

Dalnet
Database Standards Committee
Minutes
December 15, 1987

Members present: Anaclare Evans, WSU, chair., Kathy Donahue, Botsford General Hospital, Helen Ma, Detroit Public Library, Ann Pogany, Oakland University, Theresa Shen, Wayne County Community College

The meeting was called to order by Anaclare Evans at 9:40 a.m. in the WSU Purdy Library.

Global change: Anaclare reported that the global change works as long as the records belong to one processing unit. The system abends if records belong to more than one. Anaclare will investigate the possibility of having a program written that would enable glob to go across processing units. There is a concern that any "fixes" we might be able to engineer now would be blown out of the water by index redesign.

Indexing problems: Anaclare has found a number of heading that are not retrievable because of length, e.g. subbodies of the The American Association for the Advancement of Science. There is also a problem with the indexing of uniform titles, i.e. some do and some don't, and it is not clear why, they do or don't. In addition the t subfield in 700, 710, etc. is not indexed. Anaclare will consult with Ana Fidler on the intricacies of indexing in order to find a way around these troubles. In the meantime anyone finding any of these or other indexing funnies should print off the index screens and send them to Anaclare. It is particularly important to document nonretrievable headings.

Notis Music Group meeting: The discussion of uniform titles brought up the subject of music cataloging, where they are heavily used. DPL will be sending a staff person to the Notis Music Group meeting, who will report back to us any pertinent information. It was suggested that we send one representative to these types of Notis meetings who would report back to the group rather than moving in phalanx, which, if nothing else, is costly.

Additional authority records: BNA would charge approximately \$.06-\$.07 per record looked at to pull additional authority records. They would rerun the whole authority tape so dups should only occur with transfers if at all.

LC subject authorities in Notis: The LC topical subject authority file should be up on OCLC in December or January the latest. At that time Anaclare will write and distribute procedures for handling them. The "LC Subject Authorities in Notis WSU/Dalnet Policy" was distributed and agreed upon on. A few minor clarifications to the policy follow. The numbers are keyed to the numbers of the "Policy" statement:

1. e.g., conflicts, etc.
2. i.e., WSU will not load tapes
5. Records defined in point 5 must be transferred, others may be if deemed necessary and/or appropriate
- B. e.g., a heading based on an LC pattern heading; any others not found and needed

10. There is a subject specialist at WSU. Global will work for most changes but not when one heading splits into more than one, e.g. Blacks and Afro-Americans, or if more than one is consolidated (no. e.g. leaps to mind)
11. Dalnet members and PS staffs are strongly urged to add/recommend x-refs, so long as they do not conflict, in order to maximize the usefulness of often imprecise subject headings.
13. Same as for name headings.

Series: After lively discussion and much gnashing of the teeth it was decided that we must at some point address the public service implications of differing series tracing policies of Dalnet member libraries. While the system easily accommodates varied series tracing policies, the public service implications are grave. We could be sending our patrons to other libraries because we do not trace the series while another library does and so it appears that we do not own the item whereas we do. Can we afford to be different? Input should be solicited from PS staffs before we establish a policy. One suggestion was to simply trace everything. If this were the solution DPL is concerned since they trace few series. Could a program be written to change 490 0's to 440's? Anaclare will check with Ana. The rest of us will check with PS staffs and generally mull the problem.

Acquisitions: Acquisitions is up at WSU. Phaseout of the Nonesuch system will take 6-10 weeks though both will run through the fiscal year.

Miscellaneous but important: Because man does not live by Notis alone, The Committee, joined by Charlene Wecker, repaired to the Money Tree for a well-deserved Christmas lunch.

Happy holidays to all!

Submitted by Ann Pogany

AP:md