

MOBIUS Coordinators Advisory Group (MCAG)

Minutes of meeting held via Adobe Connect

March 5, 2009

Present: Donna Bacon (MCO), (Christopher Brite (Towers), Jason Bruenderman (Galahad), Corinne Caputo (Arthur), Eileen Condon, Chair (Bridges), Christopher Gould (MCO), Scott Peterson (MCO), Pat Logsdon (WashU), Corky McCormack (Swan), Judy Maseles (Merlin), M.J. Poehler (Wilo), Kathy Schlump (Archway), Mary Sims (Lance), Kirsten Young-Abotsi (Archway)

The agenda was distributed via email, and there were no items added.

Local URL

Donna Bacon (MCO) and Steve Wynn (MCDAC) are hoping to arrange a demonstration for March 13, 2009. Members of MCAG that volunteered to attend that demonstration are: Patricia Logsdon, Eileen Condon, Kirsten Young-Abotsi, Jason Bruenderman, and Mary Sims. The demonstration was later cancelled. MCDAC had a question/answer discussion about the options concerning it with Lynne Branch Brown, an Innovative rep.

Mobius Update

Donna Bacon, MCO Primary Liason, will be MCAG's contact person in Mobius replacing Christopher Gould. Mobius registration for the conference is ongoing. About 100 people have registered. The new website is in progress and will be up soon. Help Desk has a newly hired person, Jennifer Parsons. Mobius will be teaching four classes at the Columbia office. All discussion lists are being moved to the new discussion address but are still available.

Proposed reorganization of Mobius advisory committee structure

Our committee has continued to struggle with what our duties are or could be. The committee isn't all site coordinators as skill levels vary from person to person. The title of the committee is a bit confusing in that regard. Duties regarding this committee have never been clear leaving the members in the dark at times. One question raised is: should the committee be going to cluster members more or confining itself to its own committee of varied experts. The question was asked if the committee is too big or if changes should be made to modify the membership. It was thought at this point that the representation was even throughout. It was pointed out that some smaller clusters have trouble with the rotation of committees so members end up being on the same committee for years. Online sessions are appreciated as they help curb travel costs. Merging clusters together to reduce committee attendance was thought to create a loss of opportunity in the decision making process for the smaller clusters.

It was suggested that the alternate requirement be eliminated. Many of the smaller clusters do not have an alternate. Alternates should exist as per the committee setup, but both do not need to attend meetings.

Role of MCAG

MCAG has a broader scope than MCDAC. MCDAC focuses on the Union Catalog. We don't get assignments too often. What we do has always been the question. Being absorbed into another committee might be a better use of the committee member's time, but the overall committee functions perhaps need to be looked at. Perhaps a task force on assigned topics would be more productive. MCAG has no set requirements for meeting online or in person. The expectation that other committee's have in that regard is not in MCAG's requirements.

Explore use of "available" and "non-requestable" and identify ways to clarify how they do or do not apply to users beyond the local level.

Definition: The status in the Innopac (INN-Reach and cluster) for "available" is supposed to mean the item is available on the shelf, not necessarily that it can be requested.

Several thoughts were given by the catalogers of the committee. It was suggested that the methods of dealing with such situations were already in place depending on the approach each library decided to take. Christopher Gould pointed out that not all clusters have "XX Users Only" in their status codes. The other problem with that particular status code is that it can be cleared by circulation personnel at checkout or checkin. The status code is hard coded so there is no way to remove the access that circulation personnel have in stripping that coding out of the item record. One library pointed out that they make the status code "available" and then make a public note saying "XXX Users Only" to make it clear to Mobius members that the item is restricted, but pointing out that the existence of the item is the issue as individuals can then visit the library knowing the item does exist.

Another college pointed out that they have items that show up in LANCE with status code "For xxx use only" showing up in InnReach as "Not Requestable." Christopher asked for examples so that he could look into the matter.

Some colleges are allowing Reserve items to show in the catalog which is not in agreement with Mobius procedures. That is a training issue that can be resolved. Some libraries have the status "new book" showing in the Mobius catalog when their loan rules restrict the usage to their own library. It was pointed out that some colleges allow items that are restricted to their own users or their long distance centers in the Mobius catalog.

Mobius libraries are using the Union Catalog for various reasons. There is not a perfect solution for everyone.

Next meeting

August 6, 2009. Thursday. 10:00-12:00. A room has been scheduled at Mobius in Columbia.

New Committee Chair Person

Jason Bruenderman (Galahad) takes over July 1, 2009.

Notes taken by:

Corinne Caputo

Arthur cluster