Ask About Indy!

Loyola University of Chicago was one of the "launch" sites for the NOTIS Multiple Database Access System (MDAS). MDAS offers a low-cost means of searching databases through the public catalog interface.

"You expect to have an increase in service, but not so dramatic an increase." That is how Ellen Waite, University Librarian, describes the impact of MDAS on library services at Loyola. Since the introduction of "Indy," as MDAS is called at Loyola, in August, the library staff has witnessed a number of changes in library services. Student and faculty response to the new service has been overwhelmingly positive. "The library is the most popular place on campus," says Ellen. Circulation activity is up 50% to 100% over this time period last year. Interlibrary loan requests are up, as are requests for the transfer of materials between campus libraries.

What does Indy offer?

Indy provides access to three H.W. Wilson indexes, the Business Periodicals Index, the Humanities Index, and the Social Sciences Index. The database contains over 800,000 records and is available for searching on 60 terminals in libraries across the campus. Plans are to offer MEDLINE in early 1990.

Spreading the word

When the school year began, the library staff took advantage of new student and faculty orientation sessions to advertise Indy. Campus newspapers carried front page articles about the new service. See page 16 for a reprint of an article from the Loyola staff newspaper. A banner was hung over the entrance of the Cudahy Library inviting people to "Ask about Indy!" And people did. Requests for library tours, which include Indy training, have risen. Library instruction classes now cover Indy and, Ellen reports, are more popular than ever.

How easy is it?

Ellen feels patrons have caught on quickly to using Indy. The reference

In this issue . . .

NUGM 1989 2
NUGM 1990 3
Turnkey Product 3
Enhancement ballot 4
Survey results 4
4.6 OPAC display 6
More on GTO 8
Authorities Training 13
Documentation 13
Vanderbilt 14
Minnesota 14
LIBis 14
Troubleshooting 23

The latest on GTO

Have a question about our Generic Transfer and Overlay (GTO) product? See page 8 for answers to the most commonly asked questions regarding GTO.
WHAT YOU HAD TO SAY ABOUT NUGM 1989

We held our 1989 NOTIS Users' Group Meeting (NUGM) in September at the Palmer House in Chicago. Over 650 people attended, making NUGM '89 our largest user group meeting ever. We urged all attendees to fill out the evaluation form in the NUGM binder. Many of you did and we would like to thank you for taking the time to tell us how you felt about the meeting.

Overall, the evaluations were very positive. You confirmed our belief that you continue to want substance and that you want to learn everything you can about the NOTIS system from both NOTIS staff and other users. The vast majority liked having the meeting at the Palmer House and felt expectations for the meeting were met. You also appreciated the usefulness of having handouts compiled into one manual. The majority of you liked the new features we introduced this year, such as poster sessions, product demonstrations, Special Interest Group meetings, and the fact that we provided lunch and plenty of coffee.

Your suggestions for improving next year's meeting include:

- schedule more free time and longer breaks to facilitate networking
- improve the quality of visual presentations
- provide more descriptive information about sessions in the registration packet
- schedule demonstrations so that they do not conflict with other programs
- restrict the number of attendees at demonstrations and discussion groups
- supply manuals that are less bulky and easier to handle
- offer more poster sessions
- staff poster sessions and provide a sufficient number of handouts

We are confident that your suggestions, combined with the active participation of your Special Interest User Groups will result in a 1990 NUGM that will meet your expectations and needs even more completely than this year's meeting.

NOTIS Announces Turnkey Product

We are pleased to announce plans to deliver a turnkey version of the NOTIS Library Management System software by mid-1990. "KeyNOTIS," is the first product integrating elements from IBM and NOTIS to provide unequalled functionality in an integrated library system. Featuring modules for acquisitions, cataloging, authority control, serials check-in, circulation, and an online public catalog, KeyNOTIS represents an easy-to-install, easy-to-operate information management solution for academic libraries.

Ideal for the academic library of 500,000 volumes or less, KeyNOTIS provides one-stop shopping for a library's hardware and software needs. KeyNOTIS requires no programming support for installation or operation. A single telephone number will put the KeyNOTIS library in touch with the expertise required for hardware or software questions.

We are accepting orders for KeyNOTIS. If you have any questions, please call us at (708) 866-0141.

Interested in Working on NUGM 1990?

Now that NUGM 1989 is behind us, the NUGM Planning Committee has begun work on next year's meeting, which will be held on October 24 and 25 at the Palmer House in Chicago. For 1990, the committee will be working closely with representatives from your Special Interest User Groups.

