Julia T. Schneider - MOBIUS CHAIR-ELECT CANDIDATE STATEMENT

Professional Biography

I have been Library Director at Missouri Western State University since 1990. Prior to that, I was Coordinator of Technical Services/Automation at Western, with extensive acquisitions and cataloging experience as well as experience with the implementation of an automated library system. I have also served as an adjunct faculty member for undergraduate library science courses and the Introduction to College course.

In 2004-05, I directed a $55,700 State Library grant for the retrospective conversion and barcoding of the library collection of the National Military Heritage Museum whose collection is viewable on the Towers cluster site.

I am currently serving a fourth term on the Missouri Library Network Corporation Board, having served as President from 2001-2004. Past professional service includes president of the Missouri Library Association, treasurer of MOBIUS, chair of MACRL, and president of the national INLEX/DRA User Group.

Statement Regarding Service on the MOBIUS Board

Having served on the first MOBIUS Board as Treasurer, I had the opportunity to witness Missouri library history firsthand and see the valuable service that MOBIUS gives to Missouri academic libraries. The Common Library Platform and courier system have been successful in showcasing library cooperation. MOBIUS has developed strong partnerships with MLNC, the Missouri State Library, and MOREnet. During my thirty-five years as a librarian, I have witnessed collaborative library projects --- OCLC, the regional state networks, automation user groups, MLNC, MOREnet, and MOBIUS --- to name a few. MOBIUS, in particular, is more participatory. Although Directors/CIO's serve on the MOBIUS Council, many staff positions have the opportunity to serve on Advisory Committees, meet with interest groups within clusters, form collegial relationships with cluster partners, and participate in the annual conference.

Contribution to the MOBIUS Board

With major changes occurring within MOBIUS such as the loss of state funding and the resignation of the very capable Executive Director, these are critical times for MOBIUS. A new Executive Director must be hired. The membership base must remain cohesive, strong, and open to growth. Potential future directions as outlined in the Long Range Plan and Strategic Initiatives must be addressed.

I bring to the Board a broad background in administration, automation and technical services from the perspective of a four-year state university. Being one of the "old guard," I also bring a knowledge of Missouri library history to the Board. I would welcome the opportunity to work closely again with MOBIUS in support of new and continuing projects in this transition time with a new Executive Director.