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MESSAGE FROM THE MOBIUS EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR:

Spring has been busy in the MOBIUS Consortium Office. We’re gearing up for our 2009 Annual Conference, Search, Discover, Connect June 2-4 at the Tan-Tar-A Resort at the Lake of the Ozarks. With over forty sessions to attend as well as the popular Share Fair, this is a conference you won’t want to miss! We also have a fantastic keynote speaker, Dr. Michael Stephens joining us for this event. Assistant professor at Dominican University and author of the popular blog, Tame the Web, Stephens will be presenting on “Hyperlinking Libraries: Tech, Trends, Transparency.”

You’ll read about two of our member institutions and check out our upcoming training sessions. Also in this issue, you’ll get a chance to meet a few of the new employees around MOBIUS and on the MOBIUS executive committee and council members. Please join me in welcoming all of them to our team.

Enjoy reading all this edition has to offer and we’ll see you in June!

Beth Fisher,
Executive Director
MOBIUS Unveils New Web Site

Designed to provide easier navigation, the newly enhanced MOBIUS Web site is a reliable and valuable source for linking Missouri's libraries online. Designed to bring you the latest updates immediately, the new site can notify users when content is updated. Users can even receive e-mails when information is added to any committee, cluster group or other group they participate in. Instant updates however, are not the only perks to the Web site.

The MOBIUS Consortium has accepted the challenge of integrating various online tools and services by including self-registration for open lists, on the new site. In addition to present updates, MOBIUS online is designed for evolution, and has created a flexible platform that can be enhanced for the future needs of users. Improved to meet all user needs, the MOBIUS Web site is a great source for library sharing needs and information.
 MEMBER FOCUS:

Cotney College

"Now that we have resources through MOBIUS, there is no excuse not to achieve."

- Becky Kiel

Cotney College is a two-year, private liberal arts college for women. Students from across the country and world attend Cotney for two years, then move on to other institutions to complete their Bachelor's degrees. The MOBIUS network helps these women to achieve their potential.

"We are a small institution and we make every effort to have an excellent collection that serves our students well," said Becky Kiel, director of Cotney College's library. Kiel has been working in the library since 1986 and became director in 2006.

The Blanche Skiff Ross Memorial Library was completed in 1963 and was named in honor of Blanche Skiff (Mrs. Frank) Ross of Oak Park, Illinois, niece of Alice Virginia Coffin, one of the seven founders of the P.E.O. Sisterhood, owners and supporters of Cotney College since 1927.

Because Cotney is a smaller institution, Kiel said, their collection is general and not specialized in any subject area. It can be difficult to provide resources for the unique needs of each student. But with MOBIUS, students have access to a wealth of resources they never had before.

Kiel said Cotney College students are encouraged to achieve excellence in academic work," said Becky Kiel, director of Cotney College's library. "Now that we have resources through MOBIUS, there is no excuse not to achieve."

RELATED LINK:
Cotney College
http://www.cotney.edu/
MEMBER FOCUS: Northwest Missouri State University

"MOBIUS allows our students, despite our location in one of the more distant parts of the state, to take advantage of the collections of Missouri's largest academic libraries, wherever those libraries are located."

- Bob Frizzell

Established in 1905, Northwest Missouri State University is a state-assisted, four-year regional university that also offers graduate degree programs. Located in Maryville, the 370-acre campus is 90 miles from Kansas City and 100 miles from Omaha. Its 7,000 students come not only from across Missouri and neighboring states, but from around the world as both on-site and distance learners. Northwest's unique culture of quality has been studied and implemented by university administrators across the nation and in Britain. In 2008, Northwest Missouri State University received the Missouri Quality Award from the Excellence in Missouri Foundation.

A member of the Towers MOBIUS cluster, Northwest benefits greatly from its relationship with the consortium, says Robert Frizzell, director of libraries for the institution.

