

Wayne State University Libraries

Memorandum

TO: DALNET Members

FROM: Peter Spyers-Duran, Director of Libraries  
*P. Spyer*

SUBJECT: Library Automation Update

DATE: September 6, 1985

The Wayne State University Libraries Automation Planning Group and the DALNET Planning Group had originally recommended GEAC and NOTIS as the two top systems to be considered for Wayne. There seems to be consensus on the two top systems as other out-of-state institutions have reached similar conclusions.

Wayne State University has moved forward in drafting a possible contract with GEAC during the last several months. In the meantime, substantial new information has surfaced from both NOTIS and from the Wayne State University Computing Center. From NOTIS we have learned that software development materialized beyond our expectations. These developments were also confirmed by members of leading universities who have chosen NOTIS software.

The Wayne State University Computing Center expansion has made a powerful computer (IBM 4381-2) available to the libraries. This equipment, already installed and with the full support of the Computing Services Center, has made the cost difference between GEAC and NOTIS quite dramatic. The previously narrow gap of cost has widened to the point where the disadvantages of NOTIS have been wiped out by the several hundred thousand dollars in savings NOTIS will represent.

GEAC is a good system with many fine features. However, it has its share of shortcomings. Perhaps its biggest shortcoming is in its self manufactured hardware, which means that GEAC customers are obliged to continue to purchase all future hardware expansion or replacement from a sole source. The unique equipment also means unique software language, which cannot be readily transferred to another system.

I have personally inspected NOTIS at Northwestern University and was recently accompanied by Fran Buckley of the DALNET Study Committee on a site visit to Vanderbilt University. I have also talked to other institutions on the telephone who have installed NOTIS in recent months. The result of these reviews have reconfirmed that NOTIS was a strong second contender in January of 1985. However, NOTIS has made some major improvements in its software and additional improvements are moving forward with good reliability. As it stands today, NOTIS could satisfy about 90 percent of all WSU requirements which is better or the same as what we would receive from GEAC. While NOTIS has its share of shortcomings, they can be mitigated by the advantages it offers.

The advantages of NOTIS are:

1. It is written in standard programming language.
2. It operates on IBM equipment.
3. Wayne State is committed to an IBM environment, which makes for easy telecommunications within the campus.
4. We will have the support of the Computing Center staff already in place.
5. Access to a powerful IBM mainframe will give us more flexibility in the present and future than the minicomputer on which the GEAC system is based.
6. There will be cost savings from facility development, staff sharing, and equipment purchase.
7. Greater autonomy for the individual DALNET libraries but without sacrificing the "union list" of holdings by libraries.
8. There will be increased local control over desired programming of the system.
9. There is reduced risk involving library automation as the software investment represents only \$95,000 for NOTIS.

Wayne State University's Vice President for Computing, Mort Rahimi, concurs that the NOTIS system, based on IBM hardware and integrated into the WSU communications system, is the best long-range choice for WSU and for the DALNET libraries. His personal visit of a NOTIS site at the University of Illinois/Chicago on August 29 confirms a new level of confidence in the appropriateness of the system at Wayne State.

On the basis of (i) availability of state-of-the-art hardware from the Wayne State University Computing Center at substantial near-term and long-term capital savings, and (ii) recent confirmations re the acceptability of NOTIS from several sources, I have concluded that a decision to move forward with plans to seek a license with NOTIS is in order. I trust that you share my conclusion, which involves a difficult decision until one looks at the value NOTIS offers in combination with the proposed resources from the Wayne State University Computing Center.

I continue to look forward to working with the DALNET Libraries in implementation of library automation for the benefit of all participants. In the next few weeks I plan to present a proposal to you outlining the organizational construct and costs (local and central site) that would be involved in a WSU/DALNET NOTIS-based automation effort. In the meantime, I look forward to the opportunity to discuss this with you further and I hope that you will continue your participation in the WSU/DALNET planning process.

I wish to express my personal appreciation to the DALNET Planning Group for the guidance and assistance provided in making this decision.

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85-658 cc: L. Bugg  
J. Williams, II

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GEAC CASH FLOW ANALYSIS

OPTION II.

