

MOBIUS Task Force on Governance and Growth Management

**Public Library Interest in MOBIUS – Survey Results  
October 2005**

Compiled by Erlene Dudley

**I. Introduction.**

A survey to determine the level of interest on the part of Missouri's public libraries in cooperative resource sharing programs, such as MOBIUS, was developed by a subcommittee of the MOBIUS Task Force on Governance and Growth Management. Members of the subcommittee are Donna Bacon, Springfield-Greene County Library; Margaret Conroy, Missouri River Regional Library; Valerie Darst, Moberly Area Community College; Erlene Dudley, William Woods University (chair); Elizabeth McDonald, Lindenwood University; Stephanie Tolson, St. Charles Community College. The survey (Appendix A) was mailed to 170 public libraries directors on September 30, 2005, accompanied by a cover letter from the MOBIUS Task on Governance and Growth Management (Appendix B). Mailing labels were generously provided by the Missouri State Library.

**II. Return Rate.**

Eighty-six (86) surveys were returned for a **return rate of 50.6%**. One library director answered only questions 4-6 stating that she could not answer questions 1-3 without input from her board. Another library director returned the survey but didn't answer any of the questions stating that they do not have computers in their library and the heat and a/c are on only when volunteers are on duty!

**III. Summary of Survey Results.**

The following information summarizes the results of the survey. Note that not all respondents answered all questions.

1. Does your library have any interest in participating in a statewide online system which would include web-based direct patron borrowing of materials from all participating members and delivery of library materials by courier between libraries, such as that enjoyed by the current MOBIUS Cooperating partners?

**Total responses to this question = 86** See Appendix C for a list of libraries in each category.

14 (16.3%) Yes, very interested  
38 (44.2%) Yes, somewhat interested  
24 (27.9%) No, not interested at this time (skip to #4)  
10 (11.6%) No, no interest whatsoever (skip to #4)

2. If yes, would your library be willing to provide funding for your participation in such a statewide system?

**Total responses to this question = 53**

4 (8.0%) Yes, can provide all reasonable funding  
15 (28.3%) Yes, can provide some funding  
34 (64.2%) No, any participation would depend on outside funding

3. If yes, would your library be able to participate in the next 12 to 18 months, or later than that?

**Total responses to this question = 38**

21 (55.3%) Prepared to participate within 12 to 18 months  
17 (44.7%) Prepared to participate later

4. Does your library have its catalog records in MARC format?

Total responses to this question = 84

67 (79.8%) Yes, all records

6 (7.1%) Some records (90-98% of records)

11 (13.1%) No

5. Does your library operate an online catalog available via the Internet?

Total responses to this question = 85

56 (65.9%) Yes (Vendor/Catalog Name - see Appendix D)

29 (34.1%) No

6. Are you interested in receiving more information about MOBIUS and its Cooperating Partners?

Total responses to this question = 85 (See Appendix E for a list of libraries wanting more information.)

56 (65.9%) Yes

29 (34.1%) No

#### **IV. Detailed Survey Results.**

The following information breaks down responses to questions 2-5 based on the responses to question 1:

##### **Libraries Most Interested.**

Question 1 response – **Yes, very interested.** (Total response with this answer = 14)

Question 2. Willing to provide funding...

3 (21.4%) Yes, can provide all reasonable funding (Stone Co.; Mid-Continent; Kirkwood PL)

8 (57.1%) Yes, can provide some funding

3 (21.4%) No, any participation would depend on outside funding

Question 3. Participate when...

11 (78.6%) Prepared to participate within 12 to 18 months

1 (9%) Prepared to participate later

2 (14.2%) No answer

Question 4. Catalog records in MARC format...

14 (100%) Yes, all records

0 Some records (\_\_\_\_ % of records)

0 No

Question 5. Online Catalog via Internet...

13 (92.8%) Yes (Vendor/Catalog Name (see Appendix D))

1 (7.1%) No (but has capability with SIRS Mandarin)

Question 6. More info...

12 (85.7%) Yes

1 (7.1%) No

1 (7.1%) No Answer

##### **Libraries Somewhat Interested.**

Question 1 response – **Yes, somewhat interested.** (Total response with this answer = 38)

Question 2. Willing to provide funding...

1 (2.6%) Yes, can provide all reasonable funding (Trails Regional)

7 (18.4%) Yes, can provide some funding

29 (76.4%) No, any participation would depend on outside funding  
1 (2.6%) No answer

Question 3. Participate when...

10 (26.3%) Prepared to participate within 12 to 18 months  
16 (42.1%) Prepared to participate later  
12 (31.6%) No answer

Question 4. Catalog records in MARC format...

