

WSUL Automation Project
Progress Report
February 1986

NOTIS Contract

NOTIS made a commitment during February to send an up-to-date list of all MVS programs and their status in early March. The batch programs not yet available in the MVS version are to be delivered by March 1, including those for catalog cards, patron file interface, and call number indexing. The installation cannot be considered ready for acceptance testing until these programs have been delivered.

NOTIS Installation

The subject index to the test NOTIS database was successfully created in February, including access by both LC and MESH subjects. Problems were encountered in creating the call number indexes.

Acquisitions purchase orders, a batch product, were successfully run.

The IBM 4381 was readied for NOTIS by the relocation of the CMS/PROFS software to the 3081. IBM system software was installed and license arrangements were made. The 4381 plans are on target to install ACF2 security software and NOTIS application software by the end of March. An initial contact was made with SAS Institute regarding licensing the SAS Basic software for the 4381.

Database Loading Status

Work continues on the specifications for the loader programs needed to load the University's name/address data into the NOTIS patron files. This work will be coordinated with the MISC, who is responsible for the University's name/address systems.

Progress was made on the specifications NOTIS needs to complete its customization of the "vanilla" bibliographic records loader programs. The specifications previously sent must now be revised to incorporate new data for linked barcodes.

Blackwell North America completed its "flip" and subsequent edit of the LC name and subject headings on Wayne's de-duped OCLC archive tapes. These tapes contain all monographs cataloged, or converted into machine readable form, between October 1975 and June 1985. The LC name and subject authority record tapes will be delivered in March, ready for loading into NOTIS.

Peripheral Evaluation and Installation

Evaluation of barcode scanning equipment will be completed in March. A demonstration of products from three prospective vendors will be scheduled.

Delivery dates for the Telex 476L terminals and Codex modems were not yet received. Two telephone lines between the Purdy Library and the CSC were installed. A recommendation for the location of phone lines and controllers for the Science and Engineering Library was made. The remaining libraries will be inspected in March.

NOTIS Implementation

An evaluation of options for creating linked barcodes for the titles on WSUL's OCLC archive tape was completed. The recommendation was to contract with Blackwell to add the linked barcodes to each machine readable record, to produce a barcode label print tape, and to have the barcode labels produced. A letter was sent to BNA for a price quote and time table for these additional tasks. The goal is to have the linked barcodes in the Libraries by the end of May/early June.

A preliminary design of a WSU Library card was completed and approved to go out for price quotes.

A draft of the basic policy and planning issues to be addressed for the NOTIS Implementation was completed.

NOTIS User Education and Publicity

Staff demonstrations of the test NOTIS system installed on the IBM 3081 were planned during February. Scripts were developed, six librarians learned how to conduct the demos, and library staff signed up for the hour long programs scheduled for March 3 through March 14.

The draft Press Release announcing the selection of NOTIS was sent to the University's Public Relations Department for release to selected library media.

NOTIS Development

NOTIS has been asked for their commitment to the development of distributed system printing capability. WSUL will then evaluate its options for getting this capability into NOTIS. The CSC is also committed to support distributed system printing for NOTIS and will assist in the evaluation and development tasks.

NOTIS requested input on the new online catalog screens being tested at NUL for Boolean and keyword searching. Librarians who reviewed and commented on the screens were: C. Wecker, K. Bacsanyi, and R. Nuffer of WSUL; L Hildebrand of Oakland Univeristy; and B. Klount of Detroit Public Library.

DALNET Status

Drafts of the DALNET System Agreement, with charging schedules for each current potential DALNET participant, and of the DALNET Bylaws were readied for review at a special meeting called for March 6. DALNET library directors/administrators will be invited to that meeting to get these documents finalized.

The DALNET Database Committee continued intensive work on the development of specifications for the OCLC tape preparations needed for loading data into NOTIS. The RFP's will be sent out in March on behalf of the Detroit Associated Libraries, Oakland University, and the University of Detroit.

NOTIS Visitor

David McDonald, Head of Library Systems at the University of Michigan, spent the afternoon of February 27 at WSUL learning about the NOTIS installation and implementation. The University of Michigan is currently evaluating the NOTIS system.

Retrospective Conversion Project

During February, the WSUL retrospective conversion project team converted 101 titles into machine readable form. The total number of pre-1975 titles converted to date is 88,399. An increase in current acquisitions necessitated that staff devote most of their time to current cataloging again in February.

Submitted by,

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