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WSUL/DALNET Automation Project  
Progress Report  
April - June 1988

DALNET Database Loading

Bibliographic records from the WSU Libraries' OCLC Retrocon Project, funded by the Kellogg grant, are being added to the WSU production database regularly. About 5,000 records have been loaded through June.

In May, the Detroit Public Library's first 648,000 bibliographic records were loaded from their OCLC archive tapes into the DALNET production database.

By the end of May, Oakland University's entire patron file of 8,000 records was tape-loaded into the shared DALNET patron database, bringing the total number of patron records to about 64,000.

In June, signed contracts were sent to Blackwell North America to obtain LC name and subject authority records for unique headings added to the DALNET database by Oakland University, Wayne County Community College, and the Detroit Public Library. These records are expected in August.

A contract was also drawn up for Blackwell to supply weekly tapes with MARC bibliographic records matching WSU's approval book shipments. These records are expected to begin arriving in the summer.

Specifications were completed in June and sent out to vendors for responses to supply machine-readable bibliographic records for U.S. government documents obtained on deposit. The Detroit Public Library, Oakland University, and WSU are working together on this project.

An order was sent to the Center for Research Libraries (CRL) to obtain a copy of the archive tapes containing all their OCLC cataloging through June, 1988. About 90,000 bibliographic records, mostly serials, will be added to the production database as a separate processing unit representing the CRL. Wayne State is a member of the CRL and anticipates use of its holdings to increase as a result.

Hardware, Software, and Development

Planning began to add another 5 gigabytes of storage to the DALNET central site. More disk capacity is needed by late summer/early fall.

An HEA Title II D grant proposal was submitted on May 11, requesting funding for a dedicated front end processor for DALNET. The WSU Computing Center is currently providing lines on its front ends for use by DALNET.

The carbonized circulation mailer forms, developed for overdue, item needed, and item available notices, were ordered in May and received June 23. They will be put into production for WSU Libraries in July, after final testing is completed.

Two IBM printers were ordered for distributed system printing in the WSU Libraries -- one for the Acquisitions Department and one for the Systems Office. Initial testing of distributed printing of cataloging and circulation module batch products was completed. Security for operators of printers at remote sites was developed. Tapes of machine readable index records for the General Motors' SASI (automobile safety) collection were received. A project to "translate" these records into the MARC bibliographic format for test loading as a separate NOTIS institution group was begun.

#### NOTIS Implementation at Wayne State

The GLOB command was tested and programs modified to enable it to work across multiple processing unit files. It will be put into production in the summer, with only selected cataloging/database management staff authorized to "glob".

The OCLC M310 (Wyse) terminal to Telex 476L transfer was successfully installed in Technical Services. A special serial cable had to be constructed with the appropriate pin settings.

In Acquisitions, the action date list and vendor memos were tested and NOTIS is now being used to print vendor letters, including claims. The first pass of the project to convert subscriptions into NOTIS was completed, resulting in 70% loaded. NOTIS release 4.4.4 was received, with fund accounting fixes and a multiple fiscal year feature. It will be installed in the Wayne State test region in the summer, to "get ahead" of the Release 4.5 installation.

The project to convert manual serial check-in records, from kardexes and shelf lists in each WSU Library, got well underway. Staff in all units were trained, nineteen people total. By the end of June, over 2,500 periodical titles had been converted for NOTIS check-in. The Law Library had completed the first pass through its manual check-in records. In addition, 460 classed serials were converted.

The WSUL Keyword/Boolean implementation team, together with the Systems Office staff, designed and carried out tests of K/B searching in a DALNET multi-processing unit test region. The team's recommendations were completed and are being forwarded for administrative review.

An instruction sheet for using the pc-telecommunications package SMARTCOM to dial into LUIS was finalized, printed, and distributed.

In Circulation, all units began linking unlinked items used for "circulation-on-the-fly". Only difficult items and those with no bibliographic records loaded yet are sent to the Database Management Unit for linking. Most units sent out overdue letters for books still charged on the old manual circ system. Billing letters to use as follow-up were drafted. The group holds feature went through initial testing.

#### NOTIS Implementation at Other DALNET Libraries

Oakland University went "live" with the circulation module in May, as planned. Batch products are mailed to them daily from WSU. Their patron records are updated regularly by tape load. In preparation for implementing the acquisitions module, Oakland University completed the necessary NOTIS tables in June.

Wayne County Community College tested and accepted the online catalog module in June. Their OCLC transfer became operational, enabling them to compete testing of the cataloging module in the summer. Circulation training was held for key WCCC staff in early June, so they can prepare for using the module in the fall. Their circulation tables are to be completed in July.

In April, Beaumont Hospital attended a circulation orientation session and began work on their NOTIS circulation tables. Staff at Beaumont are busy barcoding and linking their collections.

Botsford Hospital attended circulation training in April and went "live" with the module in June.

The Detroit Public Library staff attended beginning and advanced cataloging training, as well as an authorities MARC format workshop. Additional Telex terminals were installed in their Cataloging Department. Their very large NOTIS location tables were all completed.

Children's Hospital accepted the online catalog module and attended circulation training. Their circulation tables were completed in June. They have begun holding LUIS orientations for hospital employees.

Two new libraries became DALNET members -- the University of Detroit and the Oakland County Law Library. Work began immediately on their implementation schedules and peripheral equipment orders.

#### DALNET Board

The DALNET Board met on June 17 and elected new officers for the 1988/89 year: President, Jean Curtis of DPL; Vice President, Margaret Auer of U of D; Treasurer, Debbie Adams of Botsford Hospital; and Secretary, Joan Smith of Beaumont Hospital, Royal Oak.

#### DALNET/NOTIS Presentations

Visitors to the DALNET/NOTIS site included:

- April 4            Brooklyn College representative
- April 15         Kalamazoo College Library representatives
- May 10           University of Michigan circulation task force
- May 26           librarians from five Flint area libraries
- June 2            University of North Dakota representatives

On May 13, Louise Bugg made a presentation on "DALNET and Law Libraries" at the Michigan Association of Law Libraries. On May 19, she was on a reactor panel at the Michigan Library Association Academic Librarian's Day, speaking about collection management in an automated library network.

At the annual NOTIS Users Group Meeting (NUGM) held in Evanston, Illinois, June 29-30, Louise Bugg gave an update on DALNET at the session for consortia and networks. Charlene Wecker participated in the pre-NUGM workshop on training held June 28, by making a presentation on NOTIS training in a consortium and helping lead a discussion group on training for the circulation module.

An updated "DALNET AND NOTIS Fact Sheet," dated June 1988, was prepared in time for distribution at NUGM.

Submitted by:

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July 19, 1988