9
Subject	47	25.8
Accession No.	12	06.6
Class No.	05	02.7
Publisher	18	09.8
Year of Publication	08	04.4
Corporate Name	06	03.2
Both Title & Subject	15	08.4
Total	182	100

Table 3 shows the searching of information through OPAC. It describes that majority of the respondents 47(25.8%) search information from OPAC by subject name while 38 (20.9%) respondents search information from OPAC by title of book and 33(18.2%) by author name. 12(06.6%) users search information through accession number, 18(09.8) through publisher's name. Moreover 15 (08.4%) respondents use both title and subject for search information from OPAC. Only 5 (02.7%) respondents search information by class no.

Table 4: Usefulness of Library OPAC

Usefulness	Respondents	Percentage (%)
Excellent	83	45.6
Good	65	35.8
Average	23	12.7
Below average	06	03.2
None of these	05	02.7
Total	182	100

Table 4 shows the usefulness of library OPAC. It describes that majority of the respondents 83(45.6%) were marked the OPAC excellent while 65(35.8%) respondents marked the use of OPAC good. 23(12.7%) respondents given average status to OPAC and 05 (02.7%) respondents did not given any status.

Table 5: The behaviour of library staff

Category	Response	Percentage (%)
Excellent	125	68.7
Good	42	23.1
Fair	10	05.5
Average	05	02.7
Total	182	100

Table 5 describes the respondents' attitude about behaviour of library staff. It indicates that majority of the respondents 125(53.9%) marked the behaviour of library staff excellent whereas 42(23.1%) marked as good. Only 05(2.7%) of uses says that the behaviour of library staff average.

Table 6: Need of user training and education

Need of training	Respondent	Percentage (%)
To use library resources and services	63	34.6
To use OPAC	47	25.8
To access electronic resources	43	23.7
Online information searching	29	15.9
Total	182	100

Table 6 shows the need of user training and education. It describes that most of the respondents want to get training for the use of library resources and services. Whereas 47(25%) users need training to use library OPAC (Online Public Access Catalogue). 43(23.75) respondents need training to access the electronic resources and 29(15.9%) respondents need training to search online information from various resources.

Table 7: Satisfaction with library resources and services

Satisfaction level	Respondents	Percentage (%)
Highly satisfied	92	50.6
Satisfied	65	35.8
Less satisfied	18	09.8
Not satisfied	07	03.8
Total	182	100

Table 7 describes the satisfaction level of user from library resources and services. It shows that most of the respondents 92(50.6%) were highly satisfied from library resources and services; while 65 (35.8%) respondents marked that they are satisfied. Moreover 18(09.8%) user were less satisfied and only 07(03.8) respondents were not satisfied from library resources and services.

Major Findings

- In case of information search most of the respondents 69(37.9) search the library materials through library Online Public Access Catalogue(OPAC), while 43(23.7%) respondents search the library material with the help of library staff. Moreover 34(18.7%) respondents search the library materials directly from selves.
- The study reveal that majority of the respondents 125(53.9%) marked the behaviour of library staff excellent whereas 42(23.1%) marked as good. Only 05(2.7%) of uses says that the behaviour of library staff average.
- The study indicates that most of the respondents need of training to use library resources and services. Whereas 47(25.8%) user needs training to access the electronic resources and 29(15.9%) respondents need training to search online information from various resources.
- Majority of the respondents 92(50.6%) were highly satisfied from library facilities and support provided by the library staff. Only 07(03.8%) respondents are less satisfied.

Conclusion

Information and communication technology has highly impacted the functioning of libraries and library staff. In the vast environment of different disciplines, the information needs of users have become varied and multidimensional. Due to the scarcity of time and explosion of information, users want to search very relevant information from the libraries. The Online Public Access Catalogue and Web OPACs of the libraries are playing very excellent role to help the users to search the information by various techniques. The libraries and library professional can play a significant role by creating the awareness about the use of library resources and services.

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