"MOBIUS allows our students, despite our location in one of the more distant parts of the state, to take advantage of the collections of Missouri's largest academic libraries, wherever those libraries are located," said Frizzell.

And while Northwest gains from its relationship with MOBIUS, Frizzell believes the collaboration is mutually beneficial.

"As a net lender of materials, we are pleased the books the students and taxpayers have provided for Northwest Missouri State can be of use at both public and private universities and to the users of public libraries across the state," he says.

Northwest Missouri State University President Dean L. Hubbard adds, "MOBIUS extends our library's resources in a most effective way by sharing books and other materials with other academic and even public libraries across the state. This is good for our students, good for our faculty and good for Missouri taxpayers."

RELATED LINK:
www.nwmissouri.edu/library/index.htm
MOBIUS members have much to look forward to in June. This year's conference, "Search, Discover and Connect," will be held June 2-4 at Tan-Tar-A Resort in Osage Beach, MO. The conference features over 40 sessions, giving MOBIUS members many opportunities to learn and network.

Presentations, forums and vendor demonstrations cover a wide variety of topics relevant to today's libraries. The conference is coordinated by the MOBIUS Annual Conference Planning Advisory Committee (MACPAC) and the MOBIUS Consortium Office.

Keynote speaker Dr. Michael Stephens will highlight the conference. Stephens will present on "Hyperlinked Libraries: Tech, Trends, Transparency." Stephens is an assistant professor in the Graduate School of Library and Information Science at Dominican University and the author of the blog Tame the Web (tametheweb.com). He has taught classes on Internet design, library 2.0, social networking and computer-based information tools.

For the third consecutive year, the conference will include the popular Share Fair. MOBIUS libraries will be able to share their marketing and service endeavors.

**Registration for the event is as easy:**

1. Visit https://mco.mobius.umsystem.edu/conference and click on the registration link under 'Conference Links'.
2. After you register for the conference, call Tan-Tar-A at 573-348-3131 and reserve a hotel room. Tell the registration clerk you are affiliated with the MOBIUS conference. As long as there are still MCO sponsored rooms available, you will receive a complimentary one-half of a room. You will be asked for a credit card number. If you receive a complimentary room, you will not be charged at checkout; the credit card will be charged, however, if you use any extra hotel amenities, including room service, the mini-bar and movies.

**Fees:**

- Early bird registration ........................................ $0 (March 2-May 15)
- Last minute registration ...................................... $15 (May 16-May 31)
- At the door ....................................................... $25 (Day of conference or any time during conference)
- Late cancel fee .................................................... $25

If you are unable to attend your training, please let us know before May 19th. If you do not meet the May 19th deadline, your institution will incur a $25 fee.

**RELATED LINK:**
https://mco.mobius.umsystem.edu/conference
New Faces around MOBIUS

Over the last few months, MOBIUS has welcomed several new individuals to its team. Please join us in welcoming a few of our newest MOBIUS Consortium staff members, executive committee and council members.

New MCO Staff

Donna Bacon
Donna joined the MOBIUS Consortium Office as the assistant director of information technology in the beginning of February. Her main responsibilities include planning, implementing and managing information technology services, including the day-to-day operations of the MOBIUS office.

A graduate of Missouri State University, Bacon received a B.S. in French and a minor in English. Her master’s in Library Science was earned at the University of Missouri – Columbia.

Before taking a job for MOBIUS, Bacon worked for the Springfield-Greene County Library for 25 years. She started by working part-time on retrospective conversion for Springfield’s first automation system, CLSI. She was then hired as a reference manager. She has worked as a young adult librarian, a database librarian, a branch manager and, most recently, as the library’s district reference manager. Bacon also coordinated beta testing for Innovative software annually for the past 10 years.

She has two sons and one daughter, Robin, Joshua and Chelsea. Bacon loves animals and currently has two dogs and three cats. She loves to read novels and biographies, spend time with her friends and to travel and shop.

