MOBIUS ELECTRONIC RESOURCES ADVISORY COMMITTEE
October 9, 2007 via Videoconference

In Attendance: Sheila Ouellette (Archway), Nina Stawski (Arthur), Jane Theissen (Bridges), Dan McGurk (Lance), Abbey Rimel (MCO), Fran Stumpf (MCO), Christopher Dames (MERLIN), Marilyn Milovich (Quest), Georgia Baugh (SLU), Kyle Windward (SWAN), Edward Walton (SWAN), Frank Baudino (Towers), Carol Antoniewicz (Washington University), Laurie Hathman (WILO)

Minutes: Jane Theissen (Bridges)

Airing It Out
- **Archway** – Upcoming retirement of staff member.
- **Arthur** – nothing other than survey results to report.
- **Bridges** – new databases at Fontbonne → Women and Social Movements, Points of View, Education Research Complete.
- **Galahad** – no one in attendance to report.
- **LANCE** – Truman's catalog has been redesigned; investigating Serials Solutions.
- **MERLIN** – Several new Business databases have been added to their collection.
- **Quest** – Freshman training seminars have been completed.
- **Saint Louis University** – SLU in the process of completing goals and objectives in their Strategic Plan; have purchased the IEEE All Society Periodicals Package; Factiva will be online soon; have also purchased several online encyclopedias.
- **SWAN** – Missouri State University has added several new databases, including American National Biography and several online encyclopedias.
- **Towers** – Northwest Missouri State have added 9 new databases and have started to use GOBI.
- **Washington University** – Stopped using III's Web Access Management system and started using EZproxy. So far, it is doing well. They also have additional resources coming.
- **WILO** – Had technical problems at the beginning of the meeting.
- **MCO**
  - Information Resource Manager Position remains open.
  - Abbey Rimel will be leaving MCO to join the State Library staff. Her last day is Friday, October 12th.

Survey Results
- Fran noted that Wilson needs to go out to bid this year, and probably MLA as well.(Fran will check.)
- Only ½ of the clusters responded to the survey.
- CQ Researcher was removed from the list as it is an MLNC offering
- EconLit was also eliminated as there are too many vendors to contact
- Prices on the following databases (in no particular order) will be pursued by Fran:
  - Communications and Mass Media Complete
  - RefWorks

- o Business and Company Resource Center - Gale
- o ProQuest Dissertations and Theses (prices for both the abstracts and the full-text versions will be requested)
- o Syndetic Solutions
- Fran and Beth have a meeting scheduled with Syndetic Solutions this week; she will talk to the other vendors at the ALA Midwinter meeting.
- New pricing can be expected next spring for the ABC-CLIO databases that have been purchased by EBSCO. The same is true of the ProQuest databases, as ProQuest has been purchased by CSA.

Survey Format
- Many issues arose this time around regarding the method used to tally the results.
- Nina noted that we should review the list of other databases suggested on the survey for what to include next year.
- Questions we should ask on future surveys:
  - o Would you purchase this database, if offered?
  - o Are you interested in this offering as a new database or obtain a better price on a database to which you already subscribe?
  - o If you would not purchase any of these databases, please return the survey blank with the statement that your library is not interested in purchasing any of them.
- Ed suggested changing the way the results are tallied. → To this end, everyone was asked to develop a survey that we can discuss. Please send these to Georgia before the February meeting.

Electron Resources Vendor Training
Mark W. contacted several vendors to offer training through MOBIUS, but there appears to be little interest from libraries. Why?
- Vendors are willing to do in-house training for libraries
- Webinars are offered that are more convenient
- It is often difficult for staff to get time away to attend trainings
We concluded that this is not something MCO needs to offer.

MAROON
New prototype is in production. It will appear on the screen in a spreadsheet format. Tabs will provide access to information by vendors, all databases, clusters and campuses. Some suggestions have been made about possible enhancements:
- Add subject labels for databases (we will need to determine a controlled vocabulary if we do this.)
- Add a search engine.
- Add free text spaces for keeping information regarding accessing statistical information on these databases (for the individual library's use only).
- Add vendor contact information.
Discussion concluded that:
- Yes, we want a search engine.
- No, we don't want or need an ERM, so no vendor or statistical information needs to be added to the database.

- Data entry needs to be streamlined.

Abbey will verify protection of pricing information and then send out a URL so that we can have a look at the prototype.

MCO Website
>Via Fran and Abbey, Beth asked for input on the current MCO website and its update. Comments follow:
- Too many clicks to get to needed information or to place an order.
- Vendor Direct and Cafeteria Plans need better descriptions
- A list of historical offers and the campuses who ordered would be helpful to see (new content).
- Add historical archive of vendor direct offers.
- Add link between MERAC page and the Electronic Resources page.
- Calendar is not intuitive.
- The people search is good!
- Font is too small and hard to read.
- Posting of Conference information needs to be more timely.
- Help Desk page – looking at open calls does not work properly (this problem is being addressed.)
- Improved navigation is needed.
- Can "known issues" list be posted on the website instead of being sent out? (Fran will check on this – III has a problem with such access – right now Help Desk people are the only ones with access to this list).
- Delivery tab and Committee information needs to be kept up-to-date.

Serials Solutions and federated searching
University of Central Missouri is trying to comply with the Guidelines for Limited License Resources, but Serials Solutions will not / cannot take the limited license database out of their General Search formula. Similar problems exist with the use of limited license Wilson databases acquired through MOBIUS. The committee recommends that all institutions using Serials Solutions put group pressure on Serials Solutions to have them resolve this issue with their search formulas.   In the meantime, it is recommended that institutions remove the limited license resources from Serials Solutions federated searching.

Discussion ensued about other campuses using these limited license resources that are not complying with the Guidelines. It was decided that in order to have some teeth to it, this needs to be a MOBIUS MERAC policy. To that end, Ed volunteered to revise the document to add that non-complying institutions will be eliminated from the offers involved. Georgia will then send it to the Executive Committee for approval.

In the meantime, Fran will contact the institutions showing large numbers of turn-aways from Wilson.

Next meeting:
>Videoconference February 19, 2007 (Tuesday), 10 am – 12 pm..

WILO representative to take minutes at the February meeting.