Linking Missouri's Academic Libraries

Information about MOBIUS and the Common Library Platform Project

FALL 2005

MOBIUS and MOREnet

THE KEY TO the development of the MOBIUS Common Library Platform system was the existence of the MOREnet network infrastructure. The CLP could not have been built without this infrastructure, and the continued viability of the CLP relies on the continued availability and viability of the MOREnet infrastructure.

When we began organizing the MOBIUS Consortium Office (MCO), a decision was made to staff only for core CLP functions and to contract for all ancillary and support functions. The MOREnet organization has become MCO's primary supplier of these services. Both MOBIUS and MOREnet operate training services for their respective constituencies. MOBIUS and MOREnet shared the cost of creating a state-of-the-art training facility. Moreover, the respective training managers meet regularly to coordinate training offerings and scheduling.

The MOBIUS and MOREnet executive directors work closely together and with other entities in the state, e.g. the Missouri State Library and the Missouri Library Network Corporation, to coordinate planning, legislative agendas, and project man-

agement. These two leaders believe strongly in collaboration and actively seek ways to maximize benefits of financial investments through cooperation and communication. These two individuals serve ex officio on each other's governing board.

MOBIUS and MOREnet have distinct roles in Missouri, but they are interdependent organizations. MOBIUS needs MOREnet for its infrastructure and its services. MOREnet needs MOBIUS because there is no point in having an infrastructure unless it is used to benefit Missouri citizens. Both organizations serve as models of how a partnership between the state of Missouri and local entities such as colleges and school districts can leverage a relatively small investment of state funds into significant benefits for Missouri's citizens.

Finally, MOBIUS and MOREnet are important components of the University of Missouri's broad mission of service to the state of Missouri and its citizens. Only UM has the capability to host such organizations, and UM can rightly claim credit for this role.

Currently MCO contracts with MOREnet for the following services:

- Human resources
- Accounting
- Budget planning
- Office network and intranet services
- Desktop computer support
- Building management services
- UM Digital Library server support



Missouri State University

in Springfield began its second century of high-quality higher education in the fall. With a new name, a new president, Dr. Michael Nietzel, and armed with a diverse faculty and a statewide mandate in public affairs, the university stands ready to continue its eager advance into the 21st century.

Missouri State offers more than 150 undergraduate majors and 43 graduate programs, many of which are the state's strongest and largest of their kind. The students have the competitive edge through the state's largest internship program, which encourages employers throughout Missouri and the world to hire Missouri State graduates. Many such graduates have gone on to succeed at top graduate and professional schools across the nation.

Missouri State University, with campuses in Springfield, Mountain Grove, West Plains and Dalian, China, educates more than 19,000 students from all 114 counties in Missouri, 47 states in the nation and 80 countries across the globe.

The Missouri State University Libraries main headquarters is the Duane G. Meyer Library on the Springfield campus. Among the resources and services offered by the Meyer Library are more than 825,000 books, sub-

memberPROFILES

scriptions to more than 4,200 periodicals and newspapers with back issues on microfilm, microfiche, and microcard, and full text electronic access to an additional 11,000 periodicals. In addition, the library contains over 914,000 state and federal government docu-

ments and is the only United Nations document depository in the state. The sharing of many of these resources is made available through MOBIUS.

"We are proud to be a founding member of MOBIUS," said Karen Horny, Missouri State University's dean of library services. "Consortium services, including group rates for licensed electronic databases, provide a tremendous improvement in access to resources for our students and faculty. MOBIUS is cooperation at its best."

Missouri Valley

(MVC) is a private, coeducational, liberal arts college that was founded in 1889 by Presbyterian Church and civic leaders in Marshall, Missouri. MVC conferred its first baccalaureate degree

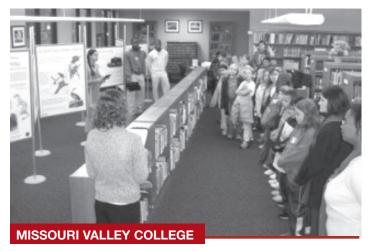
in 1890, and alumni can be found in all of the 50 states, and several foreign countries. MVC draws a great diversity of students from across the nation and around the globe, and currently there are approximately 1300 students from 40 states and 32 foreign countries at MVC. Missouri Valley College offers more than 29 academic programs and has integrated technology computer classrooms and labs available on campus to facilitate teaching and learning experiences for students, faculty and staff.

MVC's Murrell Memorial Library plays an important role in assisting faculty and students in meeting their academic needs. The Library is committed to enhancing students' ability to learn by teaching them the processes for finding and evaluating information as they explore their academic interests; supporting the faculty's teaching capabilities and scholarly research activities; providing a collection that reflects a wide variety of viewpoints on religious, political, sexual, social, economic, scientific, philosophical, ethical and moral issues; and effectively utilizing traditional resources and new technologies to foster learning and knowledge acquisition in students, faculty and staff.

To achieve these goals, Murrell Memorial Library's collection development strategies include provid-

ing instructional materials in print and electronic formats, with remote access available for a large portion of the collection.

