WSUL Automation Project

Progress Report
January 1987

NOTIS Contract

At a January 17 meeting held at ALA Midwinter in Chicago, Jane Burke presented NOTIS's proposal for development of the WSU serials loader program by August 1987. The proposal will be put in writing and sent to all NOTIS users needing the loader.

NOTIS Database Loading

The tape of 4,208 records run through Wayne's first NOTIS-customized loader was received in early January. A review of the records revealed only one significant problem, and a couple of minor problems, remaining to be fixed. The NOTIS programmer worked on these fixes during January.

The first two tapes of MICROCON records, created via the WSUL retrospective conversion project, were received and tested during January. MICROCON tapes for December 1986 through March 1987 may require processing by a vendor such as BNA to make them compatible for loading into the WSU NOTIS database.

A sample patron file of Wayne employees and students was created and ready for testing in January. During a visit by the Center for Research Libraries staff on January 12, the idea of loading CRL's machine readable records into the DALNET database was explored. Over 45,000 records would be added, and this would result in increased use of the CRL's holdings.

Peripheral Installation

Serial boards were installed in three more Epson FX-80 printers in Technical Services and one in Medicine Technical Services.

LUIS terminals--two color IBM 3179's and one IBM pc with a printer--were set up for installation at the Law Library. LUIS is scheduled to be made available in Law in February.

Additional Disk Drive

A request for quotes was sent to vendors to supply a single density disk drive, which is needed mainly to accommodate WSU's Boolean/keyword searching indexes and Oakland University's data. Three quotes were received and were being reviewed by the end of January.

Notis Implementation

NOTIS Cataloging procedures continue to be developed for materials in MARC formats other than books, including audio-visual materials, recordings, and serials.

Security for all NOTIS regions but the Training Region was put in place by the end of January. All cataloging staff were issued ID's and passwords.

Circulation policy tables for the Purdy/Kresge Library circulation desks were input into NOTIS and ready for testing by the end of January.

On January 16th, Louise Bugg, Barbara Heath, and Diane Paldan attended an all-day workshop on the NOTIS acquisitions systems held before the ALA Midwinter Conference in Chicago. Subsequently, planning began for implementing the Acquisitions and Serials Control components of NOTIS.

NOTIS Site Visits

During January, site visits to the WSU NOTIS installation were made by staff from the University of Michigan Libraries on the 27th and from Western Michigan University Library on the 29th.

DALNET Status

Oakland University staff attended a half-day orientation session on the NOTIS cataloging module on January 13, and began work on the NOTIS tables for their locations. Oakland is putting through orders for NOTIS cataloging workstations, including the needed telephone line to WSU's Computing Center.

Wayne County Community College is having its OCLC tapes proceesed by Blackwell North America for loading into NOTIS. The tapes and processing specifications were sent to BNA to begin work.

Meetings were held with representatives of Botsford and Beaumont Hospitals and the Detroit Public Library/DAL to discuss details of their NOTIS implementation schedules and payment plans.

A meeting was held on January 29 with representatives of the Detroit Cooperative Cataloging Center. The group approved loading their database into the WSU/DALNET NOTIS system.

Retrospective Conversion Project

The 28 MICROCON student assistants input information for 73,651 bibliographic records onto diskettes during January, increasing their hourly rate to 51.

Louise Bugg
Assistant Director for Library Systems
Wayne State University
February 27, 1987