

Members Present:

Carol Bennett	Archway	St. Louis Community College
Renee Brumett	SGCL	Springfield-Greene County Library
Bryan Dunlap	MRRL	Missouri River Regional Library
Megan Durham	MOBIUS	MOBIUS
Jim Dutton	Quest	University of Central Missouri
Lora Farrell	Kansas City	Kansas City Art Institute
Melissa Hopkins	Galahad	Mineral Area College
Hong Li	SWAN	Missouri Southern State University
Patricia Logsdon	WashU	Washington University (Olin)
Melissa Martin	Arthur	William Woods University
Denise Pakala	Bridges	Covenant Theological Seminary
Kathleen Schweitzberger	MERLIN	University of Missouri-Kansas City (Miller Nichols)
Stephen Wynn	LANCE	Truman State University
Anna Zaidman	SLU	Saint Louis University (Pius)

Members Absent:

Michael Davis	Camden County	Camden County Library
Sara Duff	Towers	Northwest Missouri State University
Renee Gorrell		Goldfarb School of Nursing at Barnes-Jewish College

Guests or Proxies Present:

Andrew McGarrell	Towers	Missouri Western State University
Richard Pitaniello	Lance	Truman State University
Justin Hopkins	MOBIUS	MOBIUS

1. Call to order by Pat Logsdon and introductions
2. Adoption of the agenda with an addition to New Business: Housekeeping
3. The corrected minutes of the MCDAC meeting on July 11, 2014, will be posted to the MOBIUS website and redundant copies removed
4. Information Items: none
5. Unfinished Business
 - Enhanced Matching product from Innovative
 Kathleen reported positive feedback from MCDAC membership to the product implementation proposal with a MARC 264-field modification.

ACTION ITEMS:

- The MOBIUS Office will announce the implementation date.
- Megan will be in communication with Innovative next week.
- Reconstitution of records will begin with Lance (TBD).

6. New Business

- Proposal to change rotation of MCDAC minute-taking from alphabetically by last name to alphabetically by cluster name, like rotation of MCDAC chair.

Anna made a motion for alphabetically rotating minute-taking by cluster name, to go into effect at the next MCDAC meeting, scheduled in January, and the Archway cluster would begin the new rotation. Denise seconded. There was no discussion. The motion was approved unanimously.

- Housekeeping
 - Pat pointed out that the MOBIUS website has a very incomplete listing of MCDAC annual reports that would have been prepared by MCDAC chairs over the years.
ACTION ITEM: Megan will investigate and add the missing documents that she finds.
 - Pat inquired about the absence of representation on MCDAC from the Christian County cluster and the Tulsa City-County Library cluster.
ACTION ITEM: Megan will investigate and report back.

- Discussion of MCDAC's purpose as an advisory committee to MOBIUS

Kathleen began the discussion by reading the MCDAC charge: "The MOBIUS Catalog Design Advisory Group is responsible for member/user oversight of the cataloging, holdings, indexing, and display functions of the MOBIUS Union Catalog." She cited examples of two recent changes to the catalog that were not discussed with MCDAC before the changes went live:

- a) The addition of Prospector and Tulsa City-County Library to the MOBIUS catalog front page.

The problem with "Prospector" and "Tulsa" being front-and-center is that it confuses users about which catalog they are in. Although "Tulsa" is not a hotlink, "Prospector" is a hotlink, so it creates another problem: once the MOBIUS user clicks and goes there, he can stay there and not return home to MOBIUS. In contrast, the Prospector Encore and Classic catalogs don't have confusing links going to MOBIUS from their front pages. On browse screens and record display screens in MOBIUS, the "Search & Borrow from Colorado Libraries Prospector" button is located above the MOBIUS request link, which oddly prioritizes Prospector and can disserve MOBIUS users. In contrast, the Prospector catalog gives prominence to its own request link and puts links to MOBIUS either on the right-hand side of the screen or below the Prospector request link.

- b) The different ebook icon for eMO (search title "quantum oscillators").

The problem with having a different icon for “eMO ebook” is that an eMO ebook is not a different material format from other electronic resources in the catalog and the red icon draws attention away from members’ other ebook entries. In point of fact, at its August 23, 2013, meeting, MCDAC agreed that a special icon for eMO ebooks would not make access rights any clearer to users (since not all MOBIUS members subscribe to eMO) and suggested adding a public note like “Most MOBIUS libraries...” to the URL in the MOBIUS eMO record. Two additional concerns related to eMO ebooks are the new “eMO eBook” Limit by Material Format, which can confuse users by fragmenting electronic resources in the union catalog, and the new link called “eMO ebooks” appearing in the banner on every MOBIUS screen: once the MOBIUS user clicks and goes to the “What is eMO?” page and searchable file of eMO records, he can stay there and never be redirected back home to MOBIUS. Why do eMO ebooks get special treatment in MOBIUS?

Why is the MOBIUS Office not consulting with and seeming to ignore MCDAC on display and design issues like these? These types of changes seem to fall within MCDAC’s charge and the majority of MCDAC agreed after a vigorous discussion.

Some longstanding MCDAC members remarked on the erosion and perceived undermining of the role, impact, and usefulness of the advisory group over recent years, and mentioned these as examples:

- In 2012, the MOBIUS Board asked MCDAC to discuss a quote for Syndetics content for the union catalog—whether we should find it beneficial to add this content. If purchased, it would be paid for from the MOBIUS budget. Members expressed significant opposition, giving a number of reasons. However, the Board voted to proceed with the purchase.
- In July 2013, MCDAC was preparing to discuss at its upcoming meeting the value of sending out eMO ebook records for authority control when the MOBIUS Office announced that it had already made the decision to send the EBSCO records to Backstage. That unilateral decision followed on years of the MOBIUS Office asking our libraries to consider the strain on the MOBIUS budget and on MOBIUS staff time for record loading operations caused by sending out record sets for authority control – and eMO records are not even stable since they are subject to semiannual deletion.

MCDAC used to have a valued presence not only in the decision-making process but also in the testing process before any changes went live. It was mutually beneficial that MCDAC membership was drawn from a mix of experts in technical services and public services, and proposed changes were enacted first on the MOBIUS *staging* site for MCDAC members to see, test, and critique. In striking contrast today, MCDAC most often hears about changes in the MOBIUS catalog after the fact and when the MOBIUS Office announces them on MOBIUS-Users-L.

As MOBIUS Office liaison, Megan was asked about the sharp decline in consultation and communication with MCDAC on matters pertaining to the Union Catalog. She responded that she made the changes because Donna Bacon told her to. She added that the Office is working

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on the MOBIUS Encore catalog and she did not know when it will go live but that MCDAC “will be warned.”

Members were stunned to hear that they would get only a “warning” before Encore went live and pressed for MCDAC’s involvement in the testing process, as they are the official representatives of the MOBIUS clusters.

ACTION ITEMS:

- The Board needs to know that MCDAC members believe:
 - There is good reason that MCDAC exists—such as: its cataloging and technological expertise, its collective experience with catalog users from all types of libraries, and its unique position to represent the interests of and to be a resource to all the MOBIUS clusters and institutions;
 - The role of MCDAC has been diminished over recent years by forces beyond its control.
- Megan will take MCDAC’s comments and concerns to Donna and will communicate back with us promptly.
- MCDAC members should continue to review and evaluate the Union Catalog, per the MCDAC charge, and post comments to MCDAC-L.

7. Meeting adjourned

8. Submitted by Anna Zaidman