The committee is looking for people who want to participate in the planning and presentation of sessions. We need session moderators, presenters, and discussion leaders. For those willing to undertake these responsibilities, the NUGM registration fee will be waived.

In addition, we welcome your suggestions for session topics. Some of you gave us ideas on the NUGM evaluation forms. (refer to evaluation article) We are forwarding these proposals to the appropriate NUGM representatives from the Special Interest User Groups. These representatives will be planning the content of the subject tracks for 1990. We encourage you to recommend session topics. To do so, complete the NUGM 1990 forms on pages 17-18 in this issue. Remember, as a speaker or moderator, your registration fee will be waived.
The 1990 Enhancement Ballot

In July we sent you our annual Enhancement Survey in order to get an idea of what you feel your priorities should be for improving the existing Library Management System software. As you can see from the results, there is extensive clustering of proposed enhancements for NOTIS products. At NUGM 1989, we announced that we will be soliciting more user input next year in order to reduce the clustering. During 1990 we will be working with the Special Interest Groups to determine which projects to include in the 1990 ballot. All of you devote considerable time and effort to responding to the ballot, and we want the results to more accurately reflect your priorities.

At NUGM 1989, you asked us about the process for prioritizing enhancements for the 1990 ballot. NOTIS suggested to the Special Interest Group chairpersons that you submit enhancement requests to them in writing. To simplify this process, we have provided a form on page 21. Please complete this form with your proposals for an enhancement and return it to the appropriate chairperson. For a current listing of chairpersons, consult NOTISes/47 (October 1989), page 17-18. Until the Special Interest Groups formalize another process, we encourage you to submit enhancement requests via this form.

As new Special Interest Groups are formed, please contact Liz Feltman at (708) 866-0180 with the name of the chairperson. We will regularly publish updates to the list of chairpersons in NOTISes.

1989 Enhancement Survey Results

These are the results of the 1989 survey arranged by microfield. The numbers indicate people received.

A. Acquisitions
1. 402 Report generator
2. 300 Electronic linkage to vendors
3. 10 Online ability to add order records
4. 10 Other
5. 1013 Currency conversion
6. 150 Menu-driven operations
7. 122 Easy, online specification of default values

B. Serials
1. 408 Simplified check-in procedures
2. 514 Predictive check-in/automatic claiming
3. 4001 Blocking
4. 222 Electronic linkage to vendors
5. 10 Other
6. 1010 Routing
C. Cataloging/Authorities
1. 402 Shelving capability
2. 302 Windowing of multiple records (e.g., authority and bib)
3. 303 Improved call number index
4. 302 Improved editor capabilities
5. 149 More non-field in copy holdings records
6. 127 Improved field validation & subsequent error messages
7. 127 Other
8. 68 Technical support via Linked Systems Project

9. 66 Tape output for holdings records
D. Circulation
1. 505 Microcomputer-based backup
2. 149 Other
3. 205 Global renewal
4. 200 Ability to link bib records to more than one bib record
5. 200 Patron self-service for modifications
6. 200 Patron self-service for changes/renewals
E. Online Public Catalog (OPAC)
1. 406 Location-based searching
2. 200 Course reserve index/public
3. 200 Call number searching
4. 170 Online control of news, info, and help screens
5. 101 PC down/release interface (patron-oriented)
6. 212 Printing of search results
7. 102 Indexing of 700/710 fields
8. 91 Other
9. 91 Online control of keyword/Boolean options
10. 62 Option for labeled display or catalog card display
11. 20 Enhanced display of 705/795 fields in OPAC
12. 10 Support for EOB/ESNI 219.50 (levels, standard)
13. 10 Support for MISO Common Command Language

F. Other
1. 382 Record purge program
2. 311 Online entry/update for tables
3. 100 "General" maintenance/proervation (e.g., standardization of online messages; screen redesign; adding "more" features as previously requested; e.g., protecting a field; etc.
4. 126 Other

The following represents a ranking of projects by overall priority. Each of these projects received at least 50 points.

1. 105 Location-based searching
2. 344 Record purge program
3. 341 Microcomputer-based backup
4. 112 Shelving capability
5. 24 Course reserve index public
6. 54 Simplified check-in procedures
7. 60 Improved call number index
8. 74 Report generator
9. 69 Online entry/update for tables
10. 66 Call number searching
11. 55 Windowing of multiple records (e.g., authority and bib)
12. 63 Predictive check-in/automatic claiming
13. 52 Global renewal

The following are projects ranked in order of priority for conversion to online entry and update.

