WebPAC Design Task Force
Meeting Minutes for June 3, 1998

Present: Bacsanyi, Doyle, Gay, Homant, Nelson, Galvin, Yonovich. Not present:
Trzeciak, Woodward.

1) Minutes of May 22, 1998 approved.

2) Sample pages from several WebPACs were distributed, as were Jan Sheppard's
answers to the questions that came up at the last meeting. There was general
agreement that the charge to this task force, as noted in the minutes of May 22nd, was
adequate. There will be a new version of Horizon's WebPAC software soon that
incorporates new features, such as ones whereby patrons will check their own records.

3) The rest of the meeting consisted of listing the desirable general components of the
general DALNET WebPAC screens while viewing and criticizing existing ones on the
Internet.

Of the dozen or so sites accessed. Duke's initial screen was especially good, as were those
of Case Western and OhioLink. The Case site seemed to have the best search screens.

Other sites viewed were: U. of Chicago, Johns Hopkins, CARL, Aladin (WRLC), SILO
(Iowa).

General comments:
Task Force should do the DALNET screens first, then recommend that institutional
screens conform as much as possible.

DPL childrens librarians should have full latitude to create a child-friendly "kidPAC."

Search screens should generally emphasize keyword searching.

There should be separate buttons for licensed databases and free-access ones.

There should be a text only option.

We need more information about Horizon's plans for broadcast searching. We need a
definition.

The map of the OhioLink region looked great. Should be done so that one can click to
the desired site right off the map.

The initial screen should be attractive, not overly "graphical," and as comprehensive as
possible, a la Duke's.

4) Before the next meeting, task force members should look over the screens examined today, especially those of Duke, OhioLink, and Case Western, and prepare a list of needed components.

5) Next meeting: Wednesday June 10, 1998, 9 AM, at UD-Mercy.