

MOBIUS Electronic Resources Advisory Committee
Videoconference
October 18, 2006

Attending: Willow (2), SLU, Webster Univ., STLCC, Wash U, STL College of Pharmacy, Swan, Towers, Lance, Merlin, Quest, Arthur, MCO (4)

I. Airing It Out

Rockhurst is facing budget cuts over the next two years between 10%-30%.

SLU has a new Director; new café; reviewing reference collection for possible move to online.

Webster is currently dealing with assessment/accreditation; looking for a good satisfaction survey for use.

WU will start charging for printing on Oct. 20; have openings for bibliographic instruction coordinator and architecture librarian.

Northwest is testing Central Search this semester and will promote it to users in Spring.

Jill (STLCP) – exploring a relationship with the Barnes School of Nursing about a virtual library

Quest will begin a redesign of their catalog.

Lincoln now offers wifi and 20 laptops for checkout (in-house for up to 2 hours).

Southern – Serials Solutions just added the Vivisimo clustering search engine to Central Search; Southern has added JSTOR Arts & Sciences Collection I; reviewing turnitin.com.

MU has added Science Direct Freedom Collection (1800+ Elsevier journals and some books).

II. MCO Update – Beth Fisher

Stated the commitment of MCO to support all MOBIUS advisory committees. She has appointed primary and alternate liaisons to the advisory committees. Fran Stumpf will be the primary liaison to MERAC and Abby Rimel will be the alternate liaison. They will serve as resource people and are not to direct the work of the committee. The chair of the committee should send requests for MCO help to the MCO help desk.

The MCO liaisons will report on the committee meetings to MCO staff to keep staff updated and help ensure timely response to committee needs.

In support of MERAC and electronic resources, MCO has contracted with the University of Missouri Library Systems Office for Terry Austin's assistance in negotiating licenses for the next year.

MAROON will move to MCO and be maintained. Procurement, invoices, etc. will also be MCO's responsibility.

Beth sent an email to MOBIUS-L describing these changes, but not many members of MERAC received copies. She will forward the email to the MOBIUS list.

Terry Austin will not be meeting regularly with MERAC. If an issue arises, we can invite her to attend a meeting.

Beth expressed her gratitude to Terry for all her hard work with the committee.

III. Database Cafeteria Survey Results

Reviewing survey results, it was agreed that we will request MCO pursue the top three resources identified: BioOne, Reference Universe and Ebrary. It was mentioned that the version of BioOne is the original one, not the 2nd one that is coming out in Jan.

Lori made a motion to go with the top three and the motion was seconded by Carol. The motion passed, with no “nays.”

IV. Federated Search and Limited User License Resources

There was discussion of the draft guideline sent to MERAC regarding limited license products. Currently the H.W. Wilson databases are the only ones affected by the problem, but the concern is that future databases under similar licensing agreements could also be affected. Beth had some questions about the evolution of the guideline. It was suggested that the guideline be expanded to include a general description of limited license resources, how to deal with situations like bibliographic instruction access and federated search usage. There was a call for volunteers to assist with revision; there were no new volunteers. Carol, Rhonda and Fran will work on the revision and send it out to the MERAC-C-L for review.

V. Additional Issues

Beth asked questions about how representatives share committee information with institutions within their clusters and how representatives receive feedback. There were suggestions that we send approved committee minutes to the MERAC-L list so that all electronic resources representatives from each MOBIUS institution will receive them.

It was also suggested that we post the selection of the 3 resources to pursue for the Database Cafeteria Plan be posted to MERAC-L as well since the survey was originally posted there.

Beth mentioned that MCO is currently reviewing the MCO listservs available. Also, MCO has purchased a new server and will be updating the MCO web site. Current web site was created with opensource software that is no longer updated. Abby Rimmel is currently responsible for the MCO web site.

There was a question about the WebPac Pro upgrade. Beth explained that each cluster has a staging directory to test changes and see how they affect other libraries.

MCO is currently meeting (in person and via teleconference) frequently to discuss III issues. They are currently looking into providing staging directories for each institution rather than each cluster.

Release 2006 required 7 server upgrades, of which 3 are left to finish. They are hoping to complete these upgrades by Thanksgiving and have Release 2006 installed by the end of December on all machines.

The next meeting will be a videoconference on Wednesday, February 7 from 10:00-noon. If you have any changes to your videoconference set-up, contact Fran Stumpf or Abby Rimmel. They will set up the MERAC videoconference.