

DALNET PROJECT MANAGERS MEETING

June 7, 1993

Minutes

Present: D. Adams, J. Bosler (for K. Gauri), L. Bugg, I. David, G. Ellis, J. Flaherty, W. Kane, M. Klein, C. Liner, H. Ma, S. Martin, J. Murray, A. Sargent, J. Smith, C. Wecker

Gloria Ellison (Walsh College) was welcomed to her first Project Managers meeting.

1. New NOTIS Release Implementation

A. LMS 5.1 and MDAS 1.3

LMS Release 5.1/MDAS Release 1.3 are currently in test regions:

- LMS/LUIS and MDAS/LUIS Plus are in "cicsnott"
- LMS/Staff Mode (including GTO 3.1) is in "cicsnotd"

They are in separate regions in test and will be in separate regions once they are in production because they are running under different operating systems. Cicsnott is running under CICS 3.1.1; Cicsnotd is under CICS 1.7. Following implementation in July, the situation will be as follows:

- LMS/LUIS and MDAS/LUIS Plus will be in "cicsntpa" (3.1.1)
- LMS/Staff Mode will be in "cicsnotp" (1.7)

We need to use CICS 3.1.1 to take advantage of improved performance. Unfortunately, we are unable to run Staff Mode under 3.1.1 because the function keys do not work.

When LUIS and LUIS PLUS are in the same region, the "hook to holdings" can be activated. Because LUIS and Staff Mode will not be in the same region, however, use of the ">" to get to the Staff Mode bibliographic record from the LUIS display will not be possible.

Use of SIM sessions can help staff switch between multiple regions without having to log off and on. W. Kane reviewed a document on the procedure for using multiple SIM sessions with WSUNET. Staff sign onto the various sessions they need, e.g., one for cicsnotp, one for cicntpa, one for PROFS. Then, they can move between sessions with a "#goto [name of session]" command. He cautioned people that NOTIS transactions tied to a particular service unit (e.g., circulation) cannot be done in SIM sessions. In SIM, terminals have different SIM IDs each time staff log on, rather than fixed IDs that can be associated with service units in the NOTIS tables.

The target dates for Release 5.1 implementation are July 17-18 with fallback dates of July 24-25. NOTIS may need to be down during the implementation. [NOTE: Since the meeting, our "fallback" dates have changed to August 14-15.]

W. Kane and C. Wecker reviewed the "LMS 5.1/MDAS 1.3 Features" handout detailing the major changes coming with these new releases. The changes will not require staff training sessions prior to implementation. An optional one-hour "demo" session for staff--focusing on LUIS changes--should be sufficient. LUIS screens will have two less lines of text to accommodate additional prompts, including prompts for function keys. W. Kane passed around a new LUIS terminal keyboard template which includes these function keys.

Location based searching will not be tested until Fall. This new capability requires a lot of computer resources. We are consulting with other NOTIS sites to determine what can be done to make it as efficient as possible.

We hope that LUIS terminals will not need to be "locked" by the Computing Center in Release 5.1. Instead, they would be "locked" via online NOTIS tables. [Since the meeting, A. Fidler determined that it will still be necessary to have LUIS terminals "locked" by Computing Center staff.]

B. GTO 3.1 -- Installation Plan

C. Wecker explained that the new GTO Release 3.1 must be installed when LMS 5.1 is implemented. A. Fidler will help install GTO 3.1 PC software at each DALNET site. Testing will be done at WSULS to install the software in a separate GTO PC file to be ready for use with Release 5.1.

C. CheckMARC Planning

C. Wecker distributed her report from the Michigan NOTIS Users Group Meeting with notes from the "New Serials Control" Workshop she attended. The DALNET Acquisitions Task Force has been asked to evaluate CheckMARC and make a recommendation regarding its implementation. Beth Warner, Head of Systems at the University of Michigan, will be coming to WSU on June 15 to demonstrate CheckMARC. She is very knowledgeable about the new Serials Control system because the University of Michigan served as a Beta Site for LMS 5.1. She also was involved with its development when she was employed by NOTIS. DALNET sites who do not have representatives on the Acquisitions Task Force are welcome to send someone to this meeting.

D. Screen Development Project

W. Kane will redo the LUIS screens, as necessary, to accommodate Release 5.1. He is using the University of Pittsburgh's screens as a model. Upon completion, the new screens will be reviewed by the DALNET Screens Committee. All LUIS PLUS/MDAS screens are also being redone.

E. QuikReports

C. Wecker's Michigan NOTIS Users Group Meeting report also includes a section on QuikReports. Testing of QuikReports and evaluation/prioritization will be done following implementation of Release 5.1.

