WSUL AUTOMATION PROJECT

PROGRESS REPORT

June 1985

Contract with GEAC Computers Inc.

The draft contract written by Julia Darlow has been reviewed and forwarded to GEAC for their review. It is between Wayne State University and GEAC, but includes provision for expansion to include DALNET libraries later.

2. Overall WSUL implementation plan

The timetable to install GEAC 8000 hardware and begin testing the Circulation Subsystem software in August is still on target.

Accomplishments in June include:

- cut-off of OCLC tapes of bibliographic records on June 23 for preparation for loading into the circulation database;
- procedures established and implemented for barcoding all newly cataloged books beginning June 24;
- Circulation Subsystem parameters charted using LOTUS spreadsheets for review by the GEAC project manager;
- request for proposal was written and sent to five vendors to supply OCLC tape processing.

3. DALNET status

DALNET has filed Articles of Incorporation to become DALNET, INC. The Articles were signed by Peter Spyers-Duran, Jane Morgan of the Detroit Associated Libraries (including the Detroit Public Library and the McGregor Public Library of Highland Park), and Barbara Johnson of Harper Hospital Libraries.

A draft of the Prospectus document has been written and is being reviewed by the DALNET Governance Task Force. The draft of the Bylaws is being written by a DALNET attorney.

The DALNET directors reviewed the draft contract between WSU and GEAC and commented on the sections with provisions for DALNET.

The DALNET New Member Task Force report regarding the feasibility of adding Dakland University Library was discussed. Oakland University Library will be invited to join DALNET and a report of the costs to them will be included with the invitation.

Fran Buckley served as the DALNET representative to the WSUL Circulation Parameters Team. When there were DALNET implications for parameter decisions, DALNET libraries were asked for input. It became clear that GEAC must expand the number of book locations accommodated by the system to meet the needs of DALNET.

WSUL implementation status

a. Site preparation

The WSU Physical Plant is getting estimates on the cost for wiring Rooms 427 and 429 Purdy for the temporary GEAC 8000 installation. Price quotes were received from two suppliers of power conditioning equipment that would accommodate the circuits for the temporary installation.

GEAC has not yet sent their revised layout of the computer room for the 9000 system. It is expected the first week of July. Sims/Varner cannot complete their proposal until the revisions have been received.

b. Circulation database building

Requests for proposals were sent to five potential vendors to supply tape preparation services needed prior to loading the circulation bibliographic database. The vendors were asked for prices and timetables to do these tasks:

- eliminate duplicate records;
- add Codabar barcodes to each record retained;
- create a sample de-duped and barcoded tape of 5000 records to be used to program our database loader;
- print barcode labels for all the barcodes added to the records;
- flip name/series/uniform title and subject headings on the records to the most recent Library of Congress forms, prior to creating authority databases for those headings.

Bids are due July 3.

c. Barcoding library materials

Barcoding procedures were developed to add barcodes to all newly cataloged books beginning June 24, 1985. Barcodes are also being added to records for retroconned books. The Science Library staff is testing the procedures for locating these retroconned books and applying the barcode labels to them. Their experience with this process will be useful as plans are finalized for the huge linked barcoding project coming up this fall.

The first 100,000 unlinked barcode labels for books were ordered and received in June, as necessary to keep on schedule.

The Barcoding Task Force met and reviewed a "generic" barcoding workflow for putting linked barcodes on books. Each Library Unit is adapting the workflow to its own requirements. B. Borgman and R. Nuffer began testing the workflow on a randomly selected drawer in the Purdy shelflist.

Patron file building and ID cards

R. Nuffer is attending the University-wide ID card committee and reporting the Library system's needs.

e. Circulation parameters project

The Circulation Parameters Team (N. Allen, L. Bugg, R. Nuffer, and C. Wecker) worked intensively on the tables needed for the Circulation Subsystem. A first draft of all the tables for circulation policies was completed by June 30.

N. Allen coordinated the coding of system-wide circulation policies through the Library Unit Heads. Most policies coded are uniform, system-wide.

D. Taylor created a LOTUS spreadsheet for each table.

A meeting is scheduled for July 2 and 3 with the GEAC project manager, Dean Gattone, to review the first draft and answer questions. The tables must be completed and sent to GEAC the week of July 15.

f. Publicity and education

C. Wecker held training sessions for Technical Services staff on barcoding new and retroconned library materials.

Automation project reports were printed in the biweekly "WSULibraries Staff Notes".

5. WSUL Retrospective Conversion project

During June, 1985, WSUL staff converted 4,096 titles to machine-readable form. This brings the total number of titles converted to date in this project to 76,103.

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