

DALNET Steering Committee
2000 Annual Report
January 1, 2000 – September 30, 2000

The Steering Committee had an active year providing advice and oversight on the Horizon implementation and other related projects. Each committee member regularly contributed to discussions in a positive and professional manner. The committee members gave their cooperation, creative and professional expertise and their time. It is not possible to capture all the work of this committee that occurred during the three-hour monthly meetings. This annual report can only offer the highlights of another busy and productive year.

Horizon Conversion and Implementation

- Acknowledged completion of the NOTIS to Horizon migration
- Addressed the hard work of the DALNET staff throughout this process and supported a congratulatory reception for the DALNET staff
- Evaluated minutes and verbal reports from Horizon task forces and provided feedback
- Added one Horizon task force: Search Engine; Retired two task forces: Acquisitions and Serials following the completion of their assignments
- Supported the move away from SSN as the unique identifier following review of the legal ramifications of use of SSN
- Evaluated RFI for authority database cleanup
- Advised DALNET Web Site chair and offered suggestions, reviewed possibility of web site outsourcing
- Recommended a process to review the contractually defined Horizon Functionality: identified iPAC, authority loading, and broadcast searching as the most critical missing components; supported interim broadcast searching solution
- Articulated concerns about keyword response time in WebPAC and discussed options *epixtech* recommended for improvement via consolidated indexes
- Expressed major concerns about the lack of broadcast searching. This remains the number one priority
- Discussed priorities and delivery of service from *epixtech* and reviewed contract enhancement. Margaret Auer (DALNET *epixtech* liaison) joined us.
- Considered new process for enhancement delivery, will continue to monitor
- Explored limitations of RSS and iPAC functionality and recommended delaying RSS in favor of iPAC
- Reviewed reports on extra modules to Horizon (e.g. EasyAsk)

Equipment

- Discussed downtime due to power outages and problems with SUN equipment
- Reviewed proposals for DALNET standards for Horizon workstations
- Considered options for DALNET sever upgrades; reviewed Finance Committee recommendations

Communication

- Welcomed new members Joan Emahiser, Leo Papa, Kerry Sanders, and Randy Call (alternate); bid goodbye to task force members Phyllis Jose and George Libbey; acknowledged the end of Harry Masek's contract
- Identified relevant information and forwarded to the DALNET Board for discussion and approval
- Reviewed proposal for ILL grant for Macomb, TLN/OWLS, and DALNET
- Monitored activities and reports from the IHDC
- Prepared Steering Committee goals and objectives for fiscal year 2001

Support from DALNET

- Identified need for more staff support from DALNET, especially additional systems librarians and WebPAC support
- Expressed concern about the delays and lack of progress in services from the Web Master
- Reviewed proposal for DALNET Director's position
- Acknowledged the departure of DALNET staff Ana Fidler and Dody Fox

Support from *epixtech*

- Addressed the hard work of specific *epixtech* staff throughout the conversion process
- Articulated concerns about the slow responses on problems from *epixtech*
- Expressed concern about delays of Horizon 5.3, especially the need for Circulation mailers at DPL

Prepared by Scott P. Muir
Chair, DALNET Steering Committee
December 2000