CAPITAL LIBRARY BUDGET TOTAL  
NEW SAVINGS NEW COSTS

	CAPITAL	LIBRARY NEW	BUDGET SAVINGS	TOTAL NEW COSTS
<b>FY 85</b>				
HARDWARE	\$179,705			\$179,705
SOFTWARE	\$22,350			\$22,350
PERIPHERALS	\$70,255			\$70,255
SITE PREP.	\$20,000	\$16,025		\$36,025
START-UP COSTS		\$23,000		\$23,000
SALARIES		\$0	\$39,025	\$0
<b>SUB-TOTAL</b>	<b>\$292,310</b>	<b>\$39,025</b>	<b>\$39,025</b>	<b>\$331,335</b>
<b>FY 86</b>				
HARDWARE	\$557,096			\$557,096
SOFTWARE	\$25,250			\$25,250
PERIPHERALS	\$132,874			\$132,874
SITE PREP.	\$200,000	\$7,425		\$207,425
MAINTENANCE		\$130,688		\$130,688
START-UP COSTS		\$72,700		\$72,700
SUPPLIES, ETC.		\$12,500	\$8,670	\$12,500
SALARIES		\$0	\$214,643	\$0
<b>SUB-TOTAL</b>	<b>\$915,220</b>	<b>\$223,313</b>	<b>\$223,313</b>	<b>\$1,138,533</b>
<b>FY 87</b>				
HARDWARE	\$0			\$0
SOFTWARE	\$10,000			\$10,000
PERIPHERALS	\$160,114			\$160,114
SITE PREP.		\$15,125		\$15,125
MAINTENANCE		\$150,579		\$150,579
START-UP COSTS		\$5,000		\$5,000
SUPPLIES, ETC.		\$17,500	\$35,340	\$17,500
SALARIES		\$0	\$152,864	\$0
<b>SUB-TOTAL</b>	<b>\$170,114</b>	<b>\$188,204</b>	<b>\$188,204</b>	<b>\$358,318</b>
<b>FY 88</b>				
HARDWARE	\$130,024			\$130,024
SOFTWARE	\$38,400			\$38,400
MAINTENANCE		\$144,062		\$144,062
SUPPLIES, ETC.		\$19,250	\$56,340	\$19,250
SALARIES		\$0	\$106,972	\$0
<b>SUB-TOTAL</b>	<b>\$168,424</b>	<b>\$163,312</b>	<b>\$163,312</b>	<b>\$331,736</b>
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>\$1,546,068</b>	<b>\$613,854</b>	<b>\$613,854</b>	<b>\$2,159,922</b>

EXCLUDES EQUIPMENT REPLACEMENT; INCLUDES HARDWARE AND SOFTWARE MAINTENANCE AND PHONE LINE CHARGES (INFLATED AT 10% PER YEAR), WORKSTATIONS @275 TEMPORARY SITE PREP., TRAINING, OCLC TAPE PREPARATION, SUPPLIES.

WSU/CSC NOTIS

Hardware	\$ 556,500
Peripherals	
Phase I (60 terminals, etc.)	229,881
Phase II (+80 terminals, etc.)	223,644
Software	129,325
Total	<u>\$1,139,350</u>

Annual Operating Costs

Maintenance:	
Hardware	38,106
Software:	
A. NOTIS	10,000
B. IBM System	63,600
C. SAS	3,600
	<u>\$ 114,706</u>

Personnel Costs:	
1 FTE IBM System Programmer	40,000
1 FTE NOTIS Applications Syst. Anal.	35,000
	<u>\$ 75,000</u>

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Cash Flow

<u>1985/86</u>	<u>Source</u>	
	<u>University Special</u>	<u>Library</u>
4381-2 (50%)	175,750	
3380	205,000	
All software	129,325	
Peripherals Phase I	229,881	
	<u>\$ 739,956</u>	
 <u>1986/87</u>		
4381-2 (50%)	175,750	
Peripherals Phase II	223,644	
	<u>\$ 399,394</u>	
	 Total	
	\$1,139,350	
 <u>Annual Operating Costs</u>		
1985/86	Maintenance	114,706
	CSC Services (Pers.)	75,000
	Contingencies	70,000
		<u>\$ 259,706</u>
1986/87	Maintenance	114,706
	CSC (Pers.)	75,000
		<u>\$ 185,706</u>

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