

MICHIGAN LIBRARY EXCHANGE



Our patron-initiated and patron centered library resource exchange system is moving forward almost on schedule.

Last week the project managers for all Phase I libraries and the chairs of the various committees instrumental to the implementation, attended training provided by *epixtech*. Mark Derrick and Ken Adams were our trainers. We found that a significant portion of the technical work is part of what the vendor configures based upon the information we provide. Therefore, it is incumbent upon the participating libraries to insure that our configuration requests are what we really want.

We definitely know that the interface to the system is not necessarily designed to look very appealing but it is functional and we will be able to include the MiLE logo. The design team will be working on an intro web page that will provide consistency across the project. Horizon is the least interactive with URSA of the systems that will be included in this project. There are a few technical requirements of the DALNET libraries that must be implemented prior to our "going live". Therefore, we will, out of necessity have to operate staff-mediated procedures until we migrate to Horizon 7.2. and install the NCIP functionality.

Staff training will be provided. We will ask that you select who should be trained and they will participate in training sessions provided by the MiLE Training Committee. For those institutions that have large staffs in-house training will also be given.

We do not have definite word as to the second round of LSTA funding for the MiLE project. But, all are hopeful that it materializes. As we have often stated the MiLE project is one of the prototypes which will be considered as we move toward a statewide resource system. The current economic status of the State of Michigan of course may have the final say on those decisions.