

10. Louise Bugg

## WebPAC Design Task Force Meeting Minutes for May 22, 1998

The first meeting of the WebPAC Design Task Force was held May 22 at University of Detroit/Mercy. Attending were:

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\* *liaisons to the Steering Committee*

Mary Galvin of the DIA ([mgalvin@dia.org](mailto:mgalvin@dia.org)) was unable to attend.

The Committee is responsible for:

### 1) Developing a design for DALNET's union WebPAC interface. This includes:

- Patron view of search screens and search results
- Consideration of search filters
- Movement between union catalog WebPAC and WebPACs of individual libraries

### 2) Developing guidelines for WebPAC's for individual DALNET libraries:

- With concern for consistency in the look of linked pages and consistency in labeling of fields
- Including links to Z39.50 databases (DCAT, MDAS, OCLC 1<sup>st</sup> Search)
- Perhaps a template for libraries without resources to do HTML coding (though DALNET will have a FTE Webmaster who might be of assistance in this area)
- Search statistics
- UD/Mercy is scheduled to go live on Horizon in September. They will develop their pages with as much information as the Design Task Force can provide and will make adjustments later, once guidelines are in place.

Jan demonstrated different searches on a Phoenix Public Library test WebPAC, including a Kids PAC which allows children to type in a search request or choose letters from the screen. The demonstration pointed out that our committee is not only concerned with search screens but patron information such as items borrowed, items

on hold and fines or fees. Jan suggested we look at other Horizon sites at <http://harry.amlibs.com/> . During the demonstration the following concerns were raised:

- Search results should not be lengthy (multi-pages), to save printer paper.
- How should holdings display, by location first?
- How would hold requests be handled; specifically, how does RSS (Resource Sharing System) work in a union catalog?
- Can a user have the option of doing an individual library search first, then repeat that search on a wider basis (without reentering the search)?
- How will the serials field be labeled so that every user knows what is meant?

Another concern raised was how can users outside the libraries access licensed resources, such as LEXIS or OVID, or non Z39.50 databases that are available to them as patrons inside the libraries. It was suggested by Jeff that there be a proxy server that would check the patron file, then provide an i.p. for access to the licensed or subscription database.

The Union catalog will have a shared bibliography, shared holding information, shared serials holdings, but for circulation information will have to break away to the individual catalogs.

The recommendations of two other committees, the Catalog Task Force, chaired by DPL's Randy Call and the Indexing Task Force, chaired by WSU's Janice Selburg will have an impact on decisions made by our committee, so it was suggested by Louise that we establish contact with them to stay on top of what they are doing.

It was suggested that we look at the catalogs on the following web sites:

INDYCAT--Indiana University Libraries  
(<http://www.indycat.iupui.edu>)

University of Chicago  
(<http://www.lib.uchicago.edu>)

Duke University  
(<http://www.duke.lib.duke.edu>)

Ohio Library & Information Network  
(<http://www.ohiolink.edu>)

Wright State University  
(<http://wsuol2.wright.edu/search>)  
Case Western University  
(<http://catalog.cwru.edu/search/>)

Washington Research Library Consortium  
(<http://www.aladin.wrlc.org/>)

Galileo--University of Georgia  
(<http://www.libs.uga.edu>)

SILO--State Library of Iowa  
(<http://www.silo.lib.ia.us/>)

Meeting dates were set for June 3, 10, 17, 24 (Wednesdays) from 9 a.m.-Noon at UD/Mercy, with DPL as a backup. Cheri will try to arrange an HTML training session at DPL for those who want it. Committee members will rotate taking minutes, though Jeff and Karen, as liaisons, will be excused. For the next meeting, Sue will bring samples of author search screens from other libraries, Cheri will bring samples of subject/keyword searches, plus the *HTML Users Guide* that DPL uses to ensure uniformity on its web site. Other committee members will look at other library catalog web pages and bring samples. Sue made copies of an Ameritech document with some WebPAC sites, for those who wanted it.

Respectfully submitted,

Cheri Gay