

# DALNET FOCUS Session with Detroit Public Library

July 18, 1995

Summary of comments/suggestions made:

I. *What concerns or suggestions do you have about our current DALNET services, including training, communications, and technical support?*

**Training:**

- would like help with ongoing staff training in NOTIS LMS functionality;
- also need help with staff training for use of electronic mail and Internet-accessible resources;
- need basic training in the use of microcomputer workstations.

**Communications:**

- more DPL staff need electronic mail IDs;
- would appreciate more information from the DALNET Office during lengthy downtime;
- DALNET library users need up-to-date information about what services they can use at other DALNET member libraries.

**Technical Support:**

- the LUIS screens need to be re-designed with clearer menus for DPL's users;
- would appreciate help integrating NOTIS with OCLC's CD-ROM resources on a cataloger's workstation.

**Other:**

- DPL needs some unique reports for circulation, including a report on what their users borrow and one identifying users by zip code.

II. *What DALNET Online System enhancements do you need most within the next few years while we do our long range planning?*

**Internet Access:**

- DPL needs selected--if not all--buildings to have access to the Internet via Ethernet connectivity;
- some interest in access to Detroit Freenet.

**Full-Text (Important):**

- DocDirect or something similar to provide full-text for users.

**Databases:**

- users need abstracts included with citations;
- still very interested in IAC's BUSIness and COMPAny Profiles databases (with an affordable price);
- loading TIP database (non-MARC) on MDAS is not a high priority to DPL at this time.

**Location-Based Catalogs (Very Important):**

- implementation should provide options, e.g., to group or cluster branch libraries; DPL patrons report using at least three DPL libraries.

**Resource Sharing (Important):**

- could DPL patrons more easily move from DPL to WSU Libraries, e.g, with use of InfoPass.

**PACLink, i.e., Z39.50, Links:**

- OCLC FirstSearch on PACLink;
- MetroNet libraries are heavy lending partners with DPL;
- The Library Network, formerly WOLF, has a DRA system that could be linked; they now include Dearborn Public Library.

III. *How do you think our cooperative efforts built around a shared online catalog can best benefit your institution and your library users?*

**Resource Sharing Opportunities:**

- would appreciate a review of current resource sharing between DPL and WSU, including access to the Law and Medical Libraries;
- see opportunities also for cooperative collection building, e.g., medical;
- borrowing agreements could improve access.

**Cooperative Buying:**

- equipment is less a need for DPL since they already have high quantities;
- could include supplies such as barcode labels, tattle-tape strips, and circulation mailers.

**Training Opportunities:**

- joint workshops could be led by any member library with the expertise needed, not just for automation, but also for service issues such as problem patrons and young adult services;
- workshops on information literacy were of interest, too, especially as DPL gets more involved in teaching K-12 students.

**Fund Raising:**

- opportunities for grant funding for joint projects, e.g., for student learning.

**Statewide Cooperative Efforts:**

- new opportunities with new Michigan Library Consortium director;
- ditto when new state librarian is on board.