2. New Circulation Report

This report, which is based on a SAS report developed by Vanderbilt, provides circulation statistics by call number. It has already been run for several DALNET sites. The report has four sections based on Classification Code and grouped as follows:

- LC: sorts by LC class letters
- Dewey: first 2 digits of Dewey call number
- Non LC/Dewey: class codes S, T, U
- Miscellaneous: class codes A, I, Y, X, and Z

Three types of totals are provided: by Service Unit, by "4,4" location, and by Patron Category. Statistics include charges and renewals from the circulation history file and current item records (linked and unlinked). The report can be run by charge date range. Unless there is an urgent need, DALNET libraries are being asked to wait until September to request this report.

3. Form for Submitting Patron Tapes

L. Bugg reviewed the new "DALNET Patron Tape Load Form" for use when submitting patron tapes. It specifically requests information regarding delete and expiration dates. Delete dates are needed to use NOTIS's patron purge program. She described how expiration and delete dates can be set during tapeloads, e.g., added to previously loaded records no longer on incoming tape. Project Managers expressed interest in receiving a list of "expired" patrons that are entered by keying rather than tapeloaded, so they can have "delete" dates set for them.

The Bill and Fine Purge needs to be done prior to the Patron File Purge. Once they have been tested, a schedule for these purges will be recommended by the DALNET Circulation Task Force. The Bill and Fine Purge is currently being tested, using as parameters all closed bills more than one year old and all open bills more than one year old and under \$2.00. Credits are being treated as under \$2.00. DALNET sites are being notified of bills eligible for purging with credits.

4. DALNET Brochure Revisions

The Systems Office is down to its last 50 copies of the first printing of the new brochure. Project Managers reviewed the brochure and made recommendations for modifications.

5. OCLC Telecommunications Linking Project (TLP)

L. Bugg recently met with Randy Dykhuis from OCLC, Inc. to talk about OCLC's TLP. It is currently in test at the University of Pittsburgh and provides libraries with a "computer to computer" hookup rather than using separate OCLC telecommunication lines. TLP allows NOTIS terminals to also access OCLC. She explained two options for using the TLP at DALNET.

Option 2, which includes an IBM RS6000 computer to communicate with OCLC via the Internet, seems most desirable. The same computer may be able to be used for PACLink. NOTIS libraries can use this option already for access to OCLC's First Search and EPIC using the Z39.50 protocol. L. Bugg will meet with R. Dykhuis at ALA to get more information on Option 2. He is willing to come to Detroit next Fall and explain to DALNET sites how the TLP could work and what our costs would be. Cost is currently based on connect minutes. Communication charges should improve using the Internet. R. Dykhuis could be invited to the November Project Managers' meeting.

6. Technical Briefing for Project Managers

L. Bugg announced that the Systems Office will have a half-day Technical Briefing session for Project Managers in the Fall. John Florian, our Michigan NOTIS representative, could be invited to attend. This meeting would update libraries on current and future developments, e.g., client/server architecture, PACLoan, TCP/IP communications over Ethernet. It will emphasize hardware/software and networks/telecommunications that libraries will need to take advantage of these developments. The Briefing will take place at the next Project Managers meeting to be held on Monday, September 13, from 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 Noon at the Detroit Public Library.

7. Progress Reports

A. **PACLoan**

PACLoan is, at present, an "incomplete" product. NOTIS continues to make enhancements, based on feedback from Indiana University, their development partner for this software. It might be desirable to put PACLoan in test prior to its official "release" to help the DALNET Access Committee in its deliberations. PACLoan requires LMS 5.1 as its foundation.

B. **CICS 3.1**

The Systems Office is working with IBM and NOTIS on a "fix" for the problem with function keys in the CICS 3.1 environment.

C. **System Performance Remedies**

Response time continues to be slow during peak times. It was hoped that there would be a greater improvement in response time during the Spring than has been the case. The Systems Office is working with IBM to upgrade the mainframe memory and processing speed. We would like to do this as soon as possible. Implementation of LMS Release 5.1 should provide some system performance relief, if we do not implement location based searching.

D. **DALNET Listserv**

DALNET sites seem to be pleased with the Listserv. It was stressed that it is important to be very specific when putting in the "subject" of the message. This permits users to skip messages that are not of interest to them.

E. **ALA NOTIS SIG Meetings**

Project Managers should ask staff who are attending NOTIS SIG meetings at ALA to forward reports of these sessions to the Systems Office for distribution to DALNET sites.

