NEW DECISION ITEM REQUEST

UNRESTRICTED EDUCATIONAL AND GENERAL
FORM 5

Department:	**Higher Education Unrestricted**
Level 2	**University of Missouri System**
Level 3	**MOBIUS**
Decision Item Name:	One time purchase and ongoing maintenance
Decision Item Rank:	**1 of 1**

I. PURPOSE AND CRITERIA FOR INCLUSION IN REQUEST

The MOBIUS Consortium Office was founded in 1998 with its primary mission to develop and manage a single statewide library system available for use by all higher education institutions, both public and private institutions, and 2 year and 4 year institutions. This system is known as the Common Library Platform (CLP) and was initially funded by the state.

At its inception the CLP allowed 50 of the state's public and private academic institutions to combine their library catalogs into one catalog containing 10 million items. Over the past 9 years this union catalog has grown to include over 20 million items from 62 institutions serving over 750,000 people from the higher education community and the state's populace.

The CLP creates a virtual collection of the more than 20 million items contained in the libraries of MOBIUS member institutions and creates a single user interface that allows patrons to request library materials using any personal computer in any location with access to the Internet. The MOBIUS Consortium Office also contracts for a delivery courier service to move library materials between member libraries; negotiates and manages contracts for electronic full text journals and books, electronic databases, and print materials. MOBIUS is supported entirely by member fees.

As time has passed two issues have emerged. First, as library users have become more conversant with the Internet they expect to find information more easily. Next generation library software has been developed which provides for improved Internet search capabilities, social networking, and the ability to customize interfaces to a richer array of content. We need to make this enhanced access available. Secondly, the software configuration in the individual cluster catalogs, which make up the union catalog, has become unbalanced. With limited central source state funding available, individual institutions paid for additional software for their

institution and/or cluster as local resources allowed. This request will help alleviate some of this imbalance by remedying the most glaring software deficits in the system as well as provide new overlay software to enhance all users' abilities to more fully take advantage of the vast resources available in the CLP.

II. DESCRIPTION

The request is for the purchase, implementation, and maintenance of software for the CLP to allow users to more easily locate and acquire resources owned by the MOBIUS Consortium member institutions.

III. COST EXPLANATION

RECURRING FUNDS

PCS	FTE	Compensation	E&E	Total
Instruction				
Research				
Public Service			$500,000	500,000
Academic Support				
Student Services				
Institutional Support				
Operation & Maintenance of Plant				
Scholarships & Fellowships				
Total Improvements				**$500,000**

From State Appropriations **$500,000**

ONE-TIME FUNDS

PCS	FTE	Compensation	E&E	Total
Instruction				
Research				
Public Service			$2,000,000	$2,000,000

Academic Support				
Student Services				
Institutional Support				
Operation & Maintenance of Plant				
Scholarships & Fellowships				
Total Improvements				$2,000,000

From State Appropriations **$2,000,000**

IV. EVALUATION OF OUTCOMES

MOBIUS is a successful innovation in state-wide cooperation and has continued to attract interest and attention. Not only has it grown to 62 academic libraries from an original core of 50 but the success and advantages of this program for the citizens of Missouri has been noticed outside of the academic community. Recently Missouri public and non-higher education affiliated research libraries have approached MOBIUS to explore membership opportunities. Needless to say such expansion would substantially enhance the resources of the CLP.

In today's fast moving digital world even a successful operation cannot remain complacent. Accordingly, MOBIUS is currently putting together metrics to allow us to continue to enhance our provision of services and more clearly identify our impact on local communities and academic institutions.