TABLE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NO. OF POINTS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The OPAC Display in Release 4.6

With the implementation of Release 4.6, you will notice a change in the contents of the online public catalog display. The following information will now display:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TAG</th>
<th>1st IND</th>
<th>2nd IND</th>
<th>TAG NAME</th>
<th>DISPLAY CONSTANT</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>028</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Music Pub. No.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>028</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>Music Pub. No.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>028</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Music Pub. No.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>028</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Music Pub. No.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>211</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Acronym or</td>
<td>ALSO KNOWN AS:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Shortened Title</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>214</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Augmented Title</td>
<td>Augmented Title</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>242</td>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Translation of</td>
<td>TITLE TRANSLATED</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Title</td>
<td>Title AS:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>254</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Musical Presentation Area</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>255</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Mathematical Data Area</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>257</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Country of Producing Entity</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>351</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Organization &amp; Arrangement</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>787</td>
<td>0</td>
<td></td>
<td>Nonspecific Relationship Entry</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

November 1989
MORE ON GTO

As some NOTIS users already know, William Roselle, Director of the University of Pittsburgh Library System, recently wrote to Jane Burke concerning the Generic Transfer and Overlay (GTO) product. At his suggestion, several other users have also communicated certain concerns they have about this new product.

We are grateful to those NOTIS users who have taken the time and trouble to communicate with us about GTO. Jane Burke will, of course, be responding personally, but we also felt that NOTISes would be an appropriate place to reply to general questions and concerns that NOTIS customers have raised about GTO.

We feel that we may have failed to communicate the overall benefits of GTO to you. GTO does require you to make some changes in your cataloging workflow (just as NOTIS itself did). We feel that the basic increases in productivity and the better technical structure of the GTO transfer make these changes worth the trouble. In the questions and answers that follow, we have tried to communicate these basic benefits.

As always, we rely on our customers to make suggestions for future enhancements and improvements to NOTIS software products. Our strategy is to release a product that meets the most important needs of the most number of our customers and use their reactions to guide us in future enhancements and improvements. GTO is no exception to this rule, and we appreciate all the comments we have received. We have scheduled a GTO release for 1990 and are currently in the process of determining what features will be included.

We continue to welcome comments.

Questions and Answers about GTO

Q. We like the OCLC screen transfer we now have. Why should we use GTO?

GTO-OCLC provides several benefits.

First, you can improve productivity by reducing keystroking. GTO allows you to locate an OCLC record and then press two keys at the utility terminal to transfer the record. GTO does not require that you edit the OCLC record before the transfer. With GTO, you do not have to delete lines, delete fields, etc. Following a GTO transfer session, you can then go immediately to a NOTIS terminal to work on the transferred records or you can deal with them at a later time.

Second, GTO creates more parts of the NOTIS architecture automatically. You can only transfer all of the bibliographic data, but you can also create copy holdings records with NOTIS location codes, call numbers, and size designators and volume holdings records with your holdings data. All of this happens automatically, depending upon how you have set up your GTO online conversion program (and of course upon the amount of data in the utility record). If you do not want to transfer that much data, you simply set up a very abbreviated GTO online conversion program. You can always change your online conversion program as you wish as your needs change. (The GTO online conversion program is a mainframe program and you receive the source code for it.)

Third, all bibliographic records created in your NOTIS database through GTO are indexed online. Immediately after the transfer, you can retrieve the new NOTIS record by most author and title fields as well as the utility record number in the 035 field. (Other standard number fields are not indexed online, however.) Once you install Release 4.6, all bibliographic records created through GTO are indexed online by the Merged Heding Index program—a program that provides immediate access through a wide array of author, title, and subject fields—as well as being searchable immediately by the utility record number in the 035 field.

Fourth, there are cost savings. You can connect up to 16 utility terminals (15 if you include the host computer screen, etc.) to one GTO microcomputer. This allows you to find other uses for the NOTIS terminals than you now cable directly to OCLC terminals.

Finally, you can create additional work space when you uncouple your utility and NOTIS terminals.

Q. Is GTO supposed to be used by acquisitions or cataloging personnel?

GTO can help either or both groups. For example, an acquisitions department might transfer in bibliographic records in order to create NOTIS order/purchase records and the cataloging department might edit the bibliographic record after receipt. An alternative is for the acquisitions department to create a provisional bibliographic record in NOTIS that can later be overlayed by the cataloging department using GTO. You have the flexibility to decide how you will use GTO and who in your library will use it.

