MOBIUS COOPERATING PARTNERS

MOBIUS is a consortium of accredited Missouri institutions of higher education and the Missouri State Library. According to the Memorandum of Understanding that created the Consortium, "college and university members are generally defined as public and not-for-profit independent institutions of higher education accredited (or advanced to candidacy status) by the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools." (MOU Section 1.5).

While the official position of the MOBIUS Council is that membership will be limited to Missouri academic libraries as defined above, the MOBIUS Consortium is also interested in pursuing cooperative relationships with libraries in other sectors and/or geographical regions. In particular, the Consortium is interested in developing working resource sharing relationships with non-academic libraries where it is determined that there will be mutual benefit for both parties in making such arrangements.

Accordingly, the MOBIUS Consortium has developed a status called MOBIUS Cooperating Partner to define relationships with non-academic libraries who do not satisfy the criteria for being voting members of the MOBIUS Council but are willing to cooperate in resource sharing arrangements under defined conditions. Those conditions are laid out in the paragraphs that follow.

Governance

- The Cooperating Partner (hereafter CP) will not be a voting member of the MOBIUS Council nor be elegible for positions on the MOBIUS Executive Commiteee.

- The CP may send a representative to meetings of the MOBIUS Council with non-voting observer status.

- The CP may send representatives to meetings of the Access Advisory Committee and the Catalog Design Committee with non-voting observer status. These are the MOBIUS committees that generally deal with issues relating to the shared MOBIUS catalog (INNReach) and resource sharing arrangements.

- A CP may be a single library, a library system with branches, or a group of libraries sharing an INNOPac. Each CP may send representatives to the meetings of the MOBIUS Council, the Access Advisory Committee, and the Catalog Design Committee as defined in the previous paragraphs.

- The MOBIUS Council must approve each CP relationship. All contractual agreements must include a withdrawal clause.

- The MOBIUS Executive Director will report to Council annually concerning the performance of this document and the progress of any CP relationships formed thereunder.

Hardware, Software, and Resource Sharing Arrangements

- The CP will acquire and manage an INNOPac from Innovative Interfaces, Inc. as its library management system. The CP may also contract with MOBIUS to manage its INNOPac from the MOBIUS server farm in Columbia.

- The CP will purchase INNReach software to install on its own INNOPac.

- The CP will purchase and install the Consortial Statistical Package for extractng MOBIUS use statistics.

- The CP will underwrite the costs of being included in the courier system managed by MOBIUS.

Operational Issues

- A CP will function as a separate cluster whose records will be loaded into the INNReach catalog in the same way as the records of other participants, becoming either master bibliographic records or item records as circumstances dictate.

- Authorized borrowers on the CP side will be persons who have borrowing privileges with that library or consortium.

- CP patrons will be authenticated by INNReach for purposes of borrowing, renewing, and checking their own record using the names and barcode or other numbers that identify patrons in the CP database.

- The Visiting Patron option will not be activated for CP patrons, who will do all borrowing via the electronic request function and courier service provided by MOBIUS.

- The CP will assume responsibility for collecting for lost books and reimbursing lending libraries following the policies and procedures already established in MOBIUS.

- The CP will make its own decisions on which materials and/or formats it chooses to lend and will make appropriate adjustments in its tables and cataloging records in order to enforce its own lending decisions. The CP will observe already established lending periods used in MOBIUS.

- The CP will evaluate the 10 and 20 borrowing limits in MOBIUS and decide if they meet their needs or if a new lower limit needs to be established for their patrons.

- The CP will make its own decisions as to whether any categories of its own patrons (P-types) should be blocked from borrowing.

- The CP will specify which pickup point(s) it wants included in the INNReach request form. If a CP has branches within its system, it will use an internal courier system to move MOBIUS books to the pickup points selected by its patrons.

- In a Display Holdings screen in the INNReach catalog, the CP will appear as another cluster. Member libraries or branch libraries, if they exist, will be separately listed as hot links to permit identification by name.

- The CP will use the MCO Help Desk only to deal with issues relating to INNReach.

- The CP will accept all policies and procedures currently in force regulating INNReach activity in the consortium.

- CP staff will be provided with password access to the MCO Web site for purposes of staying current with policies and procedures related to INNReach activities.

- When an agreement is signed between MOBIUS and a CP, the MCO will provide staff to work with CP staff to do all needed profiling. Operational details will be worked out during that process.

- If an agreement is signed between MOBIUS and a CP, the latter agrees to pay an annual fee to MCO for services rendered in maintaining the INNReach catalog, assisting with initial profiling of CP records, providing ongoing assistance through the MCO Help Desk, and other services provided by MCO.

- On the MOBIUS members screen (MOBIUS Union Catalog), CPs will be listed as Cooperating Partners rather than as MOBIUS Members.