30 (78.9%) Yes, all records  
5 (13.2%) Some records (90-98 % of records)  
2 (5.3%) No  
1 (2.6%) No answer

Question 5. Online Catalog via Internet...

24 (63.2%) Yes (Vendor/Catalog Name (see Appendix D))  
14 (36.8%) No

Question 6. More info...

33 (86.8%) Yes  
5 (13.2%) No

#### Libraries Not Interested At This Time.

Question 1 response – **No, not interested at this time.** (Total response with this answer = 24)

Question 2. Willing to provide funding... **Skipped this question**

Question 3. Participate when... **Skipped this question**

Question 4. Catalog records in MARC format...

19 (79.2%) Yes, all records  
1 (4.2%) Some records (\_\_\_\_ % of records)  
4 (16.6%) No

Question 5. Online Catalog via Internet...

16 (66.7%) Yes (Vendor/Catalog Name (see Appendix D))  
8 (33.3%) No

Question 6. More info...

8 (33.3%) Yes  
15 (62.5%) No  
1 (4.2%) No Answer

#### Libraries Not Interested.

Question 1 response – **No, no interest whatsoever.** (Total response with this answer = 10)

Question 2. Willing to provide funding... **Skipped this question**

Question 3. Participate when... **Skipped this question**

Question 4. Catalog records in MARC format...

6 (60%) Yes, all records  
0 Some records (\_\_\_\_ % of records)

4 (40%) No

Question 5. Online Catalog via Internet...

5 (50%) Yes (Vendor/Catalog Name (see Appendix D)) (One library considers OCLC as its online catalog.)

5 (50%) No

Question 6. More info...

3 (30%) Yes

6 (60%) No

1 (10%) No Answer

## V. 2003 Missouri Public Libraries Statistical Report

<http://www.sos.mo.gov/library/development/statistics/>

Annual library visits – 21,819,888

Annual reference transactions – 3,226,160

Total circulation – 40,363,198

ILL provided – 180,310

ILL received – 195,844

Registered borrowers – 2,665,245

## VI. Conclusions.

- More than half of the respondents to the survey (60%) are **very or somewhat interested** in a statewide online system which would include web-based direct patron borrowing of materials from all participating members and delivery of library materials by courier between libraries, such as that enjoyed by the current MOBIUS Cooperating partners.
- More than three-fourths (78.6%) of the respondents to the survey that are **very interested** in such a system are willing to provide all or some funding to support their participation.
- More than three-fourths (76%) of the respondents to the survey that are **somewhat interested** in such a system could participate only with outside funding.
- Almost half of the libraries that are **not interested** at this time or not interested at all in such a system do not have an online catalog available via the Internet (41%). There is some evidence that these are libraries with volunteer staffs and donated collections.
- More than three-fourths of the respondents (80%) have their catalog records in MARC format.

## Appendix A

### MOBIUS Task Force on Governance and Growth Management

### SURVEY Public Library Interest in MOBIUS

Please complete this brief questionnaire and return it no later than October 14, 2005, to Erlene Dudley, William Woods University, One University Ave., Fulton, MO 65251. Your response may be faxed to Erlene Dudley at (573) 592-1159. Thank you.

Library: \_\_\_\_\_

Library address: \_\_\_\_\_

Your Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Your position: \_\_\_\_\_ Your phone number: \_\_\_\_\_

Your email address: \_\_\_\_\_

1. Does your library have any interest in participating in a statewide online system which would include web-based direct patron borrowing of materials from all participating members and delivery of library materials by courier between libraries, such as that enjoyed by the current MOBIUS Cooperating partners?

\_\_\_\_\_ Yes, very interested

\_\_\_\_\_ Yes, somewhat interested

\_\_\_\_\_ No, not interested at this time (skip to #4)

\_\_\_\_\_ No, no interest whatsoever (skip to #4)

2. If yes, would your library be willing to provide funding for your participation in such a statewide system?

\_\_\_\_\_ Yes, can provide all reasonable funding

\_\_\_\_\_ Yes, can provide some funding

\_\_\_\_\_ No, any participation would depend on outside funding

3. If yes, would your library be able to participate in the next 12 to 18 months, or later than that?

\_\_\_\_\_ Prepared to participate within 12 to 18 months

\_\_\_\_\_ Prepared to participate later

4. Does your library have its catalog records in MARC format?

\_\_\_\_\_ Yes, all records

\_\_\_\_\_ Some records (\_\_\_\_\_ % of records)

