Recommendation of Executive Committee to the MOBIUS Council for the ABC-CLIO databases:

Ø In the best interest of the consortium as a whole, renew the ABC-CLIO contract in its current form
Ø Keep the same funding model
Ø Members will not be required to participate
Ø Once level of participation is known, the members will have the opportunity to reevaluate participation if their individual increase is greater than 10%.

Renewal period: September 1, 2002-August 31, 2003

MERAC offers the following points for consideration regarding renewal.

The two databases provide electronic access in a core subject area supporting general education.

February 2002, statistics showed the highest use since the subscription started in September 2001.

MERAC does not consider six months sufficient to evaluate the investment in this project.

Linking to full text is increasing. More full text links will be available in the next year.

48 of 54 MOBIUS members are willing to renew, as indicated in a MERAC interest poll of directors or electronic resources contacts in early January.

Many are planning to renew to further the consortial goal of equity of access to educational resources.

ABC-CLIO is not increasing the cost of the total contract for the second year. The total cost of the contract will be distributed among the renewing subscribers based on the current pricing model.

Current contract provides significant savings to individual libraries over the cost for an individual subscription.

If MOBIUS chooses not to renew the contract, ABC-CLIO must be notified by July 1, 2002.