

WSUL Automation Project
Progress Report
August 1986

NOTIS Contract

Testing of the MVS version of NOTIS 4.0.1 continued in August, with authority file editing, authority worksheet creation, and vendor record creation and editing now operational. A few functions still remain to be tested.

On August 22, the MVS version of NOTIS 4.3 was received. With it came two MVS batch programs that we had been waiting for, including programs to print NOTIS tag charts, and to print a list of subject headings added and deleted from the authority file. Five MVS batch programs still have not been released.

NOTIS Development

The MVS version of NOTIS Release 4.3 includes many fixes to the Circulation module software. An important enhancement is the ability to display online what a patron has charged out. This new release must be installed and tested before it can be used.

Database Loading Status

The "vanilla" loader was customized locally during August to include most WSUL locations and sublocations needed for the Demo On-line Catalog, which is still on target to be made available to the public in September.

During August, a sample tape of 1,998 WSUL records run through the customized loader program were received from NOTIS. This sample, containing bibliographic, copy and volume holdings records, was carefully reviewed. Problems discovered were reported to NOTIS. Item records and all indexes for these sample records were created locally and tested.

One fix remains to be done on the authority record loader programs. And the patron loader programs written locally were still being tested and de-bugged during August.

Peripheral Installation

Telex 476L ALA-character set terminals and printers were installed in the Law and Medical Libraries and at the Purdy Library Reference desk during August. Still to be installed are 476L's at Science and the Kresge Periodicals/Reserves Room.

Peripherals for the online catalog and circulation received in August were IBM 3179 terminals, IBMpc's and printers, and Scanstar wand barcode readers. Ten online catalog terminals were uncrated in their Purdy/Kresge locations, ready for installation.

A Black Box switch, used to alternate between sending an OCLC record to a printer and sending it to a Telex 476L terminal for entry into NOTIS, was installed in August.

NOTIS Implementation

A training program was designed for catalogers so they can learn to transfer OCLC records into the NOTIS database.

The Online Catalog Implementation Team finalized plans for training public service staff the week before the Demo On-line Catalog is scheduled to be made available to the public. They also finished their first revision of the NOTIS public access screens. About 70% of their changes had been programmed into the NOTIS screens by the end of August.

The Circulation Team began reviewing the NOTIS patron registration procedures drafted in August. By the end of the month, the Library staff in all units had handled 84% of the barcode labels being applied to books, actually locating 80% of the books on the shelves. Some library units had already begun Pass Two of the book barcoding project, which involves searching local files for special locations.

WSU Library Cards were received in August, as were the barcode labels to be applied to the cards. Barcode labels for books circulated "on-the-fly" were also received.

DALNET Status

A DALNET NOTIS Coordinators meeting was held on August 11 to hear a progress report on the WSU NOTIS implementation. Those DALNET libraries wanting NOTIS to schedule their customized OCLC tape loader received a questionnaire to complete by early September.

The BNA OCLC tape processing contract, with prices, was finalized and sent to Detroit Associated Libraries/Detroit Public Library for approval during August.

Retrospective Conversion Project

A project manager and student workers are being hired for the WSU Retrocon Project using OCLC's MICROCON Service.

Louise Bugg
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