Interactive Holding Directions in a Library OPAC

What is dynamic mapping in the Wichita State University library context?

Dynamic mapping provides a customized map display in an online public access catalog (OPAC) for library patrons. After the patron has initiated a search and selected a particular book or other library resource, the patron is given an option to view a dynamic (or interactive) map for the chosen resource. The dynamic map will display directional information to the patron, such as the specific library branches which hold the resource, the floor of the library where the resource will be found, the specific department location, the general location of the shelving range, and a moving image display which shows the patron which directions to turn as they exit the elevator. The dynamic map also is suitable for printing and highlights important information such as the call number of the item and item description details.

Why did Wichita State University Libraries want to develop dynamic maps?

Patrons often have many directional questions to answer:

- Rooms: How do I find the Current Periodicals Room?
- Floors: We have a missing fourth floor (according to the elevator buttons).
- Branch Libraries: Where is the Chemistry Library? There’s a Music Library?
- Collections: What is on each floor?

Limitations of traditional signs:

- Materials Shelved/ not Shelved
- Rooms: How do I find the Current Periodicals Room?

Multiple Maps

Dynamic Map Display Examples

Materials Shelved/ not Shelved by LC Class Number
- If shelved by LC class number, it will display holding locations.
- If not shelved, it will display holding locations.

Multiple Maps
- Lifesize maps are displayed for buildings at different locations.

Special Situations
- For materials with separately shelved visual parts, it will display both the item’s location(s) and the visual part’s location(s).

Special Situations
- Display Call Number with the Map

Data Processing

Dynamic Map Display Examples

Search in Dynamic Map Display
- Title
- Author
- Call Number
- Location
- Dynamic Map

Dynamic Map Display Strategy

- Library CS Library Map: http://library.wichita.edu/techserv/OPACredesign/dynamicmapExamples.htm
- WSU Libraries Catalog website: http://libcat.wichita.edu
- Wichita State University Libraries
- Library CS Library Map

Future Directions

- Software
- ODBC
- SQL
- Others: Display Location Map
- Branches: Display Campus Map
- Metadata: Display Map Information

Dynamic Map Creation

- Future directions: See Clause 12.7 & 12.8

Future Directions

- Display by item level for branch library materials.
- Display by item level for the special collections and Government Documents sections (SFDP in ODEP or URL).

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- Materials shelved/not shelved by LC Class Number:
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Data Processing

- Export Data from OPAC
- Export data as in alphabetical order
- Export as XML data
- Export as Excel data
- Import data from file
- Displays individual holding locations

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