DALNET WebPac Design Task Force Meeting Minutes for July 9, 1998

Present: Bacsanyi, Woodard, Galvin, Trzeciak, Homant, Doyle, Gay, Yonovich

Excused: Nelson

Minutes for the June 24, 1998 meeting and the July 1, 1998 meeting were approved.

Jeff Trzeciak will ask the DALNET office for WebPac 1.3 documentation. To date, we do not have this information, or firm deadlines from the DALNET Steering Committee.

Cheri Gay reported that the WebPac Design Task Force is responsible for implementation, as well as design, according to John Houser. Committee members then discussed the need for a Web Master to help us with technical questions and details. The Ameritech Project Manager position has been posted, but we do not know when the Web Master will be hired.

Karen Bacsanyi talked with a representative from Johns Hopkins. The rep told her that their hardware posed the greatest problem for the institution because it would not support the number indexes they needed. Jeff Trzeciak mentioned that Louise Bugg was scheduled to meet with Ameritech representatives to discuss hardware specifications.

Cheri Gay distributed a handout of the web pages completed thus far. The committee reviewed these pages and made the following decisions:

Home Page/page 1) The word "databases" was removed.

Library Catalogs/page 2) Language was changed in the second sentence from "check up to 3 boxes" to "check as many as necessary/desired". The committee needs more information about the indexes. Is there a difference between the number of indexes searched in a broadcast search, and the number of indexes available to be searched in an individual catalog search?

Search Page/page 3) "Previous Searches" display is not available, but is forthcoming in the new enhancements. "Journal Title" was changed to "Journal/Magazine". Eliminate the word "subject" following (Library of Congress).

Advanced Search Page/page 4) Language was changed from "by limiting and/or sorting" to "by combining search terms and/or limiting and sorting your results". The committee changed the order of the options presented on the screen. Combined Search: will appear at the top of the screen, followed with Limit Search By:, and Sort Records By: will become the third option.

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Browse Page/page 5) Language changed from "Scan Up List" to "Previous"; language changed from "Scan Down List" to "Next 10".

Brief Record/page 6) The committee agreed that the information on this page represented a good solution to the problem of how best to present the brief view, full view, and availability to the user. Language was added to the display, "Show Locations" was changed to "Show Locations/Availability". Committee members had questions concerning availability. Does the full view show locations at the bottom of the record? Will clicking on Show Locations/Availability give you holdings at the bottom of a full view record? If so, will you see enough of the full view record for it to make sense? The committee would like a list of institutions to click on, and then be able to "jump to" the holdings of that institution (in a manner similar to the OHIO Link model).

Cheri Gay will mock up two models for the next meeting. Model 1 will have the Brief View, and the Full View with the holdings at the bottom. Model 2 will have the Brief View, the Full View, and Locations/Availability as separate entities.

Help Screens—Jim Doyle reported that some Horizon sites do not have help screens for users. He also reported that Duke and Johns Hopkins were good models for developing DALNET Help Screens, and he shared various photocopied help screens from each institution. Cheri Gay will try to find out if Ameritech has developed generic help screens for Horizon. She will mock up help screens for the next meeting. Mary Galvin thinks that the help screens should be indexed if they are going to be useful.

All committee members should look at large public library webpacs with multiple holdings for display ideas. Because some holdings will be many pages, the committee is thinking about menus at the top and bottom of each screen, and a "jump to" feature, so that the user does not get lost.

Respectfully submitted,

Cindy L. Yonovich