

WSUL AUTOMATION PROJECT

Progress Report

September 1985

IBM/NOTIS System

In September, Jane Burke of NOTIS spent a day with a group of WSU and DALNET representatives to bring them up to date on the capabilities of the NOTIS system. The updated NOTIS response to the joint WSUL and DALNET Request for Proposal was delivered.

Detailed cost data and revised implementation plans were prepared to enable a re-evaluation of the IBM/NOTIS library system.

A decision was reached by mid-September to move forward with plans to negotiate a contract with NOTIS for the installation of their system on an IBM 4381 computer located at the WSU Computing Services Center. Contract negotiations with GEAC Computers were officially discontinued.

NOTIS Contract Negotiations

Preparations were completed in September for a contract negotiating session to be held with Jane Burke of NOTIS on October 1, 1985. A draft contract was written, including a preferred implementation schedule for WSU Libraries and a "wish list" of 27 major enhancements the WSU and DALNET Libraries wanted NOTIS to develop. This list was prioritized by the WSU and DALNET Libraries. A pre-negotiation meeting was held with legal counsel in late September.

OCLC Archive Tape Project

Blackwell North America was selected to be the vendor to prepare WSUL's OCLC archive tapes for loading into the NOTIS database. Copies of OCLC tapes containing all machine-readable cataloging records from 1975 through June 1985 were sent to Blackwell. Blackwell will delete the duplicate records, put the serials records on a separate tape, and send a copy of the resulting de-duped database by late October. Then, they will edit the name and LC subject heading fields in the records to the latest Library of Congress forms and create the corresponding authority databases for loading by March 1986.

Computing Services Center

The WSU Computing Services Center's offer of a one-year-old IBM 4381 computer and 2 disk drives to be dedicated to the NOTIS Library System was accepted. The central site computing equipment will be housed in the CSC and facilities management services will be provided by CSC staff. The Library System will share tape drives, printers, and front end telecommunications processors with other CSC users. Systems programming for the NOTIS system will be provided by CSC staff and applications programming by Library staff.

The CSC will assist the Libraries in developing appropriate charging formulas for the DALNET libraries to access and use the NOTIS system.

A NOTIS Project Coordinating Team with representatives from the Library and the Computing Center was established, to begin meeting weekly in October.

NOTIS Demonstrations

A dial-up connection was successfully made into Northwestern's Online Public Catalog, which is named LUIS, using an IBM-pc, a Hayes 1200 modem, and Smartcom II communications software. Instructions for dialing in were distributed.

DALNET Status

DALNET representatives attended the NOTIS information meeting with Jane Burke in early September, and reported the current capabilities of the NOTIS system to the DALNET Study Group.

The DALNET Study Group was informed of WSUL's decision to pursue negotiations with NOTIS, for an installation at the WSU Computing Center. Almost all members of the Study Group decided to continue with the joint planning process, with the exception of a few hospital libraries who decided to withdraw from active participation at this time.

Fran Buckley, of the Detroit Public Library, continued to represent DALNET libraries during the preparations for contract negotiation with NOTIS. The Study Group reviewed the "wish list" of desired enhancements developed for the negotiations, adding priorities.

Extensive discussion took place of the services and functions required by DALNET libraries for participation in a NOTIS system. Services that could be provided by the WSU Libraries and CSC were identified. A draft service contract between WSUL and DALNET libraries is being written.

Retrospective Conversion

The WSUL retrospective conversion project staff converted 1421 titles in September into machine readable form, bringing the total number of titles converted to date to 80,617.

Submitted by,

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