

WSUL AUTOMATION PROJECT

PROGRESS REPORT

May 1985

1. Contract with GEAC Computers International

A successful contract negotiation session with GEAC was held May 6, 1985. The first draft of the contract is now being drafted by an attorney for WSU.

2. Overall WSUL implementation plan

WSUL will begin installation with a circulation system running on a GEAC 8000. It will be delivered in August, 1985. Circulation should be operational by January 1986, beginning in the Science Library. Purdy Library will be second to go live, 8 weeks or less after Science. In Winter, i.e., January to March, 1986, GEAC will deliver their 9000-based online catalog hardware and software. Then we can begin loading our full-MARC records into it to form an online catalog. The circulation item-level records on the 8000 will be linked to the online catalog after it is created. If GEAC is unable to deliver the 9000-based system at that time, they will instead provide us with a second 8000 to use for our online catalog in the interim.

Acquisitions and Serials control will be installed subsequently.

3. DALNET status

Reports from WSUL's implementation are being made to the DALNET group as needed, to coordinate WSUL's implementation plans with the future system requirements of DALNET.

The major task still before DALNET is to complete the legal documents needed to become a non-profit, non-stock corporation. An attorney has been hired by DALNET to draft the necessary legal documents, and the DALNET Governance Task Force is drafting the Prospectus to be sent to potential members inviting them to join.

Data gathering for the evaluation of Oakland University's joining DALNET has been completed. It seems feasible to add Oakland to the GEAC configuration with only additional disc drives for their start-up.

L. Bugg was invited to speak about DALNET to two groups in May: May 4 to the WSU Library Science Annual Alumni Update and May 9 to the Metropolitan Detroit Medical Library Group spring meeting.

4. WSUL implementation status

a. Organization for implementation

L. Bugg is the WSUL Project Manager. Dean Gattone, formerly the University of Maryland Project Manager, is the GEAC Project Manager for our project.

There are three levels of WSUL groups involved in planning and carrying out the the GEAC implementation.

1. Administrative

The Executive Group meets regularly to make decisions nad review progress and plans.

2. Management

The WSU LAPG, consisiting of P.S. Unit Heads and T.S. represenmtatives, meets weekly on Tuesday mornings to review options, make recommendations, and receive assignments.

3. Implementation Teams

Teams are being formed to carry out specific assignments, ranging, from a Barcoding Task Force to Circulation Parameters Teams.

b. Site preparation

The home for the GEAC 8000 to run circ is to be Room 427 Purdy. Two GEAC service reps met with us in May to review the room requirements. The room needs to be ready by August, 1985. Cable layouts will be needed soon to each terminal we plan to install.

The home for the GEAC 9000-based system will be in the basement of the Science Library, the current site of the CSC RJE. Plans are underway for that site, using the services of Sims/Varner. The goal is to have it ready by January-March 1986.

c. Circulation database building

Tasks being done to build our circulation database include:

1. Selecting a vendor to de-dupe and add barcodes to our OCLC tapes, which will be cut-off June 23, 1985.
2. Developing plans to add barcodes to OCLC records beginning June 24, 1985.
3. Work with GEAC to develop specs for the OCLC/MARC to Circ database loader.

The plan is to begin actual loading of the database in November, 1985, or earlier, if at all possible.

d. Barcoding library materials

A Barcoding Task Force will begin meeting June 4, to plan for the library-wide barcoding project to begin by September, or earlier, if at all possible. Members of the Task Force are Nancy Allen, Louise Bugg, Betty Borgman, Roy Nuffer, Anaclare Evans, Emerson Hilker, and K.L. Kaul.

The "linked" or "smart" barcode method will be used for the initial barcoding. The vendor that de-dupes our OCLC tapes will assign barcodes to each record on the tapes. These barcodes will then be printed in call number order by location. Teams will go to the stacks and put them on the books found. Follow-up will be done for labels without books. A "generic" barcoding workflow was designed in May.

Barcodes will be added to OCLC records for new and probably reconned items beginning June 24, 1985. Specifications for barcode labels have been written to order the needed unlinked labels by June 24. TPS interface devices will also be ordered toward barcodes into OCLC records.

Older materials without barcodes will circulate "on-the-fly", with circ staff adding barcodes to the items as they circulate. Those that circulate will be given recon priority to get the bibliographic data into the circ database.

Wayne State University Libraries have been assigned their numeric Codabar prefix, which is 9343.

e. Patron file building and ID cards

GEAC specifications have been received. They will be needed by WSU's CSC to enable them to send us computer tapes of student, staff, faculty, and alumni names and addresses to load into our GEAC system.

Roy Nuffer is the Libraries' representative to a University-wide ID card to which a library-assigned barcode can be affixed. The Library will also issue its own ID cards to non-University patrons, and, if the University card is not available in time, to the University patrons.

f. Circulation parameters project

Dean Gattone, our GEAC project manager, met with us all day Thursday, May 30. The main items on the agenda were circulation parameter tables and circulation implementation schedule. Working groups have been formed under the overall circulation team to develop detailed circ parameter charts for the GEAC system.

There are at least 25 detailed charts to be developed, taking into consideration the implications of adding DALNET libraries later.

The three main areas to be worked on are:

1. bibliographic data and indexing;
2. patron data;
3. circulation loan periods and policies.

g. Publicity and education

A regular column has been established in the "WSULibraries Staff Notes" to report biweekly on the status of the automation project.

L. Bugg met with two staff groups to review the project to date, i.e., the Technical Services staff and the Purdy librarians.

5. WSUL Retrospective Conversion project

During May, WSUL staff converted 5,683 titles to machine-readable format. This brings the total number of titles converted to date in this project to 72,007.

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Wayne State University Libraries
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