DALNET Statistics Coding Task Force

RECOMMENDATION FOR BORROWER STATISTICAL (BSTAT) CODES

September 14, 1998

BSTAT codes provide circulation statistics by borrower category. These reports are not related to those which rely on BTYPE (Borrower Type) codes. BSTAT codes are not hierarchically related to any other codes. Consequently, the list of BSTAT codes may represent multiple types of information without the need for additional embedded subcodes or other complex structures.

Recommendation:

1. Each BSTAT code must start with a 2-character subcode identifying the institution.

2. Each BSTAT code must be unique within the DALNET-wide list of BSTAT codes.

3. Each BTYPE code should also be used as a BSTAT code.

    The optional 7th character in the BSTAT code may be used to further subdivide a Borrower Type for statistical purposes.

    For example:

    Among the BTYPEs are the codes "wsstud" undergraduates and "wsgrad" for graduate students. These also serve as BSTAT codes. For circulation statistics, however, a library might prefer a finer breakdown by class rank. Consequently, the 7th position in the BSTAT code can represent students' class ranks. In the following table, "xx" is used for the initial 2-character code representing the institution:

BTYPE code	Subcode	for	Class	BSTAT code
xxstud	1		freshmen	xxstud1
xxstud	2		sophomores	xxstud2
xxstud	3		juniors	xxstud3
xxstud	4		seniors	xxstud4
xxgrad	m		masters	xxgradm
xxgrad	d		doctoral	xxgradd
xxgrad	p		professional	xxgradp

4. BSTAT codes, however, are not limited to duplication of BTYPE codes.

    Before creating an additional BSTAT code, a library should consult the DALNET-wide list of BSTAT codes, for two purposes:

    - to avoid inappropriate duplication of codes

    - to see if another institution has created a code for a similar group of borrowers. In this case, use the same characters which follow the institution code. This consistency will greatly enhance DALNET-wide reporting.

    For example: BSTAT codes representing a student's, faculty's, staff member's, or alumnus' college or school within the institution consist of:

    - The required first two characters representing the institution

    - 3 characters representing the college or school. Consistency among institutions should be used whenever possible.

    Following this pattern, the following BSTAT codes for colleges/schools are established initially. As above, "xx" represents the institution.

College/School	Subcode	BSTAT code
Allied Health	alh	xxalh
Business	bus	xxbus
Education	edu	xxedu
Engineering	eng	xxeng
Medicine	med	xxmed
Nursing	nur	xxnur
Social Work	swk	xxswk

Rationale:

The lack of hierarchical relationship between BSTAT codes and any codes or functions allows a large variety and flexibility. In order to provide for reliable relationships between data from, and across, the DALNET institutions, however, embedded subcodes representing similar types of data should be consistently used among the various libraries. The method Horizon for managing and using BSTATs does not require all codes represent a single type of information or even a single approach to the structure of the codes. It simply requires that each code be unique within the list.