Development of the MIRACL/MOBIUS Union Catalog

1991 Saint Louis University begins a planning process to identify a library management system; the process involves workshops, RFP preparation, vendor demonstrations, and site visits

1993 University of Missouri System begins looking at library management systems to replace its home grown system; goes through two RFPs

Feb. 1995 The possibility of developing a library resource sharing consortium of the UM System and Saint Louis University based on a single vendor platform surfaces

April 1995 UM System signs a contract with Innovative Interfaces

Sept. 1995 St. Louis University decides to join the UM system to create a consortium called MERLIN

1996 Washington University considers options for replacing its NOTIS system

June 1996 University of Missouri system brings its Innopac (server) online

Late 1996 MPALA directors invite independent academics to join them in pursuing a common library platform with patron-generated borrowing

Jan. 1997 Saint Louis University comes online sharing the MERLIN Innopac with UM; Washington University signs contract with Innovative; will join UM System and SLU to create MIRACL

Feb. 1997 MPALA sends out RFI to obtain feedback from vendors on CLP software and likely costs

July 1997 Washington University comes online with its own Innopac


Late 1997 Beginning of profiling for the INN-Reach server, which will become the union catalog of the MIRACL consortium

May 1998 Memorandum of Understanding goes out to college/university CEOs for signatures

June 1998 Governor signs legislation authorizing funds for MOBIUS

July 1998 CBHE sends out letter soliciting interest in serving as host site

1998 Continuing work on profiling for the MIRACL union catalog; date to go online is delayed several times; decision made to go online on January 4, 1999, between semesters.

Sept. 1998 MOBIUS Council approves Innovative Interfaces as software for CLP

Dec. 1998 Host Site Agreement with UM System signed after lengthy negotiations

Jan. 4, 1999 MIRACL union catalog brought online under the name MOBIUS