



Friends of Kresge Library

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October 6, 1992

To: DALNET Members

From: Sue Frankie *Sof*

Re: DALNET Access Philosophy/Policy

Based on our discussion on September 25 I have drafted the statement attached relating to access services offered by DALNET institutions.

This statement reflects my own thinking regarding this subject.

I would see this statement as being useful when we get into discussions about why some members are more restrictive than others, the charging of DALNET members for services, the constraints each of us have in "opening our doors" to "everyone".

I would hope that agreement could be reached on each of the statements here, and then that there is an over-all agreement, understanding and appreciation of what each of us have to offer and what each of us cannot offer...

SOF:vl

DALNET ACCESS PHILOSOPHY

The purpose of DALNET is to promote and develop cooperative programs using shared library automation applications... [DALNET Bylaws, Article II].

The primary and essential purpose of DALNET is to share the costs of the NOTIS Online Library System.

A secondary and not essential purpose is the facilitation of access to members' collections.

DALNET ACCESS GOAL

To facilitate DALNET member access to the collections of DALNET libraries.

Access services might include, for example, on-site use of members' collections, the granting of reciprocal borrowing privileges and priority interlibrary loan services.

PROBLEMS/ISSUES

1. Each DALNET institution has as their primary responsibility to represent the interests of their parent institution in forging cooperative/access agreements;
2. Cooperative programs of "unequal" members (in terms of type of library, authority, constituency demands and expectations, and resources) means that not all DALNET members are able to contribute equally to achieving the access goal, or are able to agree to provide the same kinds or levels of access services;

CONCLUSIONS

1. DALNET members should be committed to the access goal and strive to provide a high level of collection access to DALNET members.
2. DALNET members will differ in their abilities to provide access to their collections.
3. DALNET members should consult with each other when actions are being considered that would restrict access to collections (e.g. limitations to borrowing and use, the imposition of fees or increase in access charges). When possible, DALNET members should be excluded from these restrictions.
4. DALNET cooperation must be built on trust, understanding, and commitment to improved library services through collective action.