Q. In using the OCLC screen transfer, we have always edited OCLC records at the OCLC terminal before transferring. Can we continue to do that with GTO?

Yes, you continue to have that flexibility. You can edit or not as you decide. However, the type of editing required in order to perform the screen transfer (e.g., adding right number of lines on the screen, etc.) no longer has to be done. You can set up your GTO online conversion program to perform automatically certain standard changes that you will always want to do. And of course, you can always edit your NOTIS bibliographic records at any time.

Q. If I don't have a NOTIS terminal hooked directly to the utility terminal, how do I know the record transferred?

Three ways. One, you can look at the screen that appears on your GTO microcomputer.
NOTIS continues to support the OCLC screen transfer and will do so until OCLC has completed implementation of its New System with all OCLC users. Our understanding of OCLC current's schedule is that the New System will not be in full production until the beginning of 1981 at the earliest. Until OCLC has declared the New System to be in full production, NOTIS will support the screen transfer.

In fairness to our customers and with the understanding that GTO requires some preparation, we felt that we had to let you know as soon as possible that we could not continue to support the screen transfer when the OCLC New System comes into full production. While it would be easier for us and use fewer of your maintenance dollars if we supported only one transfer in the interim, we will maintain both the screen transfer and GTO until the New System is in full production.

In the meantime, we will have a release of GTO enhancements in mid-1980. As with all NOTIS products, GTO will evolve over time. We feel that it is well structured to get better and better.

We feel that we cannot support the OCLC screen transfer as the OCLC New System is in full production for two types of reasons, technical and cooperative.

Technical Reasons
The OCLC New System will not pass records to local systems via the current method, i.e., reading the record on OCLC. Rather, the full MARC record will be sent online as a result of an operator issuing a record transfer command.

Q. But I understand that OCLC will offer a screen capture capability, with the New System. You say you cannot use that. Except for the fact that screens might change in OCLC, why can't you use what OCLC says will be there?

OCLC will offer what it calls a "save screen" capability with the New System in order for an operator to record the screen image on a diskette in ASCII format. The capabilities is designed to be used with word processing applications.

NOTIS has discussed this with OCLC and we have been advised that the "save screen" is not a good solution for downloading to a local system. The record is not in MARC format, it is a screen image only, and it is not validated in any way. OCLC definitely prefers that we use the record transfer command capability created for the New System.

Q. Why do you need a microcomputer for the record transfer? Currently, just write mainframe programs to take care of a record transfer. Why do I need to buy a micro?

Using a microcomputer for the transfer process offers several benefits.
First, the GTO microcomputer acts as a flow control point for the data. The GTO microcomputer program senses the ar
dress and passes the OCLC want to work with OCLC and it seems to be in the best interests of NOTIS customers for NOTIS to cooperate with OCLC. Without OCLC, NOTIS does work with RLIN by using its PASS command.

Q. I thought I once heard that OCLC could not handle authority records. Now I hear that it can, but there are problems. What's the situation?

The problems discovered during beta testing have been fixed. GTO-RLIN handles authority records with no problems. GTO-OCLC also handles authority records, but it does not yet put a lw subfield at the beginning of a field as it should. This will be fixed in the next release of GTO. Records with incorrect positioning of lw subfields can be edited online. See the October 1989 issue of NOTIS for more information.

Q. I'm concerned about the workflow implications of GTO. What has been the experience of other users?

Basically, very positive. Staff from the University of Texas at Arlington, the beta test site for GTO-OCLC, reported at NUGS (NOTIS User Group Meetings) that GTO has resulted in productivity gains and that the library staff would not want to return to the screen transfer. Staff at the University of Iowa, test site for GTO-RLIN, also reported at NUGS its satisfaction with the product.

Q. What happens if the mainframe computer or your telecommunications link goes down while you're transferring records? Do you have to stop and wait?
Q. I understand that the GTO overlay process is automatic. This makes me nervous.

GTO does in fact overlay an existing Notis record, but only if there is an exact match on the utility record number in the 03S field. This design increases the productivity that can be achieved with GTO by reducing manual operations such as deleting provisional fields. Overlay capabilities have frequently been requested by customers for both online and batch programs, so we added this feature to GTO based on this input.

