

Subject: Coordinator's Meeting Minutes - 9/17/97

Attended:

Linda Hulbert	SLU-HSC
Richard Amelung	SLU-LAW
Bob Hexer-Gray	UMR
Janet Jackson	LSO
Gary Harris	LSO
George Rickerson	LSO
Robin Kespohl	UMC
Kathleen Schweitzberger	UMKC
Laura Bayle Green	UMKC
Nancy Stancel	UMKC-LAW
Vianne Sha	UMC-LAW
Randy Diamond	UMC-LAW
Dennis Krieb	SLU-HSC
John Huang	SLU-PIUS

1. New members

Randy Diamond and Dennis Krieb will replace Vianne Sha and Linda Hulbert as new coordinators representing UMC-LAW and SLU-HSC respectively.

2. Move command problem:

The Move command does not work for rearranging Item records. III gave us a special version of rearrange by volume to use until version 11 came out or until they fixed the move command. The rearrange program will not work on version 11 and the move command has not been fixed. It is unknown whether version 11 allows the move command to work in a multi-accounting unit, multi-check-in unit environment. III is working on the problem and is hopeful that version 11 will eliminate it.

3. Database outage July 2

George said that the system outage was caused by a hard disk failure. III did not find out the problem immediately, instead, they spent the first day trying to recover files instead of the disk. Under III's advice, LSO did a daily backup on Monday. When the disk was replaced, the backup was restored, but some data were lost. George has asked III to install a RAID 5 disk control system on the server. III supports RAID 1 and RAID 5. RAID 5 has higher disk utilization rate, and has the ability of data recovery in case of disk crash.

Richard was concerned if data would be lost again with RAID 5. John explained that RAID 5 has parity information distributed over all disks in the array. In case of a single disk failure, the data on it can be regenerated from the parity information from other disks. Therefore, no data should be lost.

Robin said that some email messages indicated that RAID would not work for DEC Alpha older than three years. George will look at that to make sure it

will work.

John asked about the backup procedure. Janet said that because the backup takes many hours and keeps other processes from running, only two full backups are done each week on Monday 2:00am and Thursday 2:00am, the rest are daily backups. John asked if it is possible to use more current technology to do full backup daily. George said III does not support any other backup systems.

4. GUICat

Janet tried to install GUICat on both Windows 95 and Windows NT workstations without success. She will continue try to make it work and then let everyone download a copy for testing.

GUICat does not work for check-in, ordering, rapid updating, etc. It will only work for bib and authority records. Kathleen asked for more information on the product. Janet will gather the information.

GUICat requires a separate login group. It was agreed that LSO will take 30 licenses from "SLUPius Pub" login group to set up a "GUICat" group for trial.

5. Login group for the depository

Jean Dewey requested 4 simultaneous logins for depository management. It was agreed that one login license will be taken from each of the following groups:

UMC: UMELCIRC
UMKC: UMKPUBLIC
UMR: UMRCAMPUS
UMSL: UMSHSLSTAF

6. Check-in record note enhancement.

It was requested by MQCC, MRSC, and ACQ committees and approved by this committee that the following changes be made through a paid enhancement: (The following is a copy from Robin's Action Items list. It is much clearer than what I have – thanks to Robin)

- a. When a patron chooses "Key number to see recent receipts" the identity field displays, without the word identity.
- b. When the patron chooses "Key number to see recent receipts" the note field displays.
- c. In the staff display of checkin card in checkin mode the identity field displays.
- d. In the staff display of checkin card in checkin mode the internal note(s) display (preferred) or in the staff display of checkin card in checkin mode some indication is given that an internal note exists.
- e. A method be developed that provides for a one-time conversion of checkin notes to internal notes, based on accounting unit.

7. Inn-Reach Listserv

George said that Inn-Reach will be used for the consortium catalog for SLU, UM, and WU. Ralph is working on the first year's funding. In addition, a state-wide system, MOBIS(?), is under planning. MOBIS, as an expansion of MIRACLE, may include about 50 academic institutions. This includes all 2 and 4 year colleges in the State of Missouri. All 9 shared servers will be located in Columbia. Access to the databases will be provided through MORENET II project. The RFP may be sent in June or July 1998, and the systems may be implemented in 1999, if the project is funded. Equal numbers of institutions will be loaded each year over a three year period.