Jennifer Parsons
Jennifer Parsons joined the MOBIUS team as the new Library Support Representative in March. In her new role, Parsons will provide technical support to MOBIUS’s member institutions, compile and evaluate data on the effectiveness of MOBIUS’s Common Library Platform, and train members on the Millenium software used by MOBIUS.

She earned her undergraduate degree in psychology from the University of Minnesota-Twin Cities and her master’s degree in library science from the University of Missouri-Columbia. Before MOBIUS, Parsons served as the adjunct librarian for Jefferson College until late 2008. A member of the Publications Committee of the Missouri Library Association, Parsons has also spent time volunteering for the Eugene Field House of St. Louis. Of her new job, she says she’s excited by all of the new and interesting people she’ll meet and learn from in the process.

Scott Peterson
As the library support representative for the MOBIUS Consortium, Scott works in operations and with the help desk. His other responsibilities include managing the contract for the courier delivery service.

A graduate of the University of Tennessee, Knoxville, Peterson earned his degree in Information Sciences in 1996. He previously worked at the University of Missouri - Rolla (now Missouri University of Science & Technology) from 1998 until 2005. In this role, he worked in the circulation department, where he set up the electronic courses reserves, and in interlibrary loan, where he operated the library’s large format printing and laminating operation and made posters for students to show in competition and conferences. He later worked in MST’s development office and for FedEx Home Delivery as a service manager.

Peterson has lived in Missouri since 1997 and enjoys mountain biking and hiking in Missouri’s state parks. He is also an avid photographer and has photographed many of the recent MOBIUS events.
Meagan Bragg
Meagan Bragg serves as the executive assistant at the MOBIUS Consortium. Her responsibilities include managing the executive director’s schedule, travel arrangements and other details. Her other duties include serving as the primary liaison between the consortium office and the conference committee, MAC-PAC, attending and coordinating meetings for the executive committee and the council as well as maintaining office files, equipment and supplies.

Bragg earned her undergraduate degree in psychology in 2005 from Truman State University in Kirksville. Prior to MOBIUS, she worked for MOREnet as the administrative assistant for the training and conference department.

Outside of work, Bragg enjoys reading, movies and traveling. As a resident of Columbia for nearly three years, she is eager to learn more about the city. Additionally, Bragg is a committee member of the Boone County Relay for Life.

Regina Cooper
Regina Cooper moved to Springfield, Mo., from Huntsville, AL where she held various positions at the Huntsville-Madison County Public Library for 28 years. For the past eight years, she served as the associate director of public services.

Regina is a graduate of the University of Mississippi at Oxford and Peabody College, part of Vanderbilt University, with a master’s degree in library science.

Regina’s love of libraries and reading go way back: She and her sister, Susan, “played library” when they were little girls growing up on a farm in Cornersville, Mississippi, “a dot on the map.”

“I feel very welcome here and am excited and happy to play a part in continuing the great library service we enjoy here in Greene County,” she said.

Regina attended her first MOBIUS Council meeting in Columbia in early February.

“It was very informative for me,” she said. “We didn’t have a comparable organization in Alabama, and I was very pleased and impressed with the cost-effectiveness of the MOBIUS model versus the traditional interlibrary loan transaction.”

The Springfield-Greene County Library District consists of 10 libraries and a bookmobile.

Elise Fisher
Fisher is the Interim Library Director for William Jewell College. She previously served as a public services librarian for the college since 1988. Elise earned her MLIS from the University of Missouri Columbia and an MS Ed in Teaching: Instructional Technology in 2008. Elise welcomed her first grandchild this past winter, Ella.

New Vice President for Information Technology
University of Missouri

In his current role, Dr. Gary Allen oversees the information technology infrastructure for the University of Missouri offices, the four campuses, UM Health Care, and statewide extension programs, as well as a student enrollment of more than 63,000. He also has overall responsibility for the statewide Missouri Research and Education Network (MOREnet) and MOBIUS, a statewide common library platform. Additionally, he serves as Chief Information Officer for the University of Missouri-Columbia campus, where he oversees campus-wide computing and telecommunication operations.

