

news LINK

MOBIUS

Linking Missouri's Academic Libraries

Information about MOBIUS and
the Common Library Platform Project

SPRING 2005

MOBIUS IS....

A consortium of accredited Missouri institutions of higher education and the State Library which is dedicated to the efficient and cost-effective sharing of information resources through collaboration and cooperation.

MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of MOBIUS is to....

- Provide students and faculty at Missouri's academic institutions and state institutions with the broadest array of information resources in an easy, timely, and seamless manner regardless of the geographic location of the patron or resources.
- Provide and administer programs and activities, including but not limited to, computer hardware, system software, access services, training and staff necessary to support those programs and activities.

GUIDING PRINCIPLES

MOBIUS initiatives and actions should....

- Result in increased services to our users

MOBIUS Strategic Plan 2005-2008

approved by MOBIUS council, January 28, 2005

With the guidance of our Planning Committee Co-Chairs, Shirley Baker and Laura Rein, we embarked on a comprehensive, inclusive planning process to set strategic directions for MOBIUS to lead us through the next three years. The plan included here was approved by the Council, so we are now ready to determine what actions to take on the strategic initiatives gleaned from the planning process. It has been gratifying to see the enthusiasm and dedication the Council members, their staffs, and the MCO staff have brought to this process.

—Linda Bigelow, Chair MOBIUS Executive Committee

- Promote seamless access to information
- Be based on clear priorities and be subjected to cost-benefit analysis
- Encourage use of best practices
- Not compromise core functions

AREAS OF STRATEGIC FOCUS

- Define and Manage Membership Growth

Define areas of growth for MOBIUS, explore partnerships, and bring governance documents into alignment to reflect decisions made.

- Coordinate Cooperative Relationships

Coordinate and build upon cooperative initiatives with organizations and agencies such as MOREnet, the State Library, and Missouri Library Network Corporation and with Cooperating Partners such as public libraries and special libraries. Look for overlap, duplication, and voids and seek opportunities for further collaboration and cooperation. The membership will be consulted and kept informed of these initiatives on a regular basis. *continued on page 3*

Missouri Baptist university

is a premier Christian university in Saint Louis, offering graduate and undergraduate studies in over thirty specialized fields and nine degrees. A strong integration of faith and learning permeate each facet of MBU, providing an ethical and moral basis for reasoning that goes beyond rote memorization. In addition to the main campus located in West St. Louis County, three MBU extensions serve students in Lincoln, Jefferson, and Franklin Counties. With a total enrollment exceeding 4,000, MBU is currently one of the fastest growing higher education institutions in Missouri.

“MOBIUS has generated an excitement on campus about the accessibility and effectiveness of research through the OPAC and the MOBIUS Union Catalog,” said Nitsa Hindeleh, Director of Library Services. “Additionally, MOBIUS has brought reliability and satisfaction with the delivery system by providing overnight delivery among the 59 MOBIUS institutions.”

North Central Missouri college

in Trenton (formerly known as Trenton Junior College) was founded in 1925 and is the second oldest publicly supported community college in Missouri. North Central is dedicated to providing comprehensive higher education programs and services that are geographically and financially accessible to

the residents and the communities of north central Missouri.

North Central Missouri College enrollment is nearing 1500 students. Day, night and week-end classes are offered on campus; on-line courses are offered in 27 areas; dual-credit courses are offered in area high schools; and outreach classes are made available from eight area sites.

Forty-two degree/certificates are offered at NCMC. A 42-hour general education block is in place to enhance associate degree transfers to a four-year institution. An LPN certificate program and an associate degree in nursing are offered. Several allied health degrees and certificates have been added, such as emergency medical technology and medical assistant. In the areas of vocational and technical programs, new opportunities are now available in early childhood development and e-business.

NCMC emphasizes productivity and a lifelong commitment to learning. This focus, together with the winning combination of a dedicated staff and an enthusiastic student body, produces a true learning community.

Another element contributing to student success is NCMC’s membership in MOBIUS. Ann Sampson, Librarian, states, “The benefits to the students’ researching process are immeasurable. Living as we do in a rural area of Missouri, the fast, reliable, and convenient access to millions of volumes through MOBIUS provides our students with a treasure of information. The students are thrilled, as are their instructors! Conceptually, MOBIUS is laudable. In actual practice, MOBIUS is laudable, impressive, praiseworthy...all the synonyms in the thesaurus.”



MISSOURI BAPTIST UNIVERSITY



NORTH CENTRAL MISSOURI COLLEGE



SOUTHEAST MISSOURI STATE UNIVERSITY



Southeast Missouri State university

in Cape Girardeau believes the graduation ceremony is a highlight that occurs at the end of each fall and spring semester. The Show Me Center fills to the rafters with proud parents, spouses, grandparents, children, international families and friends of the graduates. Toward the end of the ceremony, the president typically asks several students to stand one at a time and he describes the unusual hardships each had to overcome to complete their education. He then asks all graduates over 25 years of age to stand and be recognized. Roughly a third stand. He asks the new graduates to give a round of applause to their families who provided support in many ways to help them complete their education. The new graduates leap to their feet and their applause and whoops of appreciation echo throughout the auditorium. And, finally, the president asks all of the graduates to stand who are the first in their families to graduate from college. Many semesters nearly half of the graduates stand. Graduation is a very proud day at Southeast Missouri State University for the students, their families, the faculty and the administration.

“MOBIUS has provided Kent Library the opportunity to offer the students and faculty at Southeast the support of a library collection for their studies and research that previously only large and prestigious research libraries at universities could provide. It is one of the reasons why students from the Boot Heel of Missouri can obtain an excellent education from Southeast Missouri State University. And for many in this economically deprived corner of the state, if they don't enroll at Southeast, they simply don't go to college. MOBIUS allows Kent Library to provide much better collections for these deserving students than they could possibly have otherwise. And as they leave us and go out into the world to create their futures, we want to have provided them with every educational advantage possible.” said Sarah Cron, Dean of Academic Information Services.

MOBIUS Strategic Plan 2005-2008

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- **Leverage Technologies to Improve Service and Reduce Duplication of Effort**

Explore ways to consolidate and centralize routine functions, review and provide new services, implement actions to enhance productivity.

- **Develop Funding Support**

Develop continued advocacy for MOBIUS by providing talking points about the value of MOBIUS to the end user, educating members about the legislative process as it affects MOBIUS, seeking increased state funding for the CLP, and seeking funding for new initiatives.

- **Develop a User-Centered Catalog**

Develop and enhance the catalog to be more user-centered through software and content enhancements. Think “MOBIUS – More functional than Amazon.com, more discriminating than Google.”

- **Fine-Tune Existing Services**

Identify activities and services that need attention, such as training, communication, committee charges, and products used, and fine-tune them on a regular, ongoing basis.

MOBIUS News Link is produced under the authority of the Executive Committee of MOBIUS. Please send your comments to: RickersonG@umsystem.edu

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