

Progress Report on Website Redesign
By the DALNET Website Committee

Background:

January 2000

New webmaster assigned to work with the DALNET Website Committee. The person assigned did not attend a committee meeting nor communicate with the committee in any form.

February 2000

Tim Cromer attended our meeting on an interim basis to bridge the gap. A discussion was held regarding DALNET's current site and its need for updating and redesign. It was agreed at that meeting that Mr. Cromer said he would present some ideas for us at our next scheduled committee meeting.

March 2000

At the March meeting, Mr. Comer presented a new template that he had on a file. The design was basically the same and discussion was held regarding suggested changes. It was agreed that the changes would be presented at the committee's next scheduled meeting.

April 2000

No meeting was held. Several times were suggested but unfortunately the DPL Internet Lab was unavailable at one of these times.

May 2000

The committee was shown another barebones design. Tim requested access to graphics and promotional content. Stated he provide CD-ROM to view changes before the next meeting. Suggested he would develop a lotus notes site for us to look at current design options and make comments.

June 2000

Meeting cancelled due to power outage. Attempts to reschedule failed due to time constraints of committee members.

July 2000

Mr. Cromer presented to the committee a front page design of eight buttons which appeared to be a minor reworking of the TLN website. Louise Bugg attended this meeting, where Cromer explained that he needed more direction. The committee spent a good amount of time giving explicit direction as to the flow of the site. It was agreed that a design would be presented at the next scheduled committee meeting.

August 2000

The committee was given a print-out of a file Mr. Cromer had created. The front page (enclosed) was different than that of the committee's discussion held at the July meeting. The committee is still awaiting a template to review. Mr. Cromer agreed that this sample will be available for preview on August 11, 2000 by 3:00pm.

RECOMMENDATION:

The DALNET Website design is crucial to several services 1) Marketing and Outreach 2) Member Services and 3) Will serve home base for Im@gine and a gateway to all other projects developed by the organization.

Because of the crucial nature of this revision, the Website Committee would like the Steering Committee to consider other options in order to satisfactorily redesign DALNET's website. We believe there has been ample time for Tim Cromer to have progressed on the redesign. Since January there has been a failure to do the tasks he has promised to do or to communicate between meetings on the progress. There has been a repeated failure to produce. We believe this is seriously impeding our service to member libraries and impeding the ability to do outreach.

We ask that the Steering Committee consider these roadblocks. We request the Steering Committee consider other options to complete a satisfactory redesign of the DALNET website.