



Harper Grace Hospitals
Harper Hospital Division

DEPARTMENT OF LIBRARIES

April 10, 1986

Peter Spyers-Duran, Director of Libraries
Wayne State University
Detroit, MI 48202

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Wayne State University
Library Office

Dear Peter:

I am writing now to formalize my informal announcement that Harper Hospital wishes to forego its status as a Capital Contributor to DALNET. As I indicated earlier, this decision is based primarily on changes since 1984 when our participation began. Of paramount importance are 1) increased pressure to automate quickly because of staff and time constraints and 2) the availability of suitable microcomputer technology.

Harper Hospital Library has lost staff; this has forced attention to finding immediate solutions for immediate problems. We have found and bought simple, cheap microcomputer technology (both hard- and software) that did not exist in 1984. Planning for and implementing its use necessarily reduces the time available to participate in DALNET planning; our success with it lessens the urgency for 1987 DALNET implementation at Harper Hospital.

In addition I plan to retire in October 1986. Not only do I feel a major obligation to leave this library in as good condition as possible, with systems tested and operating, but I also will not be available to provide continuity for either the hospital or DALNET. This becomes serious in view of the responsibilities of a Capital Contributor and the complex nature of both the NOTIS-IBM system and inter-institutional relationships involved.

I strongly endorse the idea of Harper Hospital's involvement in a southeastern Michigan network that will allow users to locate and exploit this area's library resources. I am glad that Harper will be able to buy dial-in access to the databases generated by DALNET Capital Contributors. I hope that when DALNET has settled in after its inevitable initial trials Harper will be able fully to participate in the mature network. Right now and for the immediate future, however, it is wise for this library to concentrate on its own concerns. To do this it is necessary to withdraw from DALNET participation.

I appreciate having had the opportunity to share in the planning of DALNET and especially to make friendships among others in the planning groups. I hope Harper Hospital's contributions over the past two years have added to the likelihood of DALNET's success.

Good luck to all.

Barbara

(Mrs.) Barbara Coe Johnson
Director of Libraries

cc: J. Darity
J. Williams II

BCJ/scc