

MOBIUS Coordinators Group Meeting Faux Meeting
May 7, 2003
9 am – 10:30 am

Representatives present: Les Lynam, Per Almquist, David Glick, Eileen Condon, Mary Sims, Robin Kespohl, Resa Kerns, Corky McCormack, Terry Weaver, Judy Fox

This MCAG meeting was conducted in an online venue using AOL Instant Messenger to evaluate the usability of this software for some future meetings.

The agenda was distributed by email prior to this online chat. A copy of the agenda immediately follows this sentence and then the meeting minutes.

1. Welcome - chair
2. MCO report - Robin K.
3. Discussion of document #1 (emailed earlier today)
4. Discussion of document #2 (online... ha! POP QUIZ!)
5. As may arise
6. Adjournment

Meeting Minutes:

MCO Report – Robin Kespohl

1. Release 2002 phase 3 will be released in June/July.
2. Release 2003 will be released in August
3. LDR records extraction has hit a snag but still expect to get this to OCLC this week.
4. William Jewell records have all been set to unavailable and all holds will be canceled and dealt with by MCO staff. These settings will be in place until William Jewell opens back up.
5. MCO doesn't know anymore about the future state budget than anyone else at this point.

Discussion of Document #1:

- Per Almquist asked if reference numbers referred to the 2001 or 2002 manual and Les stated that it was the 2001 manual
- David Glick moved on page 2 that all training discussions on the Fines Paid file be covered on the second day.
- Seconded by Judy Fox
- Some discussion ensued
- The measure passed when the Chair broke the tie with an affirmative vote.

Discussion of Document #2:

- As a test of this exercise Les asked that we all pull up in Word on our desktops the document at the following address:
<http://mco.mobius.missouri.edu/filemanager/fileview/494/>.

- He stated that if we pull it up in a browser then the pagination will all be different. Everyone seemed to have good results with doing this. One or two people might have needed some further assistance. Les said that he would get back to them.

Other issues:

- Les suggested that we have four meetings a year:
 - Two in an online forum (chat) in Winter and Summer and
 - Two in a face to face environment in Spring and Fall
- Judy Fox suggested that we always plan to meet in a face to face environment and then we can always reschedule into an online forum if the need arises. She stated that it will be much easier to do this then to schedule an online forum and then have to schedule to go to Columbia.
- The next meeting is scheduled for July 9, 2003 at 10 am in Columbia, MO. Everyone but Robin Kespohl and David Glick will be there. A representative from MCO will definitely be in attendance and David is going to try and get someone from the Galahad cluster to serve as a substitute.
- The minutes from the last meeting were approved unanimously.
- It was brought up that the minutes from January and April were not on the MCO website. David Glick stated that he was emailing the January minutes to the MCO Helpdesk and Les Lynam was going to check with Linda Bigelow about the April Meeting Minutes.
- Two other technical matters:
 - Linda Bigelow was logged in to AOL IM but no one could contact her during the chat.
 - Corky McCormack saw everyone's postings but he always had to wait for subsequent person to post before he saw the previous person's comments.

Meeting adjourned at 10:30 am.

Next meeting July 9, 2003 at 10 am at MCO office.

Minutes submitted by David Glick

Comments about AOL Instant Messaging meeting:

I don't remember where I was supposed to send my comments so I decided to send them to both of you. I had a positive reaction to our online meeting. It takes longer to discuss online than it does in person but it sure is nice to save the travel time. AOL Instant Messenger was easy to use. The way Les managed the meeting allowed everyone to be heard and also kept things under control so everyone wasn't trying to "talk" at the same time. I definitely think it is worth having some of our meetings online.

-Judy Fox

This was my first experience with instant messaging, and I found it a little hard to follow the text at times, since only 14 very narrow lines display at once. Paging up & back was somewhat distracting. But I suppose I'll get used to it--or maybe I should just take notes! I think this is definitely better than driving to Columbia if we don't have much to discuss, but if there are substantive issues, then I'd a whole lot rather be face to face.

-Mary Sims

Overall, it seemed to work ok. To get you started... here's something I saw that might help in the future.

Type short lines... finish a thought

And then hit enter.

Move on to the next thought

And hit enter.

It will keep information flowing, and make it seem like the delays aren't as long.

Somewhat related (any Ham radio operators out there?) a signal that you have finished your thoughts and someone else can come in.

Maybe if it went something like this.

I have had the floor for several lines of type

But now am finished, and I want to signal the same.

Perhaps just a symbol? ###

(Any old newspaper folk or journalists out there? You'll recognize the ### or -30- that copy writers put at the bottom of their stories that go on the wire (AP... is there even a "wire" anymore... or is it all internet?).

Another helpful hint. When you have something that you are wanting to say, but someone else has the floor, you can open Notepad and type lines of what you want to say in it... then when it's your turn, you can cut and paste into the AIM box.... and look like a WHIZ typist.

I was pleased with the format. I've been in some very disorganized free-for-alls that were hard to follow. Of course you might all think I was a control Nazi... feel free to say so, if it seemed that way to you.

This may be over simplistic, and I apologies if this appears at all condescending... but just looking for other aids. You can change the size of your AIM window to be half the screen... and maybe open notepad (or Word, when we are discussing a document) on the other half. Sometimes people don't think about custom forming their activities on the desktop... just a thought.

Thanks for sharing!

-Les Lynam

I thought that this was a good use of the technology. Although at times it was kind of slow dependent upon how much someone had to type. Les handled the meeting and suggested commands and procedures that seemed to make the meeting flow better.

-David Glick

Personally, I would prefer to drive three hours to Columbia rather than do a chat meeting again. Found it to be deadly slow in addition to the small technical problems I experienced using the web version of AIM. Add to this the fact that since we have a fairly small staff if I am in my office I will be interrupted.

Can see that this type of meeting would work if we only have one or two minor agenda items or in case of major storms. Otherwise, I vote that we plan our meetings for Columbia and only use chat meetings as a last resort.

-Corky McCormack