Dr. Allen is also an Associate Professor of Veterinary Pathobiology at the University of Missouri-Columbia College of Veterinary Medicine. He is a Diplomate (Specialty of Virology) of the American College of Veterinary Microbiologists (ACVM), and has served as a member of the ACVM Board of Governors. He holds an adjunct faculty appointment in the
Department of Health Management and Informatics in MU's School of Medicine, and serves on the steering committee for the recently created MU Informatics Institute. Since 2001, he has served as Executive Director of the University Missouri Bioinformatics Consortium, a high-performance networking and computational infrastructure for bioinformatics research and collaboration across and beyond the four campuses of the University.

Dr. Allen received his B.S. in agriculture (biochemistry emphasis) and a DVM degree from Mississippi State University, and a Ph.D. in microbiology from MU. He completed postdoctoral training at Texas A&M University in immunology and biochemistry, and at the MU School of Medicine in medical informatics.

Co-interim Deans
University of Missouri--St. Louis

Marilyn Rodgers
Marilyn Rodgers has always had a love of information and words, which led to her career as a librarian. Currently she is co-interim dean of the university libraries at the University of Missouri–St. Louis.

Rodgers, who holds a B.A. from the University of Colorado and an M.A. from Mizzou, began her career as a newspaper librarian at the Denver Post where she later became head librarian. Rodgers, her husband Ted and her daughters Sarah and Ellen subsequently moved to Honolulu, where Marilyn went to work for the library serving the city's two newspapers.

The Rodgers family moved to the St. Louis area in 1992, and when she graduated with her M.A., Rodgers became a reference librarian at UMSL. In 1998, she was appointed co-manager of the reference department, a position she still holds.

Rodgers loves to travel and read, and still loves information and words.

Christopher Dames
Dames earned a B.S. in physics in 1992 and a M.S. in physics in 1994 from the University of Missouri-St. Louis. In 1997, he earned an M.L.S. from Kent State University. His first library position was at Stark Country District Library, where he worked in adult services, humanities reference and the technology department. He then accepted a reference librarian position at the University of Missouri-St. Louis in 1998.

At UMSL, Dames manages the library Web site, develops custom databases, provides general reference service and has been involved in many special projects. In November 2008, he was appointed co-interim dean of university libraries at UMSL.

He currently resides in St. Louis County with his wife, Annie Lukacz.

New Executive Committee Non-Voting

Dr. Tim Gallimore
Dr. Tim Gallimore is the assistant commissioner for academic affairs for the Missouri Department of Higher Education and has held this position since October 2008. He is the Missouri DHE representative for the MOBIUS Executive Committee and serves as a non-voting member.

Dr. Gallimore earned his graduate and doctoral degrees from Indiana University and has completed a series of post-doctoral studies. Dr. Gallimore has traveled around the world and served in a variety of positions in Africa, the Slovak Republic, Rwanda and Romania.

He is a faculty team member for the University of Missouri International Center for Psychosocial Trauma and the School of Medicine. Additionally, Dr. Gallimore serves as an advisory board member for StepUp! American Association for Rwandan Women and for the Interdisciplinary Genocide Studies Center.

Dr. Gallimore is married with two children.
MCO Introduces Online Help Desk

The MOBIUS Consortium Office is pleased to offer the MOBIUS Online Help Desk. MOBIUS institutional users may submit new help desk tickets, update existing tickets, view tickets open for their institution or cluster and search for tickets based on other criteria. When submitting or updating a ticket, users may upload screen shots or data files, submit alternate contact e-mail addresses or indicate that the ticket is on behalf of a committee. Users may also manage their contact information.

To access the MOBIUS Online Help Desk, visit the MOBIUS site at https://mco.mobius.umsystem.edu. Log in with your user account and password, then click on the Help Desk, then Online Help Desk. Existing users can log in with their e-mail address and password or request password assistance. If you do not already have an account, click on “New Users Please Register.”

