

November 2, 2005  
Arthur Public Services Committee Meeting Minutes

The Public Services Committee met at Lincoln University. Attending this meeting were: Lois Marshall -- Lincoln University, Lucia D'Agostino -- Columbia College, Waheedah Bilal -- Westminster College, Cindy Bassett -- Missouri State Library, and Nina Stawski -- Stephens College.

Congratulations were extended to Tena Barrett who will be married in November 2005.

Cindy Bassett is still compiling the information from the Visiting Patron Template. She will provide an electronic version of this information, which could then be made available for the Directors to review.

There was agreement at the last Arthur Public Services meeting that the use of the OPAC message field that Pat Seavey had suggested as a way to provide more information on the Web Pac for non-requestable items was worth further investigation. The Committee suggested that the Directors might wish to review this particular option. Nina notified the Chair of the Directors committee. There is nothing to report back at this point in time. Also this issue may become meaningless in the future if formats other than monographs in paper are allowed to circulate or become requestable through Arthur or MOBIUS.

WebBridge will allow easier access to information about periodical holdings and improved access to journal articles and other online resources. There was some discussion at the meeting about whether WebBridge is able to pull and use subject headings to give expanded information about other resources that are available. There is a test page for WebBridge, <http://arthur.missouri.edu:2082>. Sample searches may be performed there to see how WebBridge will function and what fields it uses for the "Other Resources" search function. Once you have found a desirable record, and click on "Other Resources" it does not automatically show and search on the full range of subject headings. However, if you click on a specific subject heading and then the "Other Resources" button you will be able to search using that specific subject heading, even the complex ones, in a variety of resources. The Committee members' initial reaction to the appearance of WebBridge was a dislike of the open column on the right side of the search results page. The Committee would prefer to see something like the link, "Find Additional Resources," up closer toward the top. The Arthur Public Services committee will most likely be involved with the WebBridge product only to the extent that the group may be involved with features affecting the appearance and linking with the Arthur web pac. There will probably be an informational meeting at some point in the future involving the staff of the Arthur cluster libraries in order to bring people up to speed about the progress of the project and what to expect.

Cindy Bassett provided files, from the tutorial for basic searching and use of the web pac designed by Chris Niemeyer, for the Committee members to view. The program

may be viewed in its working totality at <http://www.umsl.edu/services/libteach/>. The Arthur Public Services members were asked to view the individual files to see whether they could be tweaked to suit the needs of the Arthur cluster and to estimate how much work time and skill might be involved. Also there is the possibility that if a tutorial that functioned well could be found or written, that the MOBIUS consortium may be interested in it as well.

Cindy Bassett is on the MCO Training Task force. She was inquiring if anyone had any suggestions for specific training programs or future directions that they wished the MCO office would take in regard to its training program. A survey may be sent out.

Lois Marshall is on the MERAC committee and has mentioned that if there are any items that the Arthur Committee members think that she should bring to the attention of that group that she will do so.

The next meeting of this Committee is scheduled for Wednesday, February 8, 2006, 2-4 pm. at the Missouri State Library.

Respectfully submitted,  
Nina Stawski  
Hugh Stephens Library, Stephens College