



NORTH CAROLINA COMMUNITY COLLEGE SYSTEM
H. Martin Lancaster, President

June 22, 2000

MEMORANDUM:

TO: LRC Directors
Community College Libraries in North Carolina (CCLINC) Participants

FROM: Brenda Rogers, Vice President
Division of Administration

SUBJECT: Migration to the SIRSI Unicorn Academe Library System

The migration from epixtech, inc.'s Data Automation Center (DAC) to SIRSI's Unicorn Academe Library System will take place June 30 - July 1.

How does this affect your library, students, and faculty? On July 3 the Unicorn library system will be available for students to search and locate materials and for the library staff to circulate materials; however, some functions will not be fully operational and the customization being requested by each college will still need to be completed.

The DAC will be shutdown at midnight on June 30. The System Office staff talked with epixtech, inc. about the possibility of extending the DAC on a monthly basis for up to three months, through September 30, to complete all Unicorn setups. After reviewing epixtech's cost proposal for the extension, the CCLINC Implementation Team made the decision not to extend the contract. Rather, the team will work with SIRSI to bring Unicorn up on July 1 for public access and circulation functions and will work throughout the month of July to bring up serials, acquisitions, materials booking, reserves, gateways, etc. Web access for distance learning students is a top priority, but it will probably not be available on July 1. Each college will have a separate web access account that will be setup soon after the cutover to Unicorn.

The CCLINC Implementation Team has been gathering pre-installation information and working with the SIRSI Project Manager and Migration Team to make final decisions related to setup and initial operation. SIRSI has received samples of the bibliographic and transaction data, completed its analyses, and has begun loading the data into Unicorn. On June 29-30, SIRSI will complete the final dataload of patron files and circulation transactions, so libraries may begin using Unicorn to circulate materials on July 1.

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Even though Unicorn will be available for searching and circulation, the libraries will be working with SIRSI to “tweak” the final look and functionality of the public catalog to make it easier for students to locate materials. They will also be entering acquisitions information for the new fiscal year and information about reserves for the summer and fall semesters. The CCLINC Implementation Team will continue to coordinate collection of this information and to work with SIRSI to complete the requested activities.

The migration to SIRSI’s Unicorn Academe library system is eagerly awaited because it is the end result of a two-year bid process. The CCLINC Implementation Team has worked diligently with SIRSI and System Office staff to make the migration happen on July 1. We appreciate the team’s work and the cooperation of the colleges in allowing team members to play this very important role. The CCLINC Implementation Team members are Gretchen Bell, Piedmont CC; Lorraine Krichko, Wake TCC; Linda Leighty, Pitt CC; Debbie Luck, Randolph CC; Raye Oldham, Sandhills CC; Angela Sox, Gaston College; Linda Stone, Central Carolina CC; Dan Swartout, Edgecombe CC; Luella Teuton, Sandhills CC (Chair, CCLINC Steering Committee); John Wood, Rockingham CC; Roxanne Davenport, Library Resources; and Ruth Bryan, Library Resources.

As technological conversions go, the migration to Unicorn on July 1 will probably not occur without some problems, but we hope you will bear with us through the cutover and the completion of the customization that will be taking place over the next several weeks. If you have questions or need additional information, please contact Ruth Bryan, Coordinator of Library Information Technology, at bryanr@ncccs.cc.nc.us or (919) 733-7051, Ext. 633.

PBD:BHR:sh

CC: Presidents, CCLINC Colleges
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