

MOBIUS Electronic Resources Advisory Committee  
Oct. 12, 2005

Attending: Lois Marshall (Arthur), Kurt Kopp (MCO), Terry Austin (MCO), Susan McCormack (MCO), Mary Slater (Quest), Dan McGurk (Lance), Laurie Hathman (WILO), Susanne Boatright (WILO), Frank Baudino (Towers), Robert Black (Swan), Ed Walton (Swan), Melissa Belvadi (Bridges), Jill Nissen (Archway), Carol Antoniewicz (Washington University), Sheila Ouellette (Archway), Karl Suhr (Galahad), Jim Dutton (MCO observer), Fran Stumpf (MCO observer), Rhonda Whithaus (MERLIN – recorder)

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Minutes of 7/14/05 meeting approved.

Airing It Out

Northwest Missouri State University has added 4-5 new databases this semester. Pat Danner, Coordinator for their MOBIUS activities, is retiring.

MERLIN is reviewing databases to add at the beginning of the year.

Truman State is investigating e-books.

State Fair is looking for a new Library Director.

CMSU has a new President.

Southeast Missouri State is looking at electronic reference resources to replace weeded print reference sources.

St. Louis Community College has a groundbreaking on Friday, Oct. 14, in West County and has purchased Article Linker.

Webster University has purchased Article Linker.

Washington University went live with MetaLib and SFX on August 22. Some patrons like it and some do not. They do not have usage statistics yet. They have added DAAI (Design and Applied Arts Index).

Missouri Southern State has Central Search up and is being received well. They are looking at JSTOR and Project Muse.

Rockhurst is participating in a virtual reference project for 4 hours per week using tutor.com with other Jesuit institutions. They will be getting a new President next year.

MCC has a new Chancellor.

## 2005 Survey Cluster Report for Database Cafeteria Plan

44 responses out of a potential 60 were received.

Review of spreadsheet Kurt Kopp sent to committee. Ranked results were:

1. PsycArticles
2. Historical New York Times (ProQuest)
3. Communication & Mass Media Complete from EBSCO
4. Opposing Viewpoints (Gale)
5. America's Newspapers from News bank
6. CINAHL
7. Soc Index
8. Standard and Poor's NetAdvantage
9. Reference Suite (facts.com)
10. PAIS (various vendors)
11. Europa World Yearbook
12. Biography and Genealogy Master Index from Gale

From the write-ins, there was no resource written in more than twice.

Discussion about the rankings revealed that a few respondents did not rank all 12 databases. Kurt will revise the spreadsheet to reflect this. Committee agreed to identify one biddable resource and two sole source resources to pursue. If the revised spreadsheet Kurt sends out this week is significantly different from that one used to make these decisions, then the committee will discuss via email. The list of resources to pursue for the Database Cafeteria Plan needs to be decided by the end of October.

The Committee identified the top three resources on the list to pursue (PsycARTICLES, Historical New York Times and Communication and Mass Media Complete). If the revised rankings change any of the top three results, then we will discuss via email.

CMMC was offered as a Vendor Direct database last year, with 13 institutions subscribing. They have a start date of January 1, which would cause some confusion since the Database Cafeteria resource subscriptions start in September.

## Report of State Legislative Funding Request for 07

Terry forwarded to the committee an email from the Executive Council stating that the recommendation MERAC submitted was unanimously adopted and was sent to Sara Parker for consideration to include in the REAL Program. It is unclear how or if the announcement of Sara Parker's retirement will affect this.

## ABC-CLIO Pricing Model Proposal

The Pricing Task Force (comprised of Melissa Belvadi, Dan McGurk and Ellen Eliceiri) had forwarded a pricing model proposal for September 2006-August

2007 based on the principle of actual database usage, rather than possible usage (based on FTE).

For some institutions, the cost per search in the current pricing model is really high.

During the discussion, the following concerns with the proposed model were expressed:

- Uncertainty of how much federated search products will inflate usage statistics;
- Pricing based on user based statistics might discourage people from using it;
- The affect it could have on vendor linking (such as with Science Online and Project Muse);
- Interface changes ABC-CLIO is making in the near future could affect usage.
- If costs for some institutions increase too much, they may have to explore other options (dropping out, pursuing an individual subscription, etc.)

ABC-CLIO gives us a bottom line price for the state of Missouri and we decide the pricing model that should be used. For each school that drops out, the remaining subscribers have to pick up the amount.

In the original pricing model for the first year of subscription, the Executive Committee wanted library expenditures considered with FTE.

Is there a hybrid model that looks at usage statistics and other factors? Is it possible to pro-rate usage for institutions that have a federated search product? Can those institutions get data for how many ABC-CLIO searches ran through the product to compare to those that were not? Perhaps the usage statistics for October 2004 and October 2005 from institutions with federated search products can be compared to get an idea of how federated search products affect usage statistics. Such statistics would be useful when there are only a few institutions that have a federated search product, but would not be helpful when many institutions have it.

Is it possible to use the Carnegie Classifications instead of FTE or would this be too broad when focusing on pricing for history databases?

Is it time to move this from the Database Cafeteria Plan to a Vendor Direct offer? There is a concern that the pricing for institutions would increase quite a bit if this were to happen.

Terry and Kurt continue to talk to ABC-CLIO. The company offers MOBIUS the highest discount of any of their customers (66% off list price).

A new pricing model needs to be decided by January 2006. MCO would need to let members know the pricing by May 1, 2006, with responses due back by May 1, 2006. The Executive Committee may have to be involved in approving a new pricing model.

It was agreed that we should survey current ABC-CLIO subscribers within MOBIUS to see if this proposed pricing model would be acceptable and find out how many would drop out so the committee would have their feedback to consider. The Pricing Task Force will compile a few questions to send out this week to MERAC representatives with the pricing model attached. MERAC reps will then forward to the electronic resources contacts for ABC-CLIO subscribing institutions within their clusters. Responses will be due back by November 1.

#### MAROON Updates

MERAC representatives should encourage their cluster mates to update MAROON. MCO uses this data to make cost comparisons when evaluating possible Database Cafeteria and Vendor Direct offers.

Adjustments in MAROON are being made for Metro Community Colleges.

#### Meeting Evaluation

The consensus was that the videoconferencing is preferable over the commute to Columbia. Technical issues went much more smoothly with this meeting than previous ones.

#### Next Meeting Date

The next meeting will be a videoconference. Two dates were selected, so representatives can check the availability of the rooms. The first date is Wednesday, January 25, 2006. The alternate date is Wednesday, January 18, 2006.