Report from the MOBIUS Access Advisory Committee

Since developing and submitting the Lost Book Policy to the MOBIUS Council for approval in March, the MAAC has been working on the implementation of the policy. Loan rules and system messages have been changed to reflect the policy. Since MERLIN and Washington University are the only clusters that have been up long enough to need to reconcile losses, they will work out a lost book reconciliation procedure to present to the full committee in October.

After reviewing the request balancing table, which was originally set up so most requests would go to MERLIN, it was agreed to change it from the original setting. MERLIN had been set at 99 and all other clusters were set at one. All clusters up and running for six months or longer are to be set at 50, all other clusters remain at one. Since the change has only been in effect for a few months, and mostly through the summer, the effects aren't yet clear and will be evaluated at the October 24th meeting.

Rules for maximum patron requests in INNReach have been revised to allow for greater flexibility. Now each institution may allow their undergraduate students a maximum of either 10 or 20 requests. Maximum requests for faculty, staff and graduate students remain at 20 for all.

There has been some discussion of the handling of books lost, or damaged by Lanter. Members have had some difficulty filing claims and collecting for damage or losses.

Implementation of release 2000 has been discussed, and settings for various aspects of system holds and recalls have been decided. MERLIN and Washington Univ. will test the effects of our decisions on INNReach recalls.

There has also been discussion about requiring member libraries to use MOBIUS rather than interlibrary loan for loans between members. Since circumstances are different for each campus, it was agreed that all members should encourage the use of MOBIUS, but it could not be required. Member campuses have used various methods to publicize and encourage the use of MOBIUS.

Agenda items for the next meeting include visiting patron issues and finding a way to allow patrons to pick up items at third party campuses without the "pick up anywhere" option.

Respectfully submitted,
Mary Jo Barbush-Weiss, MAAC Chair.