

The MOBIUS Access Advisory Committee met Tuesday July 22, 2003. Our major order of business was to devise a "reconciliation process" to take place this August.

In looking at the current Lost Book Policy wherein the reconciliation process is called for, the committee recognized that Policy was based on the assumption that some central authority was going to be responsible for managing the reconciliation process among libraries. Committee members speculated that, at some point, in the past many MOBIUS members believed or expected that the MOBIUS Central Office would be that central authority. The MOBIUS staff liaison meeting with MAAC indicated the MCO position on this was that they would be willing to do the work but that there would be additional unspecified costs to be shared in some unspecified way among MOBIUS members. There was no sentiment among the committee for developing something at least in the short term that required additional budget. So we looked for another way. We came to the following conclusions.

1. If every MOBIUS institution blocked patrons with billed INNReach items and allowed no overrides, much of the problem would go away. In the committee several institutions admitted that they weren't always blocking or always enforcing blocks locally. On the theory that an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure, we adjusted the Circulation Policy #13 to change the word, "should" to "must" in the statement concerning blocking.
2. That most of us in the room were comfortable with the "normal" way of handling lost ILL books among libraries, that being "picking up the phone and calling." Even the two representatives from Merlin were comfortable with that. We do, however, recognize that some institutions consider this bad form and/or altogether too casual. But after much discussion we basically made the informal "pick up the phone.." process into policy. The "reconciliation" under this recommendation becomes a continuous process rather than an annual thing.
3. We felt at some time we may need to come up with some "court of appeal" to deal with interlibrary disagreements. But we remembered that Merlin had once suggested a "Grievance Committee or Policy". At that time the Executive Committee believed we didn't need such a thing. So, we were reluctant to discuss that until and unless the Executive Committee wants us to.