WSUL Automation Project
Progress Report
June/July 1986

NOTIS Contract

The "final" release tape of the MVS version of NOTIS 4.0.1 received
the end of May was loaded in June and testing was almost completed by
the end of July. Still to be tested are catalog card production,
global change capability, and authority file editing. A list is
being made of MVS batch programs not yet received.

The WSUL/NOTIS contract calls for acceptance testing of the
cataloging, LUIS, and acquisitions modules by July 15, 1986; however,
a minimum of 60 days from receipt of the software is provided to
complete the testing. In addition to the functions previously
mentioned, these still have not passed the acceptance testing:
authority worksheet, vendor record creation and editing, and item
record editing.

NOTIS Development

The MVS version of NOTIS Release 4.3 is scheduled for delivery in
early August. This release must be installed and tested before the
Circulation module is implemented, since it includes many fixes to
that software.

During June, the Circulation Team reviewed a draft received from
NOTIS of the proposed bill and fine capability for circulation.
Also, several library staff involved in the WSUL NOTIS implementation
reviewed a NOTIS enhancements ballot, and their rankings of high,
medium, and low priority were forwarded to NOTIS for tallying.

NOTIS Installation

The links between the IBM4381 and the ÇSC's 3725 front end processor
finally arrived and were installed. Access for NOTIS terminals is
now provided via either the IBM 3725 or the Amdahl 4705 front end
processor.

Licenses for non-IBM system software used on the IBM 4381 are being
arranged.

An analysis of disk space needed for the WSUL NOTIS installation over
the next year was begun.

Database Loading Status

Due to a delay in receipt of our customized bibliographic database loader from NOTIS, the plans for loading were changed. Using the "vanilla" loader, the OCLC database with records from 1975 through June 1985 will be loaded as a Demo On-line Catalog, to be made available to the public in September, 1986. The barcoded OCLC database with AACR2 headings (1975 through August 1986) will be loaded after the customized loader software has been received from NOTIS and tested. This database will then be made available to the public in place of the Demo On-line Catalog.

The authority files previously loaded were tested and a few problems discovered. Fixing those problems will delay going into production with the authority file by a few weeks.

Specifications for Wayne State's serials records loader were completed and delivered to NOTIS programmers with a sample tape on July 8, 1986. The NOTIS contract calls for delivery of this customized loader program 120 days after receipt of the specifications and sample tape.

The patron loader programs, to select records for WSU employees and students from the University's name/address file and put them into NOTIS patron record format, were completed and in testing by the end of July. Policies governing the NOTIS patron database were compiled and reviewed.

Peripheral Evaluation and Installation

All 23 Telex 476L ALA-character set terminals and printers were tested by mid-July. Installation of 9 terminals in Central Technical Services and 3 in the NOTIS Training Room was completed. Terminals were delivered to other Library Units for installation in August.

Orders were placed in July for peripheral equipment needed for the first phase of our NOTIS implementation of the online public catalog and circulation modules.

On order are:

.IBM 3178 terminals (monochrome) for circulation, along with printers for circ receipts, and Scanstar laser barcode scanners;

.IBM 3179 terminals (color) and IBMpcs (monochrome) for online catalog stations - the pc's will have printers;

.Scanstar wand barcode readers for the Telex terminals used for Technical Services functions;

.Phone lines, cabling, modems, protocol converters, and terminal controllers needed to install all these terminals and printers.

All the electrical wiring needed to install these additional terminals was completed.

NOTIS Implementation

Timelines for implementing the cataloging, online catalog, and circulation modules were reviewed and updated with the tasks to be done over the next three to four months. The WSUL NOTIS budget for FY87 was calculated.

The Cataloging Module is close to going "live," beginning with the authority database. Training for catalogers was completed, including sessions on the MARC Authorities machine-readable format. An authority control workflow was designed, and the OCLC to NOTIS transfer of authority records is now operational.

Tom McGinn, our project manager at NOTIS, conducted two days of advanced cataloging training for six Library staff on July 31 and August 1. These staff will design and conduct the advanced training for Wayne's catalogers.

The Online Catalog Implementation Team participated in NOTIS Online Catalog training with Tom during the same two days. They are working on plans for the training needed by public service staff before the Demo On-line Catalog is made available to the public.

The Circulation Team tested the procedures for the first pass of the book barcoding project, and trained staff in all Library Units using guidelines and flow charts designed by Faith Van Toll. As of the end of July, the staff had handled 193,151 barcode labels and had found 79% of the books. The first pass of the book labeling project is on target for completion by the end of August.

Bids were received for plastic Library Cards, and the cards were ordered for delivery in August. Bids were also received for barcode labels to be used on the Library Cards and on books not yet barcoded. The barcode labels were ordered for delivery by the end of August.

NOTIS Users Group Meeting

Nancy Allen, Louise Bugg, Dody Fox, and Charlene Wecker went to the annual NOTIS Users Group Meeting July 9-11 at Northwestern University in Evanston, Illinois. Details of the meeting are available in the full report.

DALNET Status

These DALNET libraries have indicated their intent to participate in the NOTIS system with Wayne State: Oakland University, Beaumont Hospital, Botsford Hospital, Detroit Associated Libraries, University of Detroit, and Wayne County Community College.

Oakland University's and the University of Detroit's contracts for processing of their OCLC tapes by BNA were finalized and work is proceeding on schedule. Specifications for the Detroit Associated Libraries' BNA Contract are being developed.

Retrospective Conversion Project

During June, Library Staff converted 1,504 records into machine readable form, bringing the total converted to date to 94,336.

The decision was made to continue the Retrocon Project using OCLC's MICROCON Service. A contract with OCLC for MICROCON is being finalized.

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