DALNET Circulation Standards Committee Minutes

Meeting: 8/5/99, Purdy/Kresge Conference Room, 9:30-12:00

Present: Bradd Burningham (WS), Betty Nelson (UDM), Becky Riesterer(WC), Anaclare Evans (DALNET), Joyce Zurel (OCC), Bob Marcelain (DPL), Joan Emahiser (WBH), Ruth Ewald (MCC).

1. Update on Implementation Progress.

DPL: Bob reported that DPL was still waiting for the uninterruptable power source necessary before DPL can go live with Horizon. He anticipated it would be ready by August 30. It is anticipated that DPL will go live at the end of September. In the meantime, it has been so long since staff have received their initial training in Horizon (April) that it will probably be necessary for them to undergo additional training.

Wayne: Bradd described the recent Wayne upgrade to Horizon 5.1.2. The upgrade has not gone as smoothly as anticipated and Wayne was still working on resolving number of problems. Wayne is still unable to place recalls or requests in staff mode. Reserves have a number of problems that make this module virtually unusable. Response time, both in WebPAC and on the staff side is abysmal, and work on this has become the top priority.

Walsh: Becky said they are still working on preparing tables in preparation for migration.

OCC: As part of Group 4, OCC is working on training and post-training familiarization with Horizon.

Macomb: Bruce Brett is working on policy tables. Some campuses have received no training and are entering the process blindly. They are looking at coming up on Oct. 4.

UDM: Betty reported that they have closed acquisitions for an ended of the year fiscal run. Statistics are still not being generated accurately. They are still having a great deal of problems with course reserves, especially with phantom course reserve items which they can't delete.

2) Patron Record Standard.

The revised NOTIS document on conventions for entering patron data was distributed. Committee members should review the document, and we will discuss it at the next meeting. It may need to be revisited if and when the shared patron database actually becomes a reality.

3) Update on shared patron record database and unique ID.

There are some questions about whether or not this will ever happen. Ameritech suddenly seems unwilling or unable to make this come about.

4) Update on NOTIS:

NOTIS is definitely no longer being supported beyond Dec. 31, 1999. Various reports – including fines/fees information – can be run up until then.

5) Migration Tips and Tricks:

Libraries who have yet to migrate have a number of valuable lessons they can learn from those who have already migrated. For instance, based on UDM's experience, Wayne did not migrate fines/fees data from NOTIS to Horizon. Wayne also learned that it is necessary to do double discharge/double updating in NOTIS and Horizon after migration.

6) Update on reciprocal borrowing.

The reciprocal borrowing agreement is on hold until a shared patron database in place. It was originally anticipated that this would occur Sept. 1999. For the moment it is postponed indefinitely.

7) Other:

Anaclare reported that she is working with Ameritech on a new software product called Sunrise. This is something known as middleware, and will theoretically allow anyone's database to run with anyone else's front end. This should make it easier to move from Horizon to another vendor if we decide to do so in the future. This is not anticipated to be ready before Spring, 2,000.

The committee expressed interest in subscribing to the DALNET Listserv in order to keep up-to-date Anaclare said she would distribute instructions on how to subscribe.

Next meeting.

The next meeting will be Sept. 8, 9:30 a.m. in the Purdy/Kresge Conference Room, Wayne State University. Joyce Zurel volunteered to bring refreshments.

Bradd Burningham August 29, 1999