MOBIUS

Chair's Report
May 21, 1999

MOBIUS will soon celebrate its first anniversary. As you know the founding meeting took place nearly one year ago on June 6, 1998. During this past year, we have made significant progress both in the maturation of the consortium and building a solid foundation for the implementation of the Common Library Platform.

The Consortium takes pride in its 50 charter members. The support provided by the chief executive officers of the 50 institutions is an extraordinary confirmation of the merits of library resources sharing. The financial support provided by the Council on Public Higher Education has allowed us to develop our vision and plan. The Coordinating Board for Higher and the State Library have provided the financial and political leadership needed for the CLP. Eldon Wallace, Commissioner Stroup, and Sara Parker are all to be commended for their leadership and the administration of the requests for State appropriations.

MOBIUS has worked very hard this year to create an operational consortium. The accomplishments are credited to all Council representatives as well as the Executive Committee. MOBIUS has implemented the *Memorandum of Understanding*. MOBIUS has developed bylaws and is operating under the most recently approved version. MOBIUS designed and carried out a selection process for a host institution that resulted in a formal agreement for services between the Coordinating Board for Higher Education on behalf of the MOBIUS Consortium and the Curators of the University of Missouri. MOBIUS has participated in the development and approval of the *Direct Service Policy Agreement Between the MOBIUS Consortium Office and the Members of the MOBIUS Consortium*. With today's election, MOBIUS has conducted 3 elections within the past year for membership on the Executive Committee. The Executive Committee continues to fulfill its obligations as detailed in the Memorandum and Bylaws. We welcome the new members to the Executive Committee and honor those whose terms will expire.

The MOBIUS Council has made instrumental decisions regarding the implementation of the Common Library Platform. These include the identification of the functional elements of a library system, the preference for the III software, the design of 9 new clusters, and today, the implementation order and time frame. And, it is continuing to develop its programs such as delivery, advisory groups, and budget policies. The MOBIUS Union Catalog made its debut in January and we thank the MIRACL libraries for providing their wonderful leadership.

The MOBIUS Consortium Office has been established. We are fortunate to have 3 outstanding staff: George Rickerson, Executive Director; Robin Kespohl, Coordinator, Implementation & Support; Mark Wahrenbrock, Coordinator, Training.

On behalf of the MOBIUS officers, thank you for these accomplishments and we enthusiastically look forward to more work and more accomplishments.

Submitted by: Cathye Bunch Dierberg, Chair