

ILS Coordinators Meeting
LSO, Columbia
06.02.99

Minutes

Present: Bob Heyer-Gray (UMR), Ben Lea (UMR), Randy Diamond (MU-Law), Vianne Sha (MU), Ellen Grewe (UMSL), Rachelle Leutzinger (UMKC-Law), Win Shih (SLU-Pius), Janet Jackson (LSO), Richard Amelung (SLU-Law), Brenda Dingley (UMKC), George Rickerson (LSO), Gary Harris (LSO)

Recorder: Bob Heyer-Gray

Please post any and all corrections and/or omissions to the list

I. Introductions

New, departing and temporary coordinators were introduced.

II. Previous Minutes

No corrections were made to the previous minutes.

III. LSO Update

A. LSO Staffing

Three new LSO staff members were announced:

Christopher A. Gould Library Systems Support Specialist gouldc@umsystem.edu

Connie S. Smith Receptionist smithcs@umsystem.edu

Robert G. Heidlage Library Systems Specialist - SLU Liaison
heidlager@umsystem.edu

Listproc questions can also be sent to Bob Heidlage.

B. MERLIN

The problem reported since the upgrade to release 12M where the hyphens in ISSN's were not being stripped out with pass through searches appears to have been fixed.

Apparently the subfield c of the author field is displaying when doing an author/title search in MERLIN.

Laurel and Sequoia are being taken off the MU backbone and moved to an Ethernet connection. The IPs will change, but domain names will remain the same.

A new data element (agency field) will be added to item records that would allow campus identifiers to be placed in item records, thereby allowing the correct call number to be pulled for the SCAT table.

C. Mobius

The contract with III was signed in April. The implementation has begun on the 9 new systems. Upgrades and implementation are scheduled to be completed by July 2002. The Millennium upgrade (scheduled for MERLIN in calendar year 2000) will incorporate Advanced searching, Millennium Circulation and Serials modules initially. There will be unlimited order records and checkin records. There will also no longer be a limit on the number of WebPac users. The second of three appropriation from the state is slated to be signed off by the governor at

the end of this month. The implementation plan and schedule (how the clusters will go live) has been approved by the Mobius council. The Central/East cluster will be implemented first, with Lincoln Univ. scheduled to be up by Fall. The Southwest and St. Louis-Red clusters are also being worked on. (See: <http://merlin.missouri.edu/mobius/>)

A policy has been approved for adding new institutions. One year advanced notice will be required, with new institutions going to the end of the implementation queue. New Mobius libraries will not be allowed to implement dumb terminals. George said he would like to see the use of dumb terminals fall by the wayside (savings on maintenance). With the development of the Advanced Searching feature, our use of the 2 Keyword indexes will need to be revisited. All new Mobius OPAC clusters will be indexed the same way.

The minimum hardware requirements for running the Millennium Java-based modules are 128 Mb of RAM and at least a 233 MHz processor. III is scheduled to be finished developing all except the cataloging module by the end of 2000.

E-mail lists and a committee structure will be established for each Mobius cluster. This is all still in the process of being formed and defined. Mobius-wide committees are also in the planning stages. MERLIN committees will still function as they are. MERLIN committee members might also very well serve on Mobius committees.

***Action Item??

The coordinators will recommend a task force comprised of members from the Technical and Public services committees be formed to address how best to implement the Millennium Advanced Searching feature.

III has a demonstration of Advanced searching at:
<http://demo.iii.com:81/search/X>

In order to provide in-house, more focused on local systems, on-demand and scheduled training, a training coordinator and to ensure Mobius libraries will have training at all times, trainers will be implemented from the start.

A commercial delivery system (Lanter) has been chosen for the delivery of Mobius materials. It will be available to all MERLIN/Mobius libraries (possibly by Fall semester) this year whether or not they are on III yet. There will be one scheduled stop per campus per day regardless of whether there is anything to pick-up. Pick-ups will be per campus not per library. There will be an additional charge for adding another stop. This is to be paid for by the campus at retail. Costs average to \$2600/yr, with bigger schools paying more, smaller less. Rates are not based on volume. Mobius is still looking for a way to pay.

IV. Review of Action Items

1. Listserv Archives : WebGlimpse search engine being used. It works with some minor technical problems still to be ironed out.
2. MOBIUS/MERLIN Committees: status of the draft charge : completed
3. Create dynamic Action Items Database for the Web : Awaiting NT server set-up
4. Arrange 4 III training days : completed
5. Return of Simultaneous user licenses : completed. Thanks to John Huang. No reported turnaways.

An action response system (REMEDY), incorporating many of the tables Janet has set-up in the MS Access database will be implemented that will allow users to

search and track LSO Helpdesk calls and the status of action items. Users will still send questions to LSO with LSO maintaining the REMEDY database.

LSO & Committee action items will continue to be kept separate. LSO might allow the various committee chairs to update committee action items.

V. Enhancement Process

The pick-up anywhere enhancement has been written and is about to formally be submitted to III. Currently, pick-up in Mobius is limited to a cluster. The anywhere enhancement would add another layer where any institution could be selected. Books are currently circulated to the institution of the patron. George pointed out that this was not an easy enhancement.

Vianne suggest that we put our weight behind the IUG enhancement process, not the paid enhancement route. Gary would like to see consortial memberships be abolished and see individual memberships: more impact with greater numbers.

1. We should send enhancements to IUG at:

<http://innopacusers.org/about/enhancements.htm#submit>

Click on this page and cc to enhance@iii.com

2. Non-committee/across module requests should still be looked at by the coordinators.

VI. August Training Days

August 3/4 training will take place at UMSL, and August 5/6 training will take place at UMKC.

Harriet Welsh will be the trainer. Day one at each site will cover circulation and day two at each site will cover a half day of create lists and a half day of statistical reports. UMSL, SLU and UMR will attend at UMSL and UMC & UMKC will attend at UMKC. Gary will e-mail Harriet with what has been gathered thus far concerning desired training as well as requesting 10 hands-on and 10 silent observers per day.

VII. Proxy Server

In an effort to address access to e-journals and databases for legitimate users from non-campus domains a proxy server is being established. Dennis this is for you (just kidding)! Using the Apache Web Server, Dave Martin has created a proxy server that should be ready to go fairly soon. Dave has created .pac files for each campus that contain the list of URLs that users should be allowed access to.

By going to Edit, Preferences, Advanced, Proxies in their Web browsers the user can then key in the appropriate campus URL that would allow them to gain access to sources they would otherwise be denied access to. Example:

<http://merlin.missouri.edu:3400/umc.pac> would allow MU users coming from non-campus domains to gain access to databases & e-journals. They will be prompted for a User Name (last name up to the comma) and Password:(patrons SSN with or without the hyphen, SLU users add s to SSN). The patron is then authenticated by using the patron record in MERLIN.

Questions left unanswered:

Usage statistics possible? Stats available by user, library, patron type? Is there is a limit to the number of URLs per .pac file?.

VIII. Miscellaneous

If a committee makes a decision that has ramifications for another committee or functional module, the other committee should be notified. Add as a MERLIN Coordinator Standard/Guideline?

IX. Future Meetings

Future meetings dates are:

7/15/99, 8/25/99, 9/29/99, 11/3/99, 12/1/99, 1/5/00, and 2/2/00.

Hochachtungsvoll, Bob Heyer-Gray

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"Give a man an inch and right away he wants to be a ruler." -Maxwell Smart