



Automated Services Committee

October 24, 2006

MINUTES

PRESENT

(Voting): Nancy Pieri (BETH), Joe Thornton (UHLS), Barbara Nichols Randall (GUIL), Richard Naylor (COLN), Tim Burke (APLM), Jane Minotti (SNLK), Debbie Shoup (EGRN), Judy Felsten (RCSC), Lorraine Smi (VOOR)

9:00 AM Meeting called to order by Philip Ritter, Chair

I. Minutes

Minutes of the September 26, 2006, meeting accepted as presented.

(NOTE: See the Automation Services Report that begins on page 3 for more information regarding issues that were reported at the meeting. The following deals only with those issues where there was significant discussion and where the ASC took some kind of action.)

II. Horizon and HIP upgrades

J. Thornton explained that UHLS is scheduled for an upgrade to Horizon 7.3.4 and HIP 3.0.8 on November 9th. It is a fairly straightforward procedure and can be accomplished by the Automation Staff. This upgrade is related to the ISBN-13 cataloging.

There will be client upgrades related to this and the Automation Department will send out CDs with the upgrade to be loaded on library computers.

III. WorldCat.org

Extensive discussion relating to attaching UHLS' OCLC holding symbol (VUE) to items in *worldcat*. At this time, attaching the symbol, without taking out a subscription to *worldcat*, can be done free. J. Thornton did not see any immediate advantage to doing this, but wanted ASC members to be aware that the trend in library searching is toward a global google-type search rather than a more limiting HIP-type search. He speculated that five years from now, this might be the primary library search engine. He demonstrated how the *worldcat* search has been FRBR-ized and allows for more refined searching. Committee members did not indicate a great interest in this.

R. Naylor questioned how CDLC and CaDiLAC fit into the *worldcat* picture. If UHLS participated in *worldcat* it would be bypassing CDLC and CaDiLAC and might result in more work for the UHLS staff because they would have to handle the interlibrary loan requests from outside the System.

III. Mail Server

The UHLS Automation Department is looking into an alternative email vendor due to price gouging by Ipswitch. We might possibly be able to make a change by May 2007.

IV. TeleCirc

B. Nichols Randall objected to the increase in printed hold and overdue notices due to TeleCirc being down. For the future, if TeleCirc goes down again, J. Thornton will look into creating a list of patrons who would have been called by TeleCirc. This list will then be sent to the libraries rather than having the system automatically print notices when patrons cannot be contacted by telephone.

V. Enhancement Request

Discussion regarding an enhancement request to Sirsi/Dynix that would add another level to the title search browser so that results would be sorted by title and then by author. This would mean adding another level to the title index and additional overhead to the indexing process.

An Enhancement Request is something that is done at no cost to the customer but is not a rush job and will be done on a schedule set by Sirsi/Dynix. On the other hand, Custom Programming is done at the customer's request and there is a charge for the work.

J. Thornton will check with Sirs/Dynix and see if this work has ever been done for another customer. He will report at the November meeting.

VI. Other Business

MOTION: J. Minotti moved to cancel the December 26th ASC meeting. D. Shoup seconded. Unanimous.

B. Nichols Randall asked if any UHLS staff would be attending the cataloging workshop at NYLA? J. Thornton reported that Rob Carle will be attending it.

NEXT ASC MEETING: Tuesday, November 28th at 9:00 AM.

Heidi A. Fuge
10/24/06

Automation Services Report October 24, 2006

System slowness

The addition of two CPUs and 4GB of RAM has eliminated almost all occurrences of prolonged system slowness, even when running large reports that have till now brought the system almost to a halt. However, a few libraries have reported long delays (up to twenty seconds) when performing some circulation functions. These slowdowns have been reported only three times in the past two weeks, and only by three libraries. We suspect the problem may be network-related and local to the reporting libraries, but we continue to look for the cause.

Horizon & HIP upgrades

We are on SirsiDynix's schedule for a November 9 upgrade to Horizon 7.3.4 and HIP 3.0.8. We've installed test versions of both. They were easy to install and everything seems to work fine, with one exception – KidSearch. We are now confident that the KidSearch custom programming that was performed for us by SirsiDynix using our contracted credits is the only piece that SirsiDynix will have to re-do for us in the upgraded HIP. We're discussing this with them.

Worldcat.org

At the last ASC meeting we deferred a decision on attaching the UHLS's OCLC holding symbol (VUE) to all OCLC records that correspond to records in our bibliographic database, pending the gathering of more information, specifically:

- How much will it cost us to subscribe to WorldCat in FirstSearch, which would make our catalog visible in WorldCat.org? Nylink gave us a quote of \$28,215/year. This subscription is not required in order for us to attach our symbol.
- What is the potential impact on the volume of out-of-system ILL requests? We discussed this question at the Resource Sharing and Database Maintenance Advisory Council meetings, and with some ILL librarians. The consensus is that the increase in requests will not be overwhelming, and that it could be managed pretty easily.

Mail server

We upgraded the mail server in order to bring the anti-virus software up to date. One unexpected result was a major change to the web mail interface (<http://mail.uhls.lib.ny.us>). The new interface has received mixed reviews. A very positive result of the upgrade was a significant improvement in the anti-spam and anti-virus software. Jonathan reports, "the 'premium spam' [software] is catching five or six times as much spam as previously, from between 200-400 message a day to 1300-1900 a day. Anti-virus is also up, from a rough average of between 50 and 70 a day to over 300."

Authority control

On 10/17 and 10/18 we sent 51,689 bib records, which had been added to our database since 10/2/05, to LTI for authority control processing with their AEX service. LTI returned:

- 51,689 cleaned up bib records
- 9 new and 5 updated children's authority records
- 2,335 new and 20,057 updated name authority records
- 976 new and 1,108 updated subject authority records

From now on we will probably use the AEX service monthly in order to minimize the disruption to our normal cataloging workflow. The cost of AEX is \$0.10/record and \$10/file.

We will use LTI's AUP service to update authority control on our entire database at the end of this year, and semiannually after that.

TeleCirc

TeleCirc was down from 10/2 – 10/5 due to a failed telephony board. We worked with SirsiDynix to install a new board. The result of TeleCirc outages is a big increase in printed hold and overdue notices.

Z39.50 ZCF files

While cataloging some Spanish language items, we decided to add MELWYL (University of California) as a Z39.50 resource. In the process we spotted an opportunity to improve the ZCF files in general. We eliminated unsupported

indexes from the ZCF files for each resource, and put the new ZCF files on the ftp server.

CDLC Union List of Serials

CDLC is updating their Union List of Serials, so we've started a project with the Database Maintenance Advisory Council to update the libraries' summary holdings statements in Horizon.

GUIL issues

We worked with SirsiDynix and GUIL to delete some incorrect statements in the Acquisitions system, and to establish a procedure for doing that on an ongoing basis. We also spent some time addressing GUIL's desire to sort the title index differently. This will need to be an enhancement request to SirsiDynix if ASC approves.

"Request" function

We added **request#** to "Item Request Queue" screen in stafpac, and wrote a report for the web reports page (<https://horizon.uhls.lib.ny.us/reports/>) to enable Circulation staff easily to change an item-specific request to a first-available request.

Cataloging

Mary Ellen Bena "retired" at the end of July but now works as a consultant for UHLS. She worked twelve hours in September. We (Automation Services) continue to handle the less difficult cataloging chores and save the bigger problems for Mary Ellen.

Imminent Microsoft changes

Rawdon and Jonathan attended a seminar at New Horizons on 10/9 that covered Office 2007 and Windows Vista.