Digital Serendipity at University of Western Ontario (Canada)

Working with Innovative’s Content Pro Digital Library Product

The University of Western Ontario is ramping up the digitization of its unique collections as it joins with Innovative to develop Content Pro, a new digital library solution from Innovative.

“We are just starting to realize the potential of Content Pro as a digital tool and it has enabled three interesting projects,” says Tom Adam, information literacy librarian and Content Pro implementation team leader. The first results from a case of digital serendipity.

“Our university librarian, Joyce Garnett, shared the news about the development partnership at a meeting of campus deans and chairs, which includes a member of the board of the UWO Mcintosh Art Gallery,” Adam says. “A light bulb went off, because his gallery has just embarked on a project using a homegrown database to digitize the University’s large collection of artworks, including many from southwestern Ontario that do not have much exposure on the Web. Joining with Western Libraries in the Content Pro project benefits both our groups and highlights the mandate of libraries to add value to the knowledge at the communities’ disposal.

“Our initial digitized projects are great publicity for the library
and will showcase rare books, images, research and archives through the Content Pro interface,” Adam continues.

Staff will use Content Pro to publish digital objects from the History of Medicine Collection housed in the archives at UWO.

“We are continually digitizing this collection,” says Adam. “One of our archivists, Leslie Thomas Smith, will be using Content Pro to make more of it available to users.”

The Medical Artifact Collection, consisting of 64 boxes with certificates, portraits, class photos, yearbooks, medical banquet programs, doctors’ ledgers, lecture notes and journals, complements the medical history content.

Ann Daniel, one of the UWOn’s archivists, is carefully examining archival boxes to identify the best material to digitize for Content Pro.

“The advantage of Content Pro will be to gather this collection, and more, in one place that advertises our libraries as crucial to the community,” Adam says.

A book from the late 19th century, the Delaquerrière Album, recently digitized by Lisa Rae Philpott in the Music Library, will be part of the initial contribution to Content Pro. The Delaquerrière Album is a scrapbook containing letters, clippings, scores and photographs, all mementos of Louis Delaquerrière, a tenor at the Opéra-Comique in Paris. The Album provides a unique snapshot of 19th century Paris as well as insight into contemporary music pedagogy, because Delaquerrière was also a renowned music educator. Several of the composers’ letters offer insights into vocal performance practice of the period.

UWO’s Content Pro team spans several departments and includes staff with expertise in the three collections and information technology. The group also includes a knowledge management librarian who will help make the best use of the Dublin CoreSM metadata Content Pro offers, so they are easily sharable and accessible.

“From the technical side, the ‘uploaders’ are finding the Content Pro interface is easy to use, in terms of adding metadata and attaching files,” Adam says. “For these kinds of projects, which entail digitizing a lot of material over time, efficient staff procedures are very important. As a bonus, we will be able to use the metadata structure to make everything in Content Pro discoverable through Encore, which we made available to our users in August 2008.”

Content Pro is a digital library solution that provides easy submission of metadata, an elegant web interface (above), and OAI-compliant harvesting of its metadata.

RELATION LINK: www.iii.com/products/content_pro.shtml

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Candice Baldwin .................................................. Two year public at large / 2008 - 2010
Janet Caruthers ........................................................... Secretary / 2008-2010
Margaret Conroy .......................................................... MO State Library Representative
Valerie Darst........................................................... Treasurer / 2007-2009
Beth Fisher .......................................................... MOBIUS Executive Director
Dr. Tim Gallimore.................................................. Missouri DHE Representative
Wendy McGrane ........................................................... Four Year Public-at-Large / 2007-2009
Bill Mitchell........................................................ ...... MOREnet Representative
Julia Schneider ........................................................ Independent-at-Large / 2009
Kathleen Finegan ........................................................ Independent-at-Large / 2008 - 2010