MOBIUS Electronic Resources Advisory Committee Report – January 29, 2008
This report is a minimal revision of the November 9, 2007 report.

MERAC met on July 16, 2007 in Columbia and October 9, 2007 by video conferencing.

Prepared and sent out Electronic Resources Survey for MOBIUS Cafeteria databases. This year's goal was to find databases to which libraries already subscribed and for which better pricing could be obtained. About 50% of schools completed surveys. MERAC will be revising the survey in order to get more responses, even if the response is, "we will not subscribe to any of these databases."

Resources identified as possible candidate for FY08-09 are

- Communications and Mass Media Complete – This has since been removed since EBSCO is already providing the highest discount they give to MOBIUS members.
- RefWorks
- Business and Company Resource Center – Gale
- ProQuest Dissertations and Theses (prices for both the abstracts and the full-text versions will be requested)
- Syndetic Solutions (Book jackets, summaries, TOC, etc.)

One issue: Some libraries subscribing to limited-license databases, i.e., WilsonWeb databases, through MOBIUS Cafeteria have placed these databases in the general or default category of their federated search engines causing many turnaways and limiting access for other subscribers.

Since the issue has not been resolved by the voluntary Guidelines for Limited License Resources, MERAC members feel that a stronger document, the MOBIUS Limited Licenses Policy, with sanctions, is necessary. This is attached for your consideration, comments, and approval.

The following Clusters voted to accept the document as written: Washington University, Towers, Saint Louis University, Bridges, WILO, Quest, Archway, Arthur, MERLIN, Galahad, Lance, and SWAN. The vote was unanimous.

The Committee awaits the decision of the MOBIUS Council regarding the Limited Licenses Policy on February 1, 2008.

Sincerely,
Georgia Baugh and Ellen Eliceri
MERAC Co-Chairs
Saint Louis University and Webster University