

Information Hub Development Committee
June 21, 2000
University of Detroit Mercy
Minutes

Present: D. Calloway; W. Cromwell-Kessler; Phyllis Jose; G. Libbey; Scott Muir (Chair); D. Murphy; J. Trzeciak; K. Tubolino; A. Walaskay

1. Preparation for Board Meeting:

K. Tubolino will lead the IHDC Presentation at the Board Meeting on 6/26.

The Committee reviewed the slides/handouts prepared by D. Calloway. The slides were organized to present:

- (1) a general goal statement for Information Hub development.
- (2) a subset of desirable outcomes that are implied by this goal;
- (3) a final set of slides that visually schematize a potential information architecture.

The visuals were modeled on diagrams found on the Endeavor Encompass Web site . However, although intended to describe a proprietary implementation, the broad outlines conform to the tentative specifications that are emerging from the Committee's discussions and also reflect a system architecture that is characteristic of other digital library projects. Suggested changes:

- (1) The presentation should include a slide which shows the components of the desired structure that are already in place so that the proposed development route/needs become clearer in contrast. USMARC content in the Horizon database linked to image content, accessed via WebPAC (soon to be iPAC) interface, are already in place.
- (2) Adjust the slide depicting various types of content in order to suggest the relatively greater emphasis that should be given to the integration of marked-up digital text--the major component that is not in place, but which drives much of the IHUB effort.
- (3) The desired system architecture should be presented in generalities--do not use acronyms such as XML, TEI, EAD, DC, etc. Such a level of detail is not necessary to the discussion and, if anyone is not familiar the acronyms, time that could be better used otherwise might need to be spent on explanation of peripheral points. Further, although such standards will likely figure in a future IH system architecture, it is premature to specify what metadata requirements will be.

Other points:

- * the presentation should be as brief as possible so that there would be sufficient time to entertain the full range of questions/discussion that should ensue if the presentation has the desired effect.
- * The Committee affirmed that the presentation should endeavor to ensure that the Board understands the general direction that the Committee envisions for the information Hub; the fact that this direction has financial, staffing and access implications needs to be acknowledged. although such questions pertaining to these issues cannot at this point be definitively addressed by the IHDC--nor should they be at this point. If the general direction is endorsed, then the IHDC will need to coordinate closely with financial, access and other DALNET committees to ensure that these issues are addressed and that all facets of planning are identified.
- * Finally, it was suggested that Karen endeavor to have the IHDC presentation moved forward on the agenda
- * As many members of the Committee as possible will attend the presentation.

2. Task Forces and Working Groups:

Health Sciences:

- * K. Tubolino expressed the concern of this Task Force that the prototype events calendar that this group has been working on duplicates a community events calendar prepared by Comnet.
- * The Committee agreed that her concern was justified and might suggest a change in direction for the group. The Health Sciences Working Group should consider approaching Comnet with a view to partnering with them.
- * If partnering in some way proves feasible, the proposed IHDC calendar prototype should be developed in a way complementary to the Comnet Calendar so that it could eventually perhaps be merged and supported/maintained long-term by Comnet with DALNET input.
- * It was affirmed that a consultant would be sought to help create the prototype and graduate students would be hired to handle data input. Job descriptions have been completed.

Cultural Working Group.

- * Breakfast will take place on Monday, June 26 at DPL
- * Issues of role of non-DALNET members, categories of DALNET membership: and concern about sophisticated expectations of cultural participants were touched upon.

Metadata Task Force

- * The TF will probably not meet until after July 16 when everybody is back from ALA (or elsewhere).
- * In the meantime, a TF Website will be established with links to sources that TF members may find useful
- * Sites that IHDC members are finding and sharing will be added when they are pertinent to the TF goal

Access Committee

- * It was affirmed that issues to be referred to the access committee (permission to use data, etc.), were going forward appropriately.

3. OCLC Institutes.

- * OCLC offers a number of institutes that could prove useful to members of IHDC Task Forces and working groups. Scott Muir will contact MLC to explore the possibilities of bringing some of these institutes to the Detroit area.

Future Meeting Sites:

July 5: Walsh

July 19: WSU

August 2: DPL

Prepared by W. Cromwell-Kessler