

Policy

To facilitate fair use of limited license resources, MOBIUS institutions with federated search products will not include such resources in the general/default search category. It will be permissible to include such resources in subject specific search categories (e.g., Education, Art, Science, etc.). For bibliographic instruction needs, subscribing institutions must use the required vendor-supplied training access (e.g., training password, training URL, etc.).

Purpose

The MOBIUS Electronic Resources Advisory Committee (MERAC) works with the MOBIUS Consortium Office (MCO) to offer member institutions the Database Cafeteria Program. This Program offers a menu of databases from which MOBIUS member institutions may select. MCO will subscribe only to those databases for which there is a certain level of interest, and only those institutions that choose to participate in a given database will pay a fee or receive access to it.

In some cases, the resources selected may involve limited shared simultaneous users for subscribers. Institutions choosing to participate in the subscription will share a pool of user licenses for access. Although MERAC prefers not to include limited license resources in the Database Cafeteria Program, there are times when it cannot be avoided. Such resources will not be considered for the Program if the vendor does not provide separate training access.

Issues such as federated searching and bibliographic instruction will have an impact on all subscribers of such products. With the increasing implementations of federated search engines at MOBIUS institutions, there is concern about the effects of including these databases in the default/general search because they are likely to use the available licenses and deny access for other campuses.

Bibliographic instruction sessions utilizing these limited license resources also affects access by the other subscribing campuses by using the available licenses.

Compliance

An institution that fails to comply with the policy as indicated by number of turnaways will be notified in writing by the MOBIUS Executive Director of their Limited Resources Policy noncompliance. If the institution does not comply within one month of notification, the institution will not be allowed continued participation in limited license subscriptions through the Database Cafeteria Program. The MOBIUS Executive Director will send notification to the institution and the database provider. After 2 years, the institution may submit a request for reinstatement of this privilege to the MOBIUS Executive Director.

Revised March 19, 2008

Approved by Executive Committee March 28, 2008; re-affirmed by E. C. June 3, 2008.

Approved by Council, June 3, 2008