LIBRARY AUTOMATION PLANNING GROUP

PROGRESS REPORT

April 1985

1.   LAPG –

During April, the WSU LAPG met weekly to do pre-
contract GEAC implementation planning for the WSUL
installation.   Topics with implications for DALNET
were brought to the weekly joint DALNET/LAPG
meetings.   Tasks done during April included:

a.   Development of options for WSUL to implement
      the GEAC circulation module first, on an
      accelerated timeline with a goal of having
      the system live by January 1986.   This new
      plan still provides DALNET the opportunity to
      create a joint bibliographic database for the
      online catalog in the winter of 1986.

b.   Recommendation that WSUL use the "linked" or
      "smart" barcode method for initial barcoding of
      its circulating collections.

c.   Recommendation that WSUL use the Science Library
      as a pilot, or test, library for implementation
      of the circulation system.

d.   Recommendation of two possible sites for an
      interim GEAC 8000 computer room in the Purdy
      Library.   The 8000 could be delivered as
      early as August, 1985, making a temporary site
      necessary, since the permanent site in the
      Science Library basement would not yet be ready.

e.   Options for using the GEAC circulation system to
      control the Federal Mogul Library Annex storage
      facility were outlined.

f.   A recommended three-tier organization within WSUL
      for GEAC implementation was established.   The
      three levels are: administrative (i.e., decision
      making), management, and task force.

2.   DALNET –

The DALNET group met weekly and accomplished these
tasks:

a.   G. Alt, attorney, was officially hired on behalf

of DALNET to draft the Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws documents by June 15, 1985. Letters of intent to pay $500, or checks, to cover G. Alt's fees were recieved from: Botsford, DPL, Harper, Henry Ford, U of D, and William Beaumont.

b.   The evaluation of the feasibility of Oakland University's joining DALNET continued. It should be completed by mid-May. Mt. Carmel, and Oakwood, hospitals, who are now "alternate" members, are also being reviewed.

c.   A letter was drafted to send to each DALNET library asking for a commitment to support the creation of joint construction documents for the central computer facility site.

A new DALNET coordinator from WSUL was assigned to begin work with the DALNET Study Group in May. Jim Williams, WSUL's Associate Director, will take these responsibilities over to enable Louise Bugg to devote all her energies to the WSUL accelerated implementation schedule.

3.   System Procurement Progress -

Preparations for a negotiating session with GEAC took much time during the month of April. These tasks were completed:

a.   The DALNET Evaluation Subcommittee chairs prioritized a "want" list of specifications that GEAC had responded "no" to. This want list, which is in two parts (one for major features and one for minor specifications), will be used during negotiations.

b.   An information meeting was held with Bob Desmarais, of GEAC, to review implementation plans, barcoding options, and detailed specification responses to eliminate as many ambiguities as possible before negotiations.

c.   Recommended negotiating points received from out automation consultant, Dick Boss, were reviewed. Other possible negotiating topics were also discussed.

d.   The DALNET group responded to a proposal from GEAC to provide institution level holdings displays in the online catalog.

Preparation for negotiations required the coordination of WSU Library administration, DALNET representatives,

Dick Boss, and attorneys Mike Kiley and Julia Darlow.

4. Central Site preparation –

   A decision was made to use the WSU Science Library basement, that is now housing the CSC's RJE, as the home of the central computer facility. Sims/Varner is writing a proposal to do the needed construction documents. The RJE will have to relocate to another site.

5. Tapes Committee –

   The Tapes, i.e., Database, Committee continued to work on its vendor survey to evaluate DALENT's options for tape preparation prior to database loading. A basic database standards document was drafted.

6. WSUL Retrospective Conversion Project –

   During April, WSUL staff added 6,647 titles to the tape of machine-readable bibliographic records. This brings the total number of titles converted to date to 66,324.

   Louise Bugg
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