



Innovative, Collaborative Information Access

Changing the way you think about libraries

Introduction

DALNET, the Detroit Area Library Network, is a community of libraries working together to provide exemplary services for the people Michigan.

Hosted at Wayne State University since 1985, DALNET includes ten hospital libraries, four private academic institutions, three community colleges, three special libraries, one public library and a university library system. DALNET members collectively serve four million people, who comprise more than half of Michigan's total population.

DALNET is governed by a Board of Directors, which includes representatives from all members. A systems office staff of nine is committed to helping members open new doorways to the world of ideas, learning and discovery.

Members of the Detroit Area Library Network actively collaborate to deliver comprehensive services to advance understanding, research, and knowledge. We pledge to leverage our diverse strengths by developing innovative, cooperative strategies which facilitate information access. We are committed to establishing DALNET as a dynamic leader in library collaboration by:

- Providing seamless virtual and physical access to the total collective resources in our libraries and beyond.
- Devising proactive, creative and affordable solutions to address evolving member needs.
- Acting as an innovative change agent to enhance access opportunities for the people we serve.
- Continually seeking new ways to help DALNET add value for all members.

DALNET Vision

- 1) To change the way people regard libraries by making it easy for library customers to get what they need – when, where and how they want it.
- 2) To change the way people use and view libraries by empowering our members to deliver indispensable services for their customers.

DALNET Mission

DALNET, the Detroit Area Library Network, is a community of libraries working together to provide exemplary services. DALNET delivers leadership in effective library resource sharing, consulting, staff development and service innovation to help member libraries serve their customers.

DALNET Values

- We value the people we serve, and continually seek new ways to help them achieve their potential for success in work, school and life.
- We value our members, and dedicate ourselves to earning their enduring respect and confidence through service excellence.
- We value the power of cooperation, and pledge to create a shared collaborative environment where members help each other succeed.

Goals and objectives

Goal 1: Resource discovery

DALNET provides a state-of-the-art online listing of resources in member libraries, to provide a new world of ideas and discovery for southeast Michigan.

Objectives

- 1.1 By 30 June 2003, initiate a request for proposals to position the Board to make an informed decision on selecting a new integrated library system.
- 1.2 Implement broadcast searching capability by XXXX.
- 1.3 Complete migration to a new ILS by XXXX. (If the Board OKs a new ILS)

Goal 2: Resource sharing services

DALNET devises creative strategies to provide easy virtual and physical access to our membership's collective resources.

Objectives

- 2.1 By December, 2003, improve access to member collections through reciprocal borrowing arrangements.
- 2.2 Federated searching...
- 2.3 Shared Patron Database...
- 2.4 Digital projects...
- 2.5 Recruit new members...

Goal 3: Governance

DALNET is organized to support the membership through effective business practices and responsive communications.

Objectives

- 3.1 Review and revise the DALNET bylaws by December, 2003
- 3.2 Devise a new cost allocation formula by December, 2003

3.3 By October, 2003, plan and implement a new staffing structure to fit DALNET's new budget realities...

3.4 Support for statewide resource sharing initiatives...

