

DALNET PROJECT MANAGERS MEETING

November 1, 1993

Minutes

Present: D. Adams, L. Bugg, G. Bosler (for K. Gauri), I. David, G. Ellis, J. Flaherty, M. Klein, C. Liner, H. Ma, S. Martin, J. Murray, D. Roe (for A. Sargent), J. Smith, C. Wecker

1. OCLC Discussion with Randy Dykhuis

a. **Telecommunications Linking Program (TLP)**

R. Dykhuis described the TLP which would link the OCLC Network with the DALNET Network, replacing the existing separate phone lines between OCLC and each DALNET/OCLC library. Because OCLC has a X.25 telecommunications network, "translation" would be necessary to enable the DALNET SNA network to communicate with OCLC over an X.25 line. The major advantage of using the TLP would be to enable terminals on the DALNET network to access OCLC. Any DALNET PC with Passport software would be able to take advantage of full OCLC functionality. All OCLC services are available through use of the TLP: Cataloging, Interlibrary Loan, First Search, and EPIC. R. Dykhuis anticipated some cost saving through use of this Program. He will investigate how billing could be done in the DALNET environment with many different institutions and inform L. Bugg.

b. **FirstSearch Access**

R. Dykhuis also talked about FirstSearch--OCLC's online menu-driven end user search system, which currently includes 40 databases ranging from general interest to very technical/scientific. (The OCLC bibliographic database, WorldCat, is one of these 40 databases.) There are several methods of accessing FirstSearch, including:

- Using a Z39.50 client and TCP/IP communications, FirstSearch could be listed on the NOTIS OPAC Navigator menu for specified terminals. In this situation, the FirstSearch user interface would be consistent with our NOTIS's user interface. NOTIS is still developing its client; not all of the OCLC features will be translated into the NOTIS environment.
- Accessing via dedicated OCLC terminals or dialup.
- Accessing FirstSearch on the INTERNET via an institution's campus network; Oakland University is currently doing this for a one month test period.

FirstSearch also includes the capability for patrons to place an Interlibrary Loan request and order articles, however, this feature is not available with the Z39.50 access option.

WSU is reviewing FirstSearch as an option for databases it does not want to store locally. OCLC charges either an annual fee for searches or for a block of searches. A question arose regarding the use of OCLC authorization numbers if FirstSearch access was through a NOTIS client. R. Dykhuis will report back to L. Bugg.

R. Dykhuis also discussed SiteSearch, OCLC's UNIX-based product for accessing locally stored databases (similar to InfoShare). OCLC can do loaders for SiteSearch databases or libraries can develop their own.

2. DALNET Committee Reports

a. Circulation

L. Bugg reviewed the parameters for the annual DALNET Bill and Fine File Purge that will be done for the first time the end of December. Purged records will be archived and stored for seven years along with a copy of the corresponding patron file and a snapshot of the entire Bill/Fine file just prior to the purge. As new NOTIS releases are installed, these purged records (and corresponding files) will be converted to the latest release, as appropriate. Purged records can be remounted and accessed within 48 hours, if necessary. The Systems Office will be testing the "remounting" process prior to running the first purge at the end of this year. A "test" purge indicated that almost 1/2 of the 867,870 records will be purged this first year.

Following the Bill/Fine Purge, the Systems Office will begin work on the patron file purge. A first step will be to create some reports that libraries need, e.g., (1) patron subrecords with expire, but not delete, dates; and (2) patron IDs to which materials have not been charged for 2-3 years.

C. Wecker also reported that the LMS Release 5.2 "Circulation Rewrite" was discussed at the Circulation Standards Committee meeting October 29. Sample 5.2 screens from the October NUGM meeting and her report on the session she attended on the "Rewrite" will be sent to Project Managers.

b. **Database Standards**

C. Wecker reminded Project Managers of the DALNET Cataloging/Authorities Users Group meeting to be held at the Detroit Public Library on Monday, November 8.

c. **Access Committee**

The next meeting of this Committee will be Thursday morning at Walsh College; the major agenda item is discussion of the 10 PACLoan-related questions L. Bugg referred to the Committee. G. Bosler reminded libraries to send him updates to the DALNET Access Directory within the next two weeks. The Committee would like to have it produced before the end of the year. P. Spyers-Duran offered to produce additional copies at Wayne State. Most likely, Macomb Community College will produce 2 copies per DALNET site; WSU would then make other copies, as requested, OR libraries could locally produce as many copies as needed.

d. **Acquisitions and Serials Control Standards Committee**

C. Wecker reported that the Committee is currently planning its first Users Group meeting to be held on May 5 at Oakland University.

3. NOTIS Report Schedule/Request Process

a. **QuikReports**

DALNET Standards Committees have been evaluating the sample QuikReports run by the Systems Office. All of the Cataloging and Circulation reports have run successfully; there are still several Acquisitions reports which have not run. (They should be fixed in release 1.1 of QuikReports; the shipping date for this release has not yet been announced.)