With the dynamically updated indexes now available with Release 4.6 and with GTO, any new record is reflected in the system indexes immediately (including online indexing of the 03S field for any record transferred via GTO). A search of the NOTIS files immediately before any GTO transfers will tell you if a record is already in the database; you can then decide if it is easier to edit the record online or overlay it through GTO.

Q. I know that GTO takes the incoming utility holding symbol and translates it into a NOTIS location code. We don't have a complete correspondence between our utility holding symbols and our NOTIS location codes. Do we have to have a NOTIS location code for each utility holding symbol?

No. GTO will default to the first NOTIS location code in your GTO online conversion program whenever it encounters a utility holding symbol not listed in the conversion program. The University of Texas at Arlington uses only one NOTIS location code in its GTO online conversion program. That code translates into a NOTIS location number ("UT Arlington Libraries") for use in the OPAC, a name that the staff decided was suitable for items not yet in the collection. Of course, when an item is received and cataloged, the appropriate location code can be assigned at that time.

Q. I've heard so much discussion about GTO that I'm confused about what it can and cannot do. Is there any documentation I can read before I decide to buy the product?

Yes. NOTIS Documentation Services will send you a review copy of the GTO documentation (containing, among other material, a full functional description) at no charge. When you receive it, you can sign the enclosed non-disclosure agreement and return it to NOTIS. Send your request to NOTIS Documentation Services, 1007 Church Street, 2nd Floor, Evanston, IL 60201-3622 or call Sandie Yuen at (708) 866-0150 x689.

Q. Who can I talk to at NOTIS about further questions on GTO?

Contact your Product Specialist, either Keith Giltnner (East and Southeast states), Sandy Schmidt (Central), or Doug Madigan (Great Lakes and West). See the October NOTISes for the exact state/province coverage of the Product Specialists. See page 16 for the GTO order form.

NOTIS Documentation Gets New Look, New Timetable

Effective with User Update No. 27, NOTIS users will be enjoying greater legibility and clearer examples. Documentation Services has finished installing new Macintosh hardware and will be producing all future materials by using desktop publishing techniques.

The first manual to receive the "new look" will be the NOTIS Terminal Operator's Manual, Vol. 3: Online Public Catalog, which is slated for a total replacement in the near future. The text files have already been converted to the Macintosh format and writers are building the chapters now. When the revised copy becomes available, it will be issued in its entirety to all User Update subscribers. If you are not presently subscribing to the updates, you may wish to enter your subscription now to be sure of receiving this new edition automatically.

The change in technology has also led to some changes in the release schedule for both User Update and Technical Update issues. The present plans will move the publications toward a quarterly schedule for each. In addition, this scheduling change enables us to maintain our current prices in the face of rising materials and handling costs. The expected mailing date for the next User Update is January 15, 1990, with the Technical Update set for February 15. Future publication dates will be distributed in the cover letter that accompanies each issue, as well as appearing in NOTISes as in the past.

Claiming Lost or Missing Documentation

Beginning in January 1990, we will maintain an inventory of User and Technical Updates for up to 90 days after the issue date. After that, we will no longer be able to fill a request for a lost or missing update.

Be One of the First to Attend Authority Control Training!

Christmas shopping in Chicago or attending the American Library Association Midwinter Conference? Consider attending the Authority Control training session. We have scheduled classes in Evanston on December 8, 1989 and January 6, 1990. In order to get the most out of the training, we are asking you to do some reading before you come to class. Take the time to familiarize yourself with the USMARC Format for Authorities. Pay particular attention to the heading use codes in the fixed fields: (NAMES, SUBJ, SER) S/SYS (subject heading scheme code) and KIND. Also, review the definitions for the 1XX, 2XX, and 3XX fields along with the control subset 1W. We hope this preparation will help make the training more meaningful to you. To register for authority control, use the registration form on page 22.

The Authority Control training manual is now available for delivery. For those of you who have previously ordered NOTIS training manuals and want to complete the set, or if you would like a copy of the manual for reference, fill out the Training Manual/Workshop Manual Order Form on page 19.
Vanderbilt Hits One Million Mark

On September 26th, the Vanderbilt University library staff added the one millionth record to Acorn, their online public catalog. To celebrate the event, the staff held an impromptu party in recognition of the contributions of the technical services staff to Acorn. The database is the result of 14 years of work. In 1975, Vanderbilt began using OCLC to begin the process of building a file of machine-readable records. In 1985, 500,000 local records were added. In the same year, Vanderbilt implemented the NOTIS cataloging module and an additional 50,000 records were added. Since then, some 250,000 records have been added through the use of retrospective conversion projects.

