

11/27/2006  
URSA 4.0  
MiLE Interlibrary Loan *and* Reciprocal Borrowing

### MiLE Interlibrary Loan

Improvements to URSA 4.0 indicate that the software can now adequately handle an implementation connecting Horizon databases for Interlibrary Loan. TLN and SLC have now decided to officially leave the MiLE consortium to pursue MeLCat.

If DALNET chooses to do so we may pursue on our own the reinstatement of MiLE using the URSA 4.0 software. MiLE testing on URSA 4.0 for DALNET members, among DALNET members, was working well before testing ceased a few months ago. URSA 4.0 is an ASP product hosted and run by SirsiDynix, Inc.

If only DALNET participates in the new MiLE, then the costs of MiLE will be the sole responsibility of DALNET members. Since other members have left MiLE, the MiLE bylaws state that any remaining MiLE materials and monies are the property of any remaining members. This means that DALNET would receive the remaining MiLE bank account balance of approximately \$18,000 to use toward the continued operations of a new MiLE.

SirsiDynix has been asked to provide a new quote for the pricing of URSA 4.0 for a new, greatly downsized MiLE. The original cost of URSA for the entire old MiLE consortium was approximately \$55,000 annually. We have been quoted approximately \$22,500 to use the software for a new MiLE consisting of primarily DALNET member institutions.

DALNET currently has budgeted \$26,250 for URSA/MiLE in 2006/2007.

### Reciprocal Borrowing

In addition to its Interlibrary Loan module, URSA 4.0 also provides an additional Reciprocal Borrowing module. Use of this additional module would allow DALNET to technologically offer means of also implementing reciprocal borrowing among members that wish to participate. The software can be configured to allow participating libraries to verify if visiting patrons are in good standing at their home institutions before extending reciprocal borrowing privileges. The software is purportedly configurable for any DALNET member institution, including those not using Horizon and we have asked for clarification that the additional reciprocal borrowing module of URSA 4.0 is *not* an additional cost.

### Recommendation

DALNET staff members and the Executive Committee are recommending that we purchase URSA 4.0, with plans to reinstate a new MiLE in January 2007 using the URSA Interlibrary Loan module and to also pursue configuration of the URSA 4.0 Reciprocal Borrowing module enabling a formal Reciprocal Borrowing arrangement among members that wish to participate.