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From: "Michael C Piper" <aj0386@wayne.edu> Subject: FW: DALNET New Member Policy Group: Meeting 2. Follow-up. Meeting summary Date: Wed, 26 Jun 2002 12:08:35 -0400 To: "Margaret E. Auer" <auerme@udmercy.edu>	 
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-----Original Message-----

From: Michael C Piper [<mailto:aj0386@wayne.edu>]
 Sent: Tuesday, June 25, 2002 6:32 PM
 To: DALNETNM@LISTS.WAYNE.EDU
 Cc: Steven K. Bowers
 Subject: RE: DALNET New Member Policy Group: Meeting 2. Follow-up. Meeting summary

Dear New Member Policy Group:

Thank you for a productive call on Monday, 10 June. Here is my understanding of our discussion and agreements:

1) Pricing formula for current members. We agreed that the volume-based formula for current members is probably about as good as we can expect. It is easy to apply and to understand, for example, and it gives members what they want -- price stability. Furthermore, revising rates for current members would arouse anxiety for those facing increased rates, and could create more problems than it would solve.

We concluded that tinkering with the formula for current members is outside our purview. If the Board decides to review the current member formula, the Executive Committee will be the logical group to perform such a review. Our focus will be on recommending best practices for new members, perhaps including a different pricing formula for new sites.

2) Pricing formula for new members. Does the current formula adequately reflect the costs of adding new members? We're still sorting this out. Since so much of the costs associated with new members are at the front end, in the early stages of accommodating new sites, DALNET currently assesses a one-time fee for new members. This fee reflects hardware, software and implementation costs, and is 1.5 times the annual operating costs for the prospective site.

We want to consider the advisability of increasing this one-time fee for new members. We also want to assess adjusting tiers for new sites, and holding current members harmless. Bob will review current member collection stats and advise us on the implications of that approach.

3) Developing best practices for accommodating new members. In fairness to continuing members, we want to avoid cutting too many deals with new sites. For our standard prospective member proposal, we should be consistent, with the understanding that the Executive Committee needs to have the flexibility

to negotiate other arrangements on basis of special considerations, as appropriate.

Part of our approach needs to be an impact statement in terms of each prospect's financial, staffing, equipment and resource implications. We also agreed to outline expectations for new members, and to develop a checklist to educate new members, and to compile information needed for the Board to make a decision on a candidate's prospective membership. Dee has developed a beginning draft list, which is attached. We'll discuss it tomorrow.

4) Next conference call: 10 AM until noon on Wednesday, 26 June 2002.



File: New Member Checklist.doc (30Kbytes)

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