Retrospective Conversion Project Completed at Minnesota

The University of Minnesota Libraries have reached their goal of creating an online catalog that includes a record for every officially cataloged, Roman alphabet title held in the libraries. The 1.9 million records in the online public catalog, LUMINA, include 1.35 million retrospective conversion records, plus records for all University of Minnesota titles cataloged on OCLC, RLIN, and LUMINA, and records for all titles on order.

To mark the event, the library staff held a gala luncheon in celebration of LUMINA, the “gateway to the universe of information.” All four hundred staff members took time to recognize and appreciate how far they have come with automation. During the school and medical school and a half years, the staff has carried out a series of projects that resulted in the conversion of 1.15 million records. All records have been loaded in LUMINA and are being loaded in OCLC and RLIN. The projects were managed by Christina Meyer, Head, Database Management Division, Central Technical Services.

The library staff is now turning its attention to the enhancement of LUMINA through the addition of records for titles not previously included in any union catalog, such as analytics for major microfilm sets, U.S. Government Printing Office records, and records for archival and manuscript materials.

LIB1s, Unite!

Every NOTIS site has a LBI. Typically, the person designated as the LBI has responsibility for the overall implementation and management of NOTIS.

David Carlson of the University of Louisville recently conducted an informal survey of BITNET users and found that LIB1s would like to form their own interest group. As a result, David is planning a meeting at the American Library Association Midwinter Conference in Chicago on January 8th from 8:00 to 10:00 pm. If you are unable to attend this meeting but want to find out more about a LBI interest group, contact David Carlson, Director, Office of Library Systems, Ekstrom Library, University of Louisville, Louisville, KY 40292. David’s telephone number is (502) 588-5733. BITNET: DHCARLO@ULTRVY

"Indy is here to Help Researchers Access Periodical Articles"

Lochla World
September 14, 1989

No, the slogan does not refer to the movie-screen archaeologist adventurer nor to the annual auto race. The "INDY IS HERE!" signs you may have seen in Loyola’s libraries refer to a new computerized index for magazine and journal articles.

"Indy is similar to Loyola’s on-line catalog LUIS, which has been in operation since January 1988," said Ellen J. Waite, M.A., university librarian. Indy is a multiple-access data base, meaning it can access several periodical indexes. Currently, Indy provides information about periodical articles from the last five years listed in Business Periodicals Index, Humanities Index, and Social Science Index.

The publishing industry now produces over 400,000 English language periodicals," Waite said. "Computerized indexes are the only feasible method of maintaining access to the millions of articles published annually. The conventional method of accessing computerized indexes has been dialing into separate indexes stored on large remote computers. This process was costly and time-consuming."

"We wanted to provide users with direct access to periodical indexes in conjunction with the on-line library system. Indy does that," Waite said. Indy allows for several users to simultaneously access the computerized indexes through mainframe terminals, using the same terminology and search styles as LUIS.

Indy is said to be very easy to use, and most researchers should be able to follow the on-screen directions without difficulty. In addition, the campus libraries offer training in the use of Indy in conjunction with their full semester tours. Initially, Indy and LUIS will be interactive. This means that, once students or researchers find the journal articles they need, they can tell immediately if Loyola has that journal, and which campus.

"A lot of libraries have automated in the last five-to-ten years," said Waite. Other universities have computerized periodical index systems on terminals separate from their on-line catalogs. To combine both on the same terminal is easier for the user to access data for research purposes. "Loyola is committed to getting the best for the library. Administration is highly supportive of the research efforts of the faculty and students. The latest technology allows for better research," Waite said.

Indy is installed in terminals throughout Cudahy Library and Lewis Towers Library and the libraries at the law school and medical school. "Users will not have to return to the reference desk to continue their research," said Waite. "They can access Indy from any of the terminals found throughout the library."

Indy was presented at the orientations for students and faculty. "It was great to watch the freshmen’s reactions to Indy," Waite said. "They are accustomed to spending a lot of time pouring over the Reader’s Guide to find articles for their research papers.

"What’s nice about Indy is that everyone can use it - freshman for their papers in composition class, and faculty for their published research. "MedLine, a medical periodicals index, soon will be loaded as a separate access base," said Waite. "Legal periodicals will be added to Indy later. NOTIS Software Inc. has not yet released the Indy software for general distribution. During the initial installation phase, we were restricted to three indexes. We chose the three we thought would be most highly used.

Persons with questions about Indy should ask one of the library’s staff members for more information.

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