

DALNET Study Group
10/28/85

Present: J. Williams (WSU) Chair, F. Buckley (DPL), J. Flaherty (WCCC),
N. Skowronski (UD), J. Smith (WBH), A. Walaskay (UD), E. Hitchingham (OU).

1. WSU's Computer Services site visit to the University of Illinois-Chicago was reported "good." The OCLC interface is not working there. They advise WSUL can't come up on their timeline, but would need six months more.
2. Codex modem representatives visited WSUL, were given DALNET data, and will come up with ballpark costs for all. Codex offers a 30% discount on group purchase. Codex, which is associated with Motorola Corp., will look into radio operated modems for those interested (e.g. DPL's Bookmobiles).
Question: Will WSUL repair modems? Answer: Probably not, but would have backup equipment available, according to J. Williams.
3. J. Williams announced there will be a pre-installation meeting with NOTIS on Friday, Nov. 1, 1985. For this all day session, a DALNET representative and Tapes Committee representative are requested. F. Buckley and N. Skowronski are chosen representatives.
4. WSUL will set up a Screen Display Committee and needs representatives from DALNET libraries. It is suggested we use the OPAC committee as the core group. The following reps are suggested: Helen Ma (DPL), Edna Jolliff (Harper), Linda Hildenbrand (OU), and Anne Walaskay (UD). DPL may wish to send a Public Service Reference person.
5. Discussion on Draft of DALNET ONLINE SYSTEM AGREEMENT:
Suggestions
 - a) Two types of members - Investors, Subscribers. Investors would have a weighted vote, Subscribers could be on advisory committees. Thus, the agreement throughout would be phrased "Wayne State and DALNET." For Investors, the first several year's expenses could be considered capital investment for budget and fund-raising purposes.
E. Hitchingham suggests costs be as real as possible.
 - b) P. Duran's suggestion regarding Investment: For two disk drives and the IBM 4381, there would be a total of \$755, 872 to invest. WSU would retain a 51% investment of \$385,495, while DALNET would have a 49% investment of \$370,377. P. Duran feels WSUL must protect its automation investment. Discussion of this suggestion followed.
Two major concerns were raised regarding P. Duran's suggestion: Voting and System Capacity Share. How can other DALNET investor/voters protect their interests, and how can any DALNET member obtain their needed share of the system capacity?
 - c) VOTING SUGGESTIONS:
 - Two-thirds vote be required to pass all owner/investor actions.
 - Reshuffle original investor percentages as future investors come into DALNET.
 - Separate voting weight from investment percentages.
 - WSUL and DPL have proportionate voting balance because they represent the largest database contributors.
 - All voting require a representative mix of DALNET members, e.g. Academic large, Academic medium, Public, Medical.
 - Voting be weighted according to current DALNET percentages, with "use data" after start-up determining future percentages.
 - Split voting according to fiscal and non-fiscal actions. Voting on fiscal actions to be according to investment percentages, voting on non-fiscal actions to be on another basis. Problem: Most every operational action is a fiscal matter.

c) VOTING SUGGESTIONS (continued):

- Allow WSUL to retain 51% vote advantage for first two years. When system expansion comes, new capital investment would then adjust this percentage to reflect all investors' percentage/vote. DALNET members, apart from WSUL, would be doing some implementation during these first two years, but would have to cut back, perhaps on terminals, until the system expansion comes up. Thus, there would be balloon style payments which could be attractive. Voting would be fixed for two years only.

d) SYSTEM CAPACITY CONCERNS:

If WSUL gets 51% of system capacity, then other DALNET members must split the remaining 49% of capacity. Since the system with NOTIS, at present, will support 350 terminals at a guaranteed response time, WSUL would have 179 terminals, other DALNET members would have to divide the remaining 178 terminals. This would mean the other DALNET members would not get the percentage of terminals each requires according to their current implementation plans. For example, DPL, for circulation alone, needs 135 terminals. Thus, under the Duran plan, other DALNET members would have to cut-back implementation plans until a system expansion comes up.

e) FURTHER QUESTIONS:

- Will all costs be lumped and shared? J. Williams is not sure.
- Who will own the NOTIS software license? WSUL will purchase the license. Future sharing of this ownership is not clear.
- Where would Subscribers be placed in implementation priority? J. Williams believes that because Subscribers would probably be small and/or similar (e.g. Medical libraries), they could come up soon.

6. A request was made by N. Skowronski, namely, that U of D is thinking of possibly being a Subscriber for the first two years and then becoming an investor. U of D would like a preferred status when it requests investor status in respect for its involvement in DALNET planning work.

7. More from University of Illinois/Chicago: They advise not to purchase Telex terminals because they require use of too many function keys.

8. ACTION: J. Williams is to revisit Draft Agreement to create an "ownership organization." This incorporated group is to include "owners, subscribers, dial-access subscribers." This agreement should include first two year's cost plus the manner of figuring system expansion costs.

Next Meeting: November 11, 1985.

Minutes prepared by J. Flaherty (WCCC)