Gary will be monitoring the Inn-Reach Listserv.

8. Training

The Innovative Training Schedule was reviewed. It was agreed that there is no need to schedule training for Release 11. The GUICat and Statistics Creation training, as well as basic training for new people were recommended.

LSO will find out

1. How many people can attend the training? For GUICat, Jennet was told by III that the training is not hands-on, therefore it will accommodate as many people as we want.
2. What kind facilities will be needed? UMKC may be able to provide the training facilities.
3. Is GUICat training included in the purchase? How many training days we bought are still available?

Internal training is being conducted by committees.

9. PC-CIRC

If a site uploads PC-CIRC transactions while LSO is loading some other files, the program may crash, the data may be lost or mixed with other records, because Innopaq has only one loader. It is LSO's advice not to use PC-CIRC, or only to use it to record the transactions and then manually reenter the data when the system is back. Otherwise, the site will need to schedule the upload with LSO.

10. MERLIN Gateway

In order to provide off-campus login to MERLIN and save search strategies in OVID, we have been assigning passwords for patron SSNs. Because it is very time consuming and almost impossible to manually manage thousands of accounts, John proposed to extract patron information from Innopaq, and to use the patron information instead of IP numbers for login validation.

George said that the number of people who need passwords is a small percentage, therefore it is not cost-effective to program it. In addition, UM had experienced problems in maintaining accurate user account and password. Maintaining the GATEWAY will increase the workload.

John said that the maintenance of accurate user information needs to be done anyway for maintaining the patron database. The GATEWAY should extract data from the existing patron files therefore no maintenance overhead exists. In addition, there should be no need or little need for human interference for the data extraction if the GATEWAY is well programmed. The programming, although not easy, is a one-time task. Compared to the staff time needed to maintain records manually for thousands of patrons, it is cost-effective from a long-term point of view.

George believed that the patron data coming from MERLIN could not be used for validation. The programming would be substantial to make it useable, and he believed not worth the time or effort for the small percentage of patrons who actually need to have access outside of the access currently provided. George decided not to do it.

Laura asked the control on Web access. George said that there was no solution yet. The control may be implemented by putting a proxy server in the system.

11. Year 2000 problem

It is a well-known potential problem that by the year 2000, some systems may not be able to calculate correctly if there are only two digits used for years. George has checked with III, and was told that it is not a problem for Innopaq.

Nancy pointed out that some system prompts are in "19xx" format. George asked for examples and will ask III to fix them.

12. OCLC purchasing of BNA Authority Services

George said that we don't have detailed information regarding the changes yet, but through this year our contract will stay as it is. We should not attempt to make any change at the moment.

Richard expected some positive changes to happen. For example, BNA used to allow institutions to put a symbol on the authority records when they are used, thus changes on the records will be automatically reported to the institutions. OCLC, after acquiring BNA Authority Services, may also provide such notification services.

13. SCAT Table.

SCAT table does not work as stated in the RFP. When calculating statistics, the SCAT table looks at the bibliographic record first for a call number. The call number fields 060, 096, 050 are not used in our database because of the multiple call numbers in the system. However the 086 field, the superintendent of documents number is maintained and indexed as a call number. Therefore, if a 086 is present, the SCAT defaults to that number. If there are no call number fields in the record, the SCAT defaults to the first item record despite which institution the item record belongs to.

Because it does not produce any desirable statistics, Robin suggested to return it and get refunded. Some other people, however, still want to try

it. It was decided that LSO will find out if III can disable the searching in bib records, and select call numbers from item or order records by accounting unit.

George said that we bought 23 SCAT tables, but may actually need only 4, if like libraries can agree on tables. III will refund us for the extra pieces.

This topic will be discussed again at the next meeting.

14. Laser Printers.

III started supporting HP Laser printers as system printers. However, it was not clear what kinds of HP laser printers are supported, how many printers can be supported by a driver, and how much the driver will cost. LSO is to find out.

15. Next meeting

Next coordinator's meeting will be on Oct. 15. Agenda items are due by Oct. 8.

John Huang
Automation Librarian
Pius XII Memorial Library
Saint Louis University