

Agenda for DALNET Circulation Task Force, Feb. 9, 2000

1. Amendments to Jan.11, 2000 minutes.
2. Request for SSN Document
3. Update on Production of Circulation Notices.
4. Training Sessions
5. Adding Notes Problem - Anaclare.
6. Announcements – Shared Patron Database Committee Meeting
- Collection Access Committee Meeting
7. Next Meeting

*add
Serials Session*

DALNET Circulation Standards Task Force Minutes

Meeting:

2/9/00, Purdy/Kresge Conference Room, WSU, 9:30-12:00.

Present:

Bradd Burningham (WS), Becky Riesterer(WC), Anaclare Evans (DALNET), Joyce Zurel (OCC), Robert Marcelain (DPL), , Janice Miller (MCC), Carol Sims (WCCC), Ruth Ewald (MCC).

1. Clarification to the Jan. 11, 2000 Minutes.

Bradd said that Scott Muir, DALNET Project Manager, had asked that a couple of clarifications to the Jan. 11, 2000 minutes be made.

One sentence reads: "Scott said that the only way a shared patron database can be implemented is to use SSN." Scott wanted the committee to understand that he intended to convey the idea that "the only way a **high confidence** shared patron database can be implemented is to use SSN."

Later, the minutes state that "It is simply a case of use the SSN or forget having a shared patron database. Epixtech would be doing this work for a single customer – DALNET – and this is the only solution possible." Scott wanted the committee to understand that epixtech would be willing to use the SSN/birthdate hybrid unique identifier, if that is what DALNET requested, because epixtech is contractually committed to providing a shared patron database. The reason for not using this option is because epixtech does not believe it is a viable option.

2. "Request for SSN" Document

Anaclare distributed a draft document entitled "Social Security Numbers in DALNET." The committee suggested some revisions. They also suggested that the document be customized for each DALNET library which distributes it.

3. Update on Production of Circulation Notices

Anaclare said that despite expectations, the ability to produce notices using mailers would not be available until Horizon 5.3, which we had hoped to load during March break. The release of this is now in question, and it may be delayed. Do people still want mailers? The consensus of the committee is that they do. Bradd said that he understood that several pieces of interdependent software needed to be upgraded in sequence or simultaneously during the course of coming upgrades. He expressed hope on behalf of WSU Libraries that no major upgrades occur while classes are in session.

4. Training Sessions

Anaclare said that another serials session had been scheduled.

The Friday Wepac/Staffpac session has been cancelled.

5. Adding Notes Problem.

Anaclare has done some investigation into the cause of this and will need to do some more.

6. Announcements.

There is a Shared Patron Database Committee meeting later today. Some of the issues we have discussed will be dealt with at that meeting.

There is also a Collection Access Committee meeting scheduled in the near future. Again, some of the decisions at the meeting will impact on the discussions about a shared patron database.

7. Other Business

Bradd raised a point that had been discussed within the WSUL Circulation TF. There has been a lot of patron confusion and discontent as regards the patron empowerment features of Horizon. Specifically, patrons have been having problems when "requesting" materials. There is a default location for pick up of requested items. Most patrons do not realize they must specify pickup location, and the default is not the most obvious location. Also it is unclear on the screens that only items which are signed out may be requested. Bradd has been told that it is difficult to improve these screens with textual hints because it is necessary for them to remain generic so that all DALNET libraries can use them. He suggested some language that would be appropriate to all the DALNET partners. He also asked which of the partners present used these features. Apparently nobody present on the committee does.

The committee suggested that Bradd come up with generic language to improve these screens and that the suggestion be forwarded for consideration by other DALNET bodies.

Help Desk. The help desk at DPL will be open on Feb 14, 2000. It will be a soft opening, with March 6 being the official grand opening of the Help Desk.

The next meeting will be on Tuesday, Mar. 7, 2000 at 9:30 a.m. in the Purdy/Kresge Conference Room, Wayne State University.

Bradd Burningham