

**MOBIUS Coordinators Advisory Group**  
***Meeting Minutes, Tuesday August 9, 2005***

**Chair:** Judy Fox, Washington University

**Minutes:** Mary Sims, LANCE

**Open**

LANCE Cluster is responsible for meeting minutes (per rotation).

Introductions.

Attendees: **Eileen Condon** (Bridges), **Joy Flanders** (Quest), **Judy Fox** (Washington University), **Gary Harris** (MOBIUS Consortium Office), **Steve Jamieson** (Bridges), **Gordon Johnston** (Galahad), **Corky McCormack** (SWAN), **M.J. Poehler** (WILO), **Kathy Schlump** (Archway), **Pat Seavey** (Arthur), **Mary Sims** (LANCE), **Mark Wahrenbrock** (MOBIUS Consortium Office), **Terry Weaver** (Towers), **Kirsten Young** (Archway).

Minutes from March 8, 2005 were approved.

**Agenda**

Election of New Chair. Eileen Condon was unanimously elected as Chair. She will assume the office at the end of this meeting.

EDIFACT. When ISBN numbers expand to 13 characters in 2007, Innovative electronic ordering will need EDIFACT software to continue to function, but ILL considers EDIFACT to be a new product rather than an enhancement, and will sell it separately. Currently libraries in about half of the MOBIUS clusters use Innovative electronic ordering and would like to be able to continue to do so. After a short discussion it was moved by Joy Flanders that MCAG recommend to the Executive Committee that MOBIUS purchase EDIFACT for the consortium. Motion passed.

MOBIUS Action Plan Section E. Discussion on how this committee should fulfill its Charges and Strategic Initiatives as stated in the MOBIUS Action Plan focused on these issues:

At our last meeting we had talked about MCAG creating & implementing a survey to determine what software was being used by MOBIUS libraries to enhance library service. This seems consistent with our Charge. We think that making

the regularly updated results of such a survey available to MOBIUS libraries would help individual libraries that are making decisions about what software they would like to use, and might also show patterns of use that would lead to MOBIUS exploring volume discounts. David Glick had expressed interest in developing such a survey, and although he wasn't present today, we appointed him along with Corky McCormack and Gary Harris to a subcommittee to determine what questions should be asked in this survey, and how best to ask them. They will report back to MCAG at our next meeting.

The first Strategic Initiative is "...explore using the CLP to facilitate sharing beyond monographs, i.e. serials and non-print media." We have heard that both Ohiolink and Prospector are working on article-sharing. Gary Harris will check this out and try to get additional information for us. Judy Fox will look for written information to forward to committee members.

Another Strategic Initiative is: "Establish formal program with goal of insuring that the systems we present to users have the characteristics that users want..." We talked about the advantages of getting direct feedback from WEBCat users, and decided to recommend to the Executive Committee that faculty and students be directly involved in usability testing as part of the next MOBIUS catalog redesign procedure.

Report on Task Force to Review Committee Charges. We suggested minor re-wording to the first paragraph of the draft of the charge to MCAG, hopefully removing any implication that MCAG was in a supervisory relation to the other MOBIUS committees. We need to know what other committees are doing so that we can have a "big picture" view of the Common Library Platform, but we don't want to be (or be perceived as) monitors or overseers. Our revised first paragraph reads:

The MOBIUS Coordinators Advisory Group is responsible for reviewing the overall functionality of the Common Library Platform and other products used with the CLP that enhance usability and performance. This includes recommending library software, services, and system enhancements that promote the goals of the CLP. The Group assures that needed standards exist for all functions as appropriate.

For the same reason, we suggested re-wording of the first paragraph of the statement of responsibilities for Advisory Committee Chairs. Our suggested revision reads:

Chairs will be responsible for preparing and distributing meeting agendas at least two weeks in advance of any scheduled meeting, in order to allow adequate time for discussion of issues within the clusters. Chairs will also be responsible for interacting with other Committee Chairs

in the event that an issue crosses functional boundaries. Committee Chairs are responsible for preparing reports for the Executive Committee or Council as requested by the MOBIUS Council Chair. These reports should also go to all Committee Chairs. The Advisory Committees will meet at least once a year and other times as needed.

Review of IUG Enhancement Process. This year we tried to coordinate voting by IUG members by having Judy Fox email IUG representatives at IUG-member libraries. She got very few comments in return. Our general evaluation of this project was "A noble idea, but..."

We decided to try this one more time... perhaps on a more informal basis, using the MOBIUS-Users list. We also talked about having a MOBIUS birds-of-a-feather group at the next IUG conference to discuss the proposed enhancements.

### **Next Meeting**

Our next meeting has been scheduled for 10 a.m., Tuesday, March 7, 2006 at the MORENET building.