LIBRARY AUTOMATION PLANNING GROUP

Progress Report

August 1984

1. LAPG —

    The Library Automation Planning Group held two Monday meetings during August.

    Agendas for the meetings were:

    August 6   the LAPG met jointly with members of all the RFP evaluation Sub-committees; the Sub-committees established meeting schedules and planned to assign weights to their sections of the RFP by September 10.

    August 27   progress of the Sub-Committee was reviewed and questions were addressed; a worksheet for reference calls to sites will be drafted; the vendor conference was reviewed and notes were distributed; a draft of cost factors was distributed and briefly discussed.

    Time was set aside during August for the RFP Evaluation Sub-Committees to meet and assign weights to their sections of the RFP.

    The Wayne State members of the LAPG only met twice during August, on the 10th and 31st, to review progress on implementation plans for WSUL.

2. DALNET —

    During August, the DALNET participants concentrated on membership, governance, and cost sharing issues. Mt. Carmel Mercy Hospital Library and General Motors Research Libraries expressed strong interests in membership in DALNET. Options for their participation are being worked out.

    The Governance Task Force met twice and began drafting a report to the DALNET group. The report contains sections on: Purpose and goals of DALNET: Governance Structure; Membership; Legal Options; and Bylaws Contents, with ownership concerns outlined. It should be completed in early September.

    DALNET members agreed to share individual automation cost estimates to compare to the network option. A meeting was held with Leslie Loke, Development Librarian at DPL, to review planning for grant applications.

    AT&T was contacted to provide consulting on the possible tele-communications configurations for DALNET.

3. RFP Progress —

A vendor conference was held August 7 from 10:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., followed by lunch. The conference was attended by DALNET representatives, two note takers, and four vendors. Summary notes of the conference were written and distributed to all eleven participating vendors, along with the additional statistical data gathered at the vendors' request.

Responses are expected from nine vendors. One vendor has dropped out. The plans of the remaining two vendors are unclear at this time.

The RFP evaluation process geared up in August. Five Sub-committees, composed of representatives from all DALNET libraries, began meeting to assign weights to specific sections of the RFP.

4. WSU OCLC Archive Tape Preparation —

The WSUL archive tape sample edited by Blackwell North America was analyzed during August. The analysis turned up two problems: (1) BNA was unaware of OCLC's policy for excluding default holdings fields on pre-1977 records; and (2) WSU's translation tables of ASCII to EDCDIC used to copy the OCLC tapes did not include the extended characters of the full ALA character set. Some of WSUL's archive tapes will have to be re-copied to include the full ALA character set before any further tape editing can be done. Six of the tape copies are complete and useable.
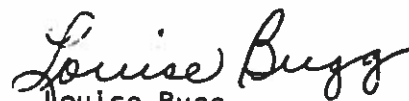
5. Borrower ID Cards —

The WSU university-wide Task Force on I.D. cards report was reviewed. The WSU Libraries will still have to issue their own ID cards to alumni and other users who will not have the University's ID card. If the University-wide ID card is not implemented by Fall 1985 at the very latest, the Libraries will have to issue ID cards to all users.

Cost estimates for WSUL ID cards have now been received from area vendors. Further plans for a Library ID card will not be made until an automated system is selected.

6. Retrospective Conversion of Bibliographic Records –

During August, training got underway for staff in the Science Library to convert monographic bibliographic records into machine-readable form via OCLC. All Library Units now have copies of the Solinet training tapes to help them learn how to use the OCLC terminal prior to retrospective conversion training.

Total titles converted through August is 21,799. Time spent on conversion increased by over 65% this month with a dramatic increase in titles converted to 6,627. The number of titles converted per hour during August averaged 24.5.

Louise Bugg,
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