F. WSU Weekly File Transmission of MARC Records to OCLC

WSU has been sending records to OCLC on a weekly basis via the Internet for the last several months. OCLC then sets WSULS's symbol on the OCLC database. Using this method, catalogers do not have to go back to OCLC after cataloging and add WSU's symbol to each record one by one. Catalogers need only type the "tape" command on each NOTIS record that should be transmitted. MARC records being transmitted by Wayne State to OCLC include OCLC records downloaded at point of acquisitions or cataloging as well as MARC records received from Blackwell North America for books on our approval plan.

This technique for adding OCLC symbols can only be used if catalog cards are not being ordered from OCLC. Project Managers felt that maintenance of an offline shelflist should not be necessary with NOTIS. WSULS stopped producing shelflist cards several year ago. DALNET sites interested in having the Systems Office transmit their records to OCLC via the Internet should contact L. Bugg.

G. Detroit Institute of Arts/DMC/University Public School

DIA's holdings will be included in the DALNET database. P. Spyers-Duran will be discussing this with the Board at its next meeting this Summer. The DIA may be outsourcing cataloging to WSU due to staff cuts necessitated by funding problems.

WSU is working with the Detroit Medical Center regarding DALNET participation by the other DMC libraries, including Detroit Receiving, Hutzel, Grace, and Rehabilitation.

WSU is in the process of developing a public middle school to open in the Fall. Discussion is underway regarding access to LUIS at the school as well as using NOTIS for the school's online library system. Some Project Managers expressed concern regarding DALNET libraries' holdings being available to these students and possible increases in requests for materials.

H. QUEST Survey from Systems Office

DALNET sites have received surveys developed by the Systems Office's QUEST Team, chaired by George Marck. Sites may make additional copies, if they wish, to forward to more staff for completion.

8. MDAS/LUIS PLUS

A. **Wilson Planning**

The file with the eight Wilson databases is getting large. We are investigating more efficient ways of handling Wilson records, perhaps by splitting them into more than one file. Two options mentioned were: 1) putting Readers' Guide Abstracts (which is about 1/2 the entire Wilson database) into a separate file, and 2) having one file with more current records and one with older. The group felt that, if it is necessary to create a second file, the second option was preferable. Project Managers were concerned that many users would only look at the Readers' Guide Abstracts if it was in its own file.

There was interest in only one other Wilson database: the Education Index.

Most of the DALNET libraries have free "trial" use of Wilson databases through September 1994. L. Bugg has been sending monthly statistics to Wilson on DALNET's transactions. Negotiations are currently underway to develop a DALNET consortium price to begin in October 1994.

B. **WSU Plans for Databases**

Current Contents: WSU is in the process of negotiating with ISI to share this database with MSU and U of M as part of the MRLT PACLink implementation.

ERIC: Will be loaded by September. There will be two files: one with the current year and the past three years; one with the ten preceding years. It is a public domain database. WSU has a site license which covers access by all DALNET libraries. DALNET libraries may be asked to share in the cost of this license.

Legal Resources Index: Will be loaded in June. This is IAC's local tape load database equivalent to its LegalTrac service.

WSU is planning for additional databases for the next fiscal year, including IAC's Business Index and Company Profiles Database.

In response to a question regarding IAC's Academic Index, L. Bugg said that its content is comparable to the Wilson Indexes. Some managers have heard that people prefer it to the Wilson indexes. An evaluation of these two indexes should be done at least six months before our Wilson free "trial" ends.

C. **DALNET Planning Process for Future Databases**

Health Index: There was interest in this IAC Index; it will probably be expanded to include pamphlets in full text in addition to citations. L. Bugg will find out more about this at ALA.

CINAHL: The latest price quote for DALNET libraries was \$3,750 for each DALNET library. The CD-ROM version costs \$1,100. W. Kane is still talking with the vendor about pricing for DALNET libraries.

PsycInfo: WSU is still interested in this database, but it is very expensive and there is no available funding for it.

Books in Print: There was interest in loading this. NOTIS has contracted with BIP to provide an MDAS loader. W. Kane will investigate costs.

American Mathematics Society: L. Bugg will find out more at the MRLT meeting on June 9 regarding progress towards access to the MathSci database housed on U of M's MDAS system.

Medline: This is a very large file. Many sites feel that the MDAS search engine is not the best to use with Medline. Medline is available for a charge via the Internet.

NEXT MEETING: September 13, 1993, 9:00 a.m.-12:00 Noon at the **Detroit Public Library**

TOPIC: NOTIS Technology Briefing

Cancelled

Submitted by,

Charlene Wecker
June 21, 1993