

**DALNET Steering Committee Agenda
November 22, 1999
University of Detroit Mercy**

Agenda and Review of Minutes	8:30-8:45
HUGM Report – Muir ALS Sale WebPAC 1.3 Large Libraries RSS/CPS Horizon 6.0	8:45-9:15
Frame Relay – Cherewick	9:15-9:30
Enhancements - Muir Authorities Shared Patron Meg Fisher follow-up	9:30-9:45
NOTIS Shut-down plans – Bugg	9:45-10:00
Board meeting with Lana Porter on Nov. 29th - Bugg	10:00-10:15
Functionality Testing – Muir, Bugg Process Acceptance level	10:15-10:45
Steering Committee Roles– Bugg After all current DALNET libraries have migrated to Horizon Developing the Information Hub with community information providers	10:45-11:20
Announcements	11:20-11:30
Minutes: Adams	

DALNET Steering Committee
Draft – Minutes 11/22/99

Present: Scott, Harry, Jim, Mary Ann, George, Louise, Phyllis, Debbie, Karen, Willy Cromwell-Kessler (DPL rep for the day)

Minutes were approved from the last meeting.

HUGM Report

Scott reported the sale of ALS to SBC. No name change announced yet.

ALS has pulled Webpac 1.3. They are putting the fixes and features from 1.3 into 1.2 and will release it as 1.4 in March (beta in Jan/Feb). Major concerns were expressed about promises and delivery. It has now been 18 months and DALNET is still waiting for the product. Also concerns about the ability to search only six databases at a time. ALS should have more info available on their website. Webpac 2.0 is supposed to solve system performance issues and is not due out until late 2000.

A “large library” listserv has been formed for Horizon. A meeting will also be held for large libraries during HUGM. Any library can join the listserv and participate. They will be addressing problems in searching and maintaining large databases, as well as making sure enhancements for large library issues are listed and sent to ALS.

CPS is a searching product that was purchased by ALS. They will merge it with RSS within the next 18 months.

Scott and Willy were impressed with Horizon 6.0 (Sunrise). It is Windows native and easier to use on the staff side. 6.0 is cataloging and will work with the existing Horizon product. It should solve the authority problems we are having from the time it is loaded. Library staff can customize it to their workflow. General release is set for June 2000. The circulation piece of Sunrise is due out in late 2000.

Major concerns expressed about Webpac 1.4 not available until March. Louise stated that DALNET's reputation is on the line and we cannot sell our system to potential libraries without the features in Webpac—particularly broadcast searching. Scott indicated that by the time we installed and learned the interim solution proposed by ALS, 1.4 would be out. Debbie thought the Board should consider asking ALS for a guarantee other than words (perhaps a penalty?) if 1.4 is delayed. Phyllis will pursue.

Mary Ann expressed that the rest of the libraries coming up on Horizon needed more help with Webpac. Louise will be talking with Maurice about moving the hiring of the webmaster to WSU. Perhaps other solutions such as contracting for service could be checked into. Scott explained that George is now available to help with Webpac and other issues since testing of Webpac 1.3 has been abandoned. DHMT list should be used to ask questions.

Frame Relay

Kathy Cherewick was introduced as our contractor for the DALNET WAN installation. She presented two handouts. One described the work to deal with outage failover, how the Help Desk can identify circuit failure, and implementation of the firewall at the DALNET servers. The other handout listed her visits to DALNET libraries.

Enhancements

Authorities: ALS met with the Database Management Committee and explained how authorities work in Horizon. Another meeting is planned to discuss interim solutions to existing authorities problems until Horizon 6.0 is installed. They also will discuss how to clean up the database after 6.0 is installed. Documentation is available from the meeting and notes are being compiled. The shared authority file will not be addressed until after 6.0.

Shared Patron: Scott distributed a list of reasons/justifications for a shared patron database. Jim Wilson from ALS had originally helped to brainstorm ideas. Record ownership was also discussed before. Scott will talk with ALS about these reasons and start brainstorming solutions.

DALNET currently has 8 databases in Horizon and will have 13 by the end of 1999.

Meg Fisher Follow-up: A list of Action Items from the Oct. 11 Board meeting was distributed with status information on each item. These were issues expressed to Meg Fisher in October. Webpac 1.3 is dead but still have concerns over delivery of 1.4. System performance is still a problem in the large databases. The firewall is on order. Support Services from ALS are OK but we still need to identify priority problems and followup on each with ALS. We have not received any info yet regarding help with release upgrades but Scott has not pursued this since we will not have another upgrade until Jan. 2000. DALNET must upgrade to 5.2 and then 5.3 before 6.0 comes out in May. The Kid's OPAC is moving along. The ALS solution for downloading prediction patterns is not workable for DALNET. Steve Nielson originally helped develop an image database for the ACRL conference and the development has not been completed as yet. DALNET has not received any formal training on image databases yet. DALNET staff need training on specifics such as Z39.50 attributes, titles on the fly, and thumbnails.

NOTIS Shut-down plans

Louise explained that LUIS will be turned off on Dec. 23 since that is the last day DALNET staff will be in the office. NOTIS staff mode will be available until Dec. 31. The last Quikreports will be run in early Dec. Bills will be run starting Dec. 16 and batch jobs run Dec. 22-23. On Dec. 31, backup tapes will be run and the machine turned off. We need the Board to decide how long the backup tapes should be kept.

It was suggested that the Steering Committee or the Board talk about some sort of celebration, recognition, or party to mark the end of NOTIS and all the hard work everyone has put in to migrate to Horizon. This will be put on the agenda for the next Steering Committee meeting.

Board Meeting with Lana Nov. 29

Webpac and system performance were identified as the most critical issues to discuss with Lana. Phyllis will ask the Finance Committee to look at the contract, payments and guarantees. System performance is supposed to be addressed in Webpac 2.0 but that is a year away.

Functionality testing

Louise, George, Debbie, and perhaps someone from DPL will meet before the next Steering Committee and draft a plan for functionality testing. This draft will be shared with the Steering Committee and Project Managers for input before implementing in January. The subcommittee will meet at Botsford the week following Thanksgiving.

Steering Committee Roles

After discussing the role of the committee after all libraries have migrated to Horizon, it was felt that the Steering Committee should continue until all enhancements are resolved. A new board committee should be formed to deal with the Information Hub activities—policies, projects, coordination, etc. Phyllis and Louise will draft a charge for the new committee to present to the Steering Committee at the next meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 11:30 am.

The next meeting will be at Botsford General Hospital, Dec. 13 at 8:30 am in Classroom C in the Zieger Administration Building.

Respectfully submitted,
Deborah Adams