\_\_\_\_\_ No

5. Does your library operate an online catalog available via the Internet?

\_\_\_\_\_ Yes (Vendor/Catalog Name \_\_\_\_\_)

\_\_\_\_\_ No

6. Are you interested in receiving more information about MOBIUS and its Cooperating Partners?

\_\_\_\_\_ Yes

\_\_\_\_\_ No

TO: Missouri Public Library Directors  
FROM: The MOBIUS Task Force on Governance and Growth Management  
DATE: September 26, 2005  
SUBJECT: Public Library Survey

We are writing to all public libraries to solicit your interest in the pursuit of more cooperative programs particularly resource sharing among the various types of libraries in Missouri. A survey is enclosed. We are asking you to complete and return it by October 14.

There are various models of networking in Missouri including KCLN, MLC, MLNC, and MOBIUS to name a few. This effort to gather further information is being generated by a Task Force within MOBIUS. If you need additional information, please call or email a member of the task force as follows:

Donna Bacon, Springfield-Greene County Library, (417) 874-8120, [donnab@mail.sgcl.org](mailto:donnab@mail.sgcl.org)  
Margaret Conroy, Missouri River Regional Library, (573) 634-6064 x234, [conroy@mrri.org](mailto:conroy@mrri.org)  
Valerie Darst, Moberly Area Community College, (660) 263-4110 x244,  
[valeried@hp9000.cc.mo.us](mailto:valeried@hp9000.cc.mo.us)  
Erlene Dudley, William Woods University, (573) 592-4291, [edudley@williamwoods.edu](mailto:edudley@williamwoods.edu)  
Elizabeth MacDonald, Lindenwood University, (636) 949-4396, [emacdonald@lindenwood.edu](mailto:emacdonald@lindenwood.edu)  
Stephanie Tolson, St. Charles Community College, (636) 922-8512, [stolson@stchas.edu](mailto:stolson@stchas.edu)

Please complete and return of the survey by October 14, 2005 to: Erlene Dudley, Library Director, William Woods University, One University Ave., Fulton, MO 65251-1098 or via FAX (573) 592-1159.

Thank you.

Enclosure

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**APPENDIX C – Level of Interest in a Statewide System of Libraries Reporting (Question 1)**

1. Does your library have any interest in participating in a statewide online system which would include web-based direct patron borrowing of materials from all participating members and delivery of library materials by courier between libraries, such as that enjoyed by the current MOBIUS Cooperating partners?

**14 (16.3%) Yes, very interested**

Boonslick Regional Library  
Brentwood Public Library  
Cape Girardeau Public Library  
Cass County Public Library  
Daniel Boone Regional Library  
Grundy Co. Jewett Norris  
Kirkwood Public Library  
Little Dixie Regional Libraries  
Mid-Continent Public Library  
Poplar Bluff Public Library  
Shelbina Carnegie Public Library  
St. Clair County Library  
Stone County Library  
University City Public Library

**38 (44.2%) Yes, somewhat interested**

Barton County Library  
Bonne Terre Memorial Library  
Brookfield Public Library  
Cameron Public Library  
Carthage Public Library  
Cedar County Library District  
Crystal City Public Library  
Dallas County Library  
Desloge Public Library  
DeSoto Public Library  
Douglas County Public Library  
Gentry County Library  
Jefferson County Library  
Kansas City Public Library  
Lebanon-Laclede County Library  
Louisiana Public Library  
Maplewood Public Library  
Marceline Carnegie Library  
Maryville Public Library  
Mississippi County Library District  
Neosho/Newton County Library  
North Kansas City Public Library  
Ozark Regional Library  
Park Hills Public Library  
Pulaski County Library District  
Putnam County Public Library

Riverside Regional Library  
Rock Hill Public Library  
Seymour Community Library  
St. Joseph Public Library  
St. Louis Public Library  
Sullivan Public Library  
Trails Regional Library  
Van Buren/Carter County Public Library  
Webster County Library  
Webster Groves Public Library  
West Plains Public Library  
Worth County Library

**24 (27.9%) No, not interested at this time**

Adair County Public Library  
Bloomfield Public Library  
Centralia Public Library  
Eminence Public Library  
Farmington Public Library  
Howard County Library  
Joplin Public Library  
Keller Public Library  
Livingston County Library  
McDonald County Library  
Mercer County Library  
Mexico-Audrain County Library  
Monroe City Public Library  
Morgan County Library  
Mountain View Public Library  
Price James Library (Tipton)  
Puxico Public Library  
Ray County Library  
Rich Hill Memorial Library  
Rolla Public Library  
Scotland County Memorial Library  
Sedalia Public Library  
Washington County Library  
Wright County Library

**10 (11.6%) No, no interest whatsoever**

Barry Lawrence Regional Library  
Camden County Library District  
Clarence Public Library (records not in MARC)  
Fairview Community Library (volunteer library)  
LaPlata Public Library (records not in MARC)  
New Madrid County Library  
Norborne Public Library (records not in MARC)  
Ozark County Library (volunteer library)  
Scenic Regional Library  
Sikeston Public Library

Rolling Hills Consolidated Library returned the survey but declined to answer questions 1-3 without Board input.



