

## DALNET Circulation Standards Committee Minutes

### Meeting:

3/7/00, Purdy/Kresge Conference Room, WSU, 9:30-12:00.

### Present:

Bradd Burningham (WS), Betty Nelson (UDM), Joanie Emahiser (WBH -RO), Anaclare Evans (DALNET), Joyce Zurel (OCC), Robert Marcelain (DPL), Janice Miller (MCC), Carol Sims (WCCC), Ruth Ewald (MCC).

### 1. Announcements.

Bradd mentioned to the committee that he had been working with Charlotte Steffani at Wayne to produce some reports using Report Smith that other DALNET sites might find useful, as well. One was a report of items in Horizon with the statuses of "Signed out in NOTIS and "Lost in NOTIS." Another was a report by instructor and course (with subsorts) of materials in the course reserves locations. Although each site has systems people who are or will be trained to use Report Smith, he was sure that Charlotte and/or Anaclare would be happy to share the report designs and help people get started. Bradd noted that the reports sometimes revealed problems within the system which people were unaware of, which in turn led to useful clean up projects.

Anaclare announced that Ana Fidler's last day is Friday, and that there will be a party for her in the UGL Community Room 2-3:30 on Friday for anyone who wished to come. Ana has a new job at California State working on their NOTIS system.

Dody Fox is also leaving. She will be retiring some time in mid-May.

Anaclare that there has been a delay in the release of Horizon 5.3. So many problems were revealed during Beta testing that the version has been returned for further Beta tests.

Also it appears that the release of Sunrise could be delayed until 2001.

RSS is on hold for the moment.

Broadcast searching will be available once the NT servers arrived, and are configured. There is no firm date for this.

### 2. SSN.

Anaclare said the question of using SSN is still up in the air. Although Wayne has sought an additional legal opinion from counsel, no other project managers have sought legal opinions from their institutions over the matter. SSN is certainly the safest option for a shared patron database from a technical standpoint. Joanie noted that her patrons simply

refuse to provide SSNs. Bob said that a legal opinion was being sought at DPL. He noted that some DPL patrons had become vicious with staff when they were asked for SSN.

Anaclare said that Remote Patron Authentication depended on the SSN decision. — *why?*

### **3. Update on Production of Circulation Notices – e-mail**

It appears there will be the capability to e-mail notices in Horizon 5.3. Bradd said they have been experimenting a little with trying to do this at Wayne even with the current version. At first it was thought to be an all/or nothing situation (notices must be all paper for all patrons or else all e-mail). It appears that a small additional piece of software may have to be purchased. They will continue to look into this option of selectively e-mailing notices.

### **4. Training Sessions**

Anaclare reported a varying levels of turnout for several Horizon training sessions she had run recently. Watch the website for upcoming sessions.

### **5. Webpac Recommendation.**

Anaclare and Bradd described a recent crash which had taken the system down at Wayne. Thanks to Jeff Trzeciak's quick thinking, we were able to quickly switch to the test database, which is a copy of the production database. The drawback is that the test database is deleted and recopied at irregular intervals – often months apart - so that at any given time it is not completely up to date, especially as regards circulation status. But it is much better than nothing. They both recommend that, based on the Wayne experience, DALNET as a group might wish to adopt this as the standard response to a production database crash. Wayne had already modified this procedure so that patrons will see a message explaining that the system was experiencing difficulties and the circulation status of items was not necessarily reliable. It also hoped to copy the production database into test more often than in the past.

**The next meeting will be on Tuesday, April 18, 2000 at 9:30 a.m. in the Purdy/Kresge Conference Room, Wayne State University. Joanie Emahiser will bring the refreshments.**

Bradd Burningham  
April 14, 2000