C. Wecker is modifying a chart developed by Virginia Commonwealth University with information about each of the 54 available reports, including a description of the report, files it uses, DALNET Committees' evaluation of its usefulness, and needed improvements, if any. She will send this chart, along with sample copies of each report, to DALNET Project Managers by the end of the month. Project Managers should then indicate which reports they need produced either on a regular schedule or "on demand." L. Bugg will use this information to develop a schedule for QuikReports.

b. **SAS and Other Locally Developed Reports**

L. Bugg is working with each programmer to compile a list of SAS reports available to DALNET sites. If libraries want these reports produced "exactly" as written, they can be supplied within a specific number of days; if customization is necessary, production would take a longer time. L. Bugg plans to have this list available by the end of the year.

4. 1993/94 Projects Schedule

L. Bugg reviewed her "WSULS/DALNET Automation Projects 1993/94" document.

• **WSU Campus Wide Information System -- Gopher Pilot**

As part of the Campus Wide Information System (CWIS), the WSU Libraries will have a gopher server linked to the campus gopher server. The first WSU gopher client will be available through keying "gopher" on CMS (PROFS). Oakland University already has a gopher; Oakland Community College is currently developing one.

• **MRLT PACLink Grant Project**

WSU, MSU and the University of Michigan have received an HEA Title IIA grant to fund the MRLT PACLink project. The tentative schedule for the three-year project is:

Year 1: Hardware, telecommunication hookup, linking OPACs;
Year 2: MDAS-sharing, PACLoan;
Year 3: Evaluation and reporting.

• **DALNET Projects**

Walsh College: Walsh will begin NOTIS implementation with the Cataloging/Authorities Module in January, pending installation of hardware.

PACLoan: Implementation will begin following receipt of the upgraded software; if the software is received in January 1994, implementation could occur Fall of 1994.

CheckMARC: Botsford will begin to use this Module after LMS Release 5.1.1 has been implemented. Release 5.1.1 includes the "fix" to CheckMARC for system crashes encountered in Release 5.1.0.

DMC Libraries: Active discussion is underway with the five additional DMC libraries regarding joining DALNET. A decision is expected by early 1994.

• **NOTIS LMS and WSU Projects**

Release 5.1.1: Plans are to implement this by the end of the year.

DIA: Active discussion is underway regarding participation in DALNET.

Reuther Archives Title IIC grant project: WSU received a grant to create machine readable records for Reuther's archival collections. The project will include downloading and enhancing a few hundred bibliographic records that were added to OCLC from the National Union Catalog of Manuscript Collections. Original MARC AMC records will be created on NOTIS for the rest of Reuther's processed collections.

GPO/CIS Projects: WSU is investigating the purchase of Congressional Information Service records to use for adding the CIS microfiche number to existing NOTIS GPO records. C. Wecker will inform the other two DALNET GPO tapeloading libraries about developments in this area.

• **MDAS/LUIS PLUS Projects**

Release 1.3.1: W. Kane is testing the downloading capability using Kermit.

ERIC: It may be feasible to load the backfile with the current file. WSU is sending a letter to DALNET Board members with an offer for their use of ERIC. For libraries that want to use ERIC, training will be scheduled the week of November 15th. Project Managers should let Louise know if they want to use ERIC.

SASI database: Plans are to put the System for Automotive Safety Information (SASI) on MDAS; access will initially be for WSU only. The Detroit Public Library expressed some interest in accessing SASI.

Business and Company Profiles (IAC): Plans are to load this citation database for WSU use after the ERIC backfile has been loaded. IAC needs to be contacted for pricing for DALNET.

5. New NOTIS Products

John Florian has sent the packets with brochures on NOTIS products to Project Managers; most libraries report having received them.

6. Plans for Future MDAS Databases

a. **Wayne State User Access to Databases at DALNET Libraries:**

WSU asked DALNET libraries with MDAS access to consider including all databases on their LUIS PLUS "database selection screen." Those databases they do not license would appear with an asterisk, indicating the need for logon authorization. This would enable patrons from institutions who do contract for the databases to logon and use them at all DALNET MDAS libraries. Libraries interested in including additional databases on their LUIS PLUS menus should contact Louise or Bill.

b. **Books in Print (BIP)**

The company supplying BIP prices its tapes on the number of simultaneous users. In order to load BIP, we need a loader, which is currently being written by NOTIS. Since DALNET libraries seem interested in BIP, the Systems Office will follow up.

c. **Negotiations with Database Vendors**

ISI is offering DALNET libraries access to the Current Contents files on LUIS PLUS for a three-month free trial period (beginning January 1994). The producers of CINAHL have quoted DALNET libraries a price based on the number of nursing students at DALNET libraries.

d. **InfoShare Option**

L. Bugg is in the process of comparing costs for databases using MDAS versus using InfoShare. With InfoShare, the databases would still be on the LUIS PLUS database selection screen but the database would be stored on UNIX machines.

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7. Other

- Project Managers bid a fond farewell to Charlotte Liner who is retiring from Oakland County Law Library on December 23rd. Richard Beer is also officially retiring on that date; he will continue on as a consultant for a period of time.
- Helen Ma described the effort underway to develop the "Greater Detroit Freenet" similar to the Cleveland community-based Freenet.

Notes by,

Charlene Wecker
November 12, 1993