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APPENDIX D – Current Systems Used in Libraries Reporting (Question 5)

<u>SYSTEM</u>	<u>LIBRARY</u>
The Library Corporation	Barry Lawrence Regional Library (NI) Barton Co. Library (SI) Boonslick Regional Library (VI) Douglas Co. Public Library (SI) Mexico-Audrain Co. Library (NATT) Mississippi Co. Library District (SI) Poplar Bluff Public Library (VI) Riverside Regional Library (SI) Rolla Public Library (NATT) St. Clair County Library (VI)
LISTEN 2000	Livingston Co. Library (NATT) Scenic Regional Library (NI) Trails Regional Library (SI)
Winnebago Spectrum	Sedalia Public Library (NATT) Washington County Library (NATT)
Dynix	Adair County Public Library (NATT) Brentwood Public Library (VI) Cape Girardeau Public Library (VI) Joplin Public Library (NATT) Kirkwood Public Library (VI) Maplewood Public Library (SI) Rock Hill Public Library (SI) University City Public Library (VI) Webster Groves Public Library (SI)
OPAC	Keller Public Library (NATT)
Book Systems/Webrary	Cedar Co. Library District (SI) Gentry Co. Library (SI) Mercer Co. Library (NATT) Scotland Co. Library (NATT)
Book Systems/Atrium	McDonald Co. Library (NATT) Wright Co. Library (NATT)
Booksystem/Concourse	Ray Co. Library (NATT)
SIRSI	Cass Co. Public Library (VI) Daniel Boone Regional Library (VI) Jefferson Co. Library (SI) Kansas City Public Library (SI) Little Dixie Regional Library (VI) Mid-Continent Public Library (VI)

	Neosho/Newton Co. Library (SI) North Kansas City Public Library (SI) St. Joseph Public Library (SI)
Innovative Interfaces	Lebanon-Laclede Co. Library (SI) Stone Co. Library (VI) Webster Co. Library (SI)
SIRS Mandarin	Maryville Public Library (SI) Shelbina Carnegie Public Library (VI)
Sagebrush	Grundy Co. Jewett Norris Library (VI)
Follett	Cameron Public Library (SI) Carthage Public Library (SI) Worth Co. Library (SI)
DRA	St. Louis Public Library (SI)

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**APPENDIX E - Libraries Wanting More Information About MOBIUS and Its Cooperating Partners  
(Question 6)**

Adair County Public Library  
Bonne Terre Memorial Library  
Boonslick Regional Library  
Brentwood Public Library  
Brookfield Public Library  
Cameron Public Library  
Cape Girardeau Public Library  
Carthage Public Library  
Cass County Public Library  
Cedar County Library District  
Centralia Public Library  
Crystal City Public Library  
Dallas County Library  
Daniel Boone Regional Library  
De Soto Public Library  
Desloge Public Library  
Douglas County Public Library  
Farmington Public Library  
Gentry County Library  
Grundy County Jewett Norris Library  
Jefferson County Library  
Joplin Public Library  
Kirkwood Public Library  
Lebanon/Laclede Co. Library  
Little Dixie Regional Library  
Louisiana Public Library  
Marceline Carnegie Library  
Maryville Public Library  
Mercer County Library  
Mid-Continent Public Library  
Mississippi County Library District  
Mountain View Public Library  
Neosho/Newton County Library  
North Kansas City Public Library  
Ozark Regional Library  
Park Hills Public Library  
Pulaski County Library District  
Putnam County Public Library  
Rock Hill Public Library  
Rolla Public Library  
Rolling Hills Consolidated Library  
Scenic Regional Library  
Scotland County Memorial Library  
Shelbina Carnegie Public Library  
Sikeston Public Library  
St. Clair County Library  
St. Joseph Public Library

St. Louis Public Library  
Stone County Library  
Sullivan Public Library  
Trails Regional Library  
University City Public Library  
Van Buren/Carter County Public Library  
Webster County Library  
Webster Groves Public Library  
West Plains Public Library  
Worth County Library