It's a "virtual library without walls" is what I tell prospective students and their parents on cam-



pus tours. Parents are often more impressed than students, until school starts and freshmen start using the catalog. Then we hear a lot of "wow, you mean I can request these from my room all by myself?" "Sweet!" and Being a part of **MOBIUS** the CLP has been



an enlightening, productive experience. Without our membership in MOBIUS, Murrell Library might very well still be using our card catalog! --Pam Reeder, Murrell Library Director.

Ozarks Technical Community

"OTC" is the youngest and fastest growing community college in the state of Missouri. Currently celebrating its fifteenth anniversary, it boasts more than nine thousand college credit students, and serves over twenty one thousand students annually in all of its programs. The campus, located in the heart of Springfield, includes three new state of the art buildings and two completely renovated historical buildings. Despite the fact that the college also operates four extension sites in surrounding communities, the main campus is full, with no space for additional buildings or parking. As a result, ground was broken this August to begin a second campus on twice as much land, 20 miles south of the Springfield campus. OTC's comprehensive mission and focus on job-skill

training and college transfer preparation have made it a vital part of one of the fastest growing areas in the state.

Dr. Carol Curtis, OTC's first Director of Library Services and current Dean of Academic Services, was an early player and one of the driving forces in the creation of the MOBIUS consortium, Current Asst. Dean for Learning Resources Mike Madden has said "It is not possible to accurately define the impact of a statewide consortium on a small resource center in a community college. Students, faculty and staff now have an invaluable opportunity to make use of materials held in research and specialized collections located around the state. No single entity or initiative, with the possible exception of the internet itself, has had the impact of the MOBIUS Consortium on our effectiveness in providing learning resources to community college students in southwest Missouri."

MOBIUS News Link is produced under the authority of the Executive Committee of MOBIUS. Please send your comments to: RickersonG@umsystem.edu

http://MOBIUS.missouri.edu

The Common Library Platform is powered by:

INNOVATIVE

From our members:

Stephanie D. Tolson, dean of learning resources at St. Charles Community College and one of the MOBIUS executive committee members, was asked to testify on behalf of MOBIUS during legislative hearings. The day she participated there were students present from various academic institutions around the state. After she provided her testimony, one of the students said, "I am glad you spoke on MOBIUS. MOBIUS is like magic. We (students) could not live without it."

A Novel approach:

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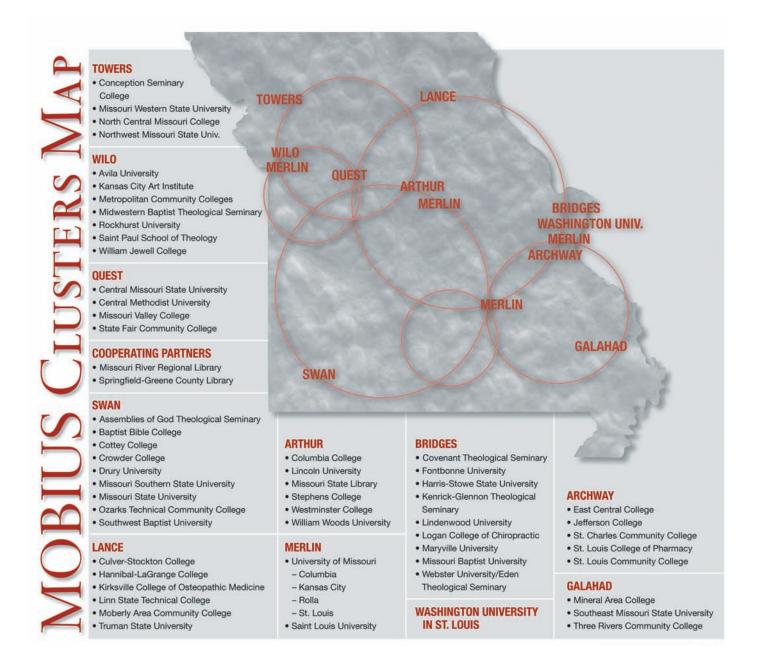
SCRIBBLES AND BITS

According to Mary Ann Samson there are three staff members at Saint Louis University Law School that use MOBIUS in a "novel" way. They meet almost everyday for lunch and discuss the latest novels they are reading. Before they knew about MOBIUS they would exchange novels among themselves. One day over lunch while they were talking about the high expense of books, Mary Ann mentioned how they could use MOBIUS. That was 3-4 years ago. They love using MOBIUS for new and old titles. In fact one of the members found a new author in a story in the Post-Dispatch. She plans to search MOBIUS for the novel titles.

From the MCO:

MOBIUS Consortium office staff changes: In the training department, Pat Seavey left in July 04 and Fran Stumpf came on board in October 04. In the operations area, Jenny Bossaller left to attend school in August 05 and Abbey Rimel joined the helpdesk team in September 05.

In July **MOBIUS moved** across the street to 3212 Lemone Industrial Blvd in Columbia. The phone and fax numbers did not change.





member profiles

MOBIUS 3212 Lemone Industrial Blvd.

Columbia, MO 65201