

**Date: 28 September 2009**  
**Site: Missouri Department of Transportation Library**  
**Staff: Anthony J. Million, Librarian**  
**Mara Campbell, Organizational Results Director**  
**Susan Morrisroe, Director, Missouri State Library Reference Services**

## Site Visit Summary

### History & Overview

The first Missouri Department of Transportation library was located at the headquarters in the 1950s, most likely as part of the materials department. In the early 2000s, MoDOT entered into a transportation library project with the University of Missouri-Columbia College of Civil Engineering School. By late 2004, the Missouri State Library became part of the project and the Secretary's office signed an MOU with MoDOT to house the collection at the State Library and to jointly supervise the librarian. The librarian position was originally with MoDOT, but is now through the College of Civil Engineering at UM-Columbia. Initially, the engineering students and faculty were the library's primary clientele, and the library utilized graduate students from the UM-Columbia library school to complete an integrated library system migration from EOS to III that was facilitated by the State Library. Over time, the library's clientele has shifted from university to MoDOT staff. MoDOT Organizational Results makes frequent use of the library to conduct research, improve processes, develop best practices, and execute literature searches. They continually ask, "How can we do our job better?" The library is a vital part of Organizational Results and the department has become its core customer base. The library did not have a history of strong collaborative relationships with other departments at MoDOT, and A.J. is working on strengthening ties with other departments through outreach efforts.

MoDOT participates in [MOBIUS](#), the shared catalog of the [MOBIUS](#) statewide library consortium. The catalog provides extensive access to resources outside of the MoDOT and State Libraries and MoDOT's inclusion in MOBIUD has benefited MoDOT researchers tremendously. MoDOT library customers have expanded access to resources through [MOBIUS](#), [Merlin \(UM Library catalog\)](#), [Arthur \(State Library catalog\)](#), regional TKNs, [OCLC WorldCat](#) and [TLCat](#), which is reflected in the TKN ILL and MTKN metrics.

Susan Morrisroe is the Director of Reference Services at the Missouri State Library. Susan discussed the history of the joint venture between the State Library and MoDOT and feels that the role of the State Library has become more focused over time. As a consequence, the partnership has been a very successful and that they are achieving the State Library's goal that the partnership would serve as a model for other state departments that have valuable but underutilized libraries to join MOBIUS.

All executive departments in Missouri state government are trying to develop standards for data and document retention. The State Library no longer collects paper documents, focusing only on collecting and harvesting digital documents using OCLC's contentDM. There are now multiple electronic copies of many holdings and they are hoping to collaborate with MoDOT on organizing and streamlining the process and the collection. A.J. meets with Susan and other State Library staff monthly to discuss electronic access.

### Staff

The MoDOT Library is under the direction of the librarian, A. J. Million. A.J. is a full-time University of Missouri employee. The MoDOT library is part of the office of Organizational Results,

led by Mara Campbell. A.J. splits his time between the State Library and the MoDOT office where Organizational Results is located.

### **Physical Space**

The library collection is located on the mezzanine level of the State Library, with collection stacks overlooking a large reading room. A major weeding effort is underway, and the plan is that 25% of the physical collection will remain when it is complete. While the State Library's physical collection is being downsized, MoDOT's collection continues to grow.



The Missouri State Library Reading Room

### **Collection & Services**

The MoDOT Library collection has approximately 7500 monographs, 1500 serials, plus CDs and videos. There is a special collection of historic state highway commission reports from 1913-1970s. Most historic items such as photographs have been given to the State Archives for preservation and are now part of the archive's permanent collection.

The MoDOT Library has excellent access to databases through the State Library and the University of Missouri, and has its own subscription to the ASCE Research Library.

A.J.'s primary strategic goal is to focus on an internally hosted digital repository. He would like to provide a Table of Contents service and access to digital resources via Sharepoint where the Library could host Missouri publications and have it function as a centralized marketing tool with a blog, an RSS feed, document libraries and requests for literature searches. MoDOT is using Web 2.0 tools such as Facebook, Twitter, YouTube, Blogger, podcasting and widgets in its delivery of information internally and to the public. Access to these tools presents the Library with great opportunities to reach customers wherever they reside.

A.J. has cataloged approximately 1900 items in the last 6 months. MoDOT is currently performing K Level cataloging in OCLC and PDFs are linked in WorldCat.

A.J. has set up a DOT state measures section on the MTKN Drupal site. Also planned for the Drupal site are performance measures from all states, as an MTKN project. A.J. keeps statistics such as reference requests, literature searches, departments, divisions and districts making requests, interlibrary loans and subject areas.



The MoDOT Library collection is kept on the mezzanine level of the State Library.

### **MoDOT's Goals for the Pooled Fund Study**

Continued coverage of OCLC subscriptions through the pooled fund study is front and center as budgets are strained and this trend seems likely to continue into the foreseeable future. While much of A.J.'s focus is internal MoDOT business, he would like to see that other libraries that are perhaps not as well supported as MoDOT's get the help they need through the pooled fund. Projects such as development of an updated Return on Investment formula and documentation are very important to MoDOT, as they emphasize a results-oriented approach. The ability to quantify the value of library services with the most recent applications and strategies behind it are of great interest to MoDOT. A.J. also feels it is vital to keep the momentum going on the development and launch of the National Transportation Knowledge Network and keep the regional networks cohesive and working together.

### **More about MoDOT:**



#### About MoDOT

<http://www.modot.mo.gov/about/>

#### MoDOT's Mission, Values and Tangible Results

[http://www.modot.mo.gov/about/general\\_info/strategicplan.htm](http://www.modot.mo.gov/about/general_info/strategicplan.htm)

#### MoDOT Organizational Chart

<http://www.modot.mo.gov/jobs/documents/MoDOTOrgChart.pdf>

#### MoDOT Organizational Results

<http://www.modot.mo.gov/services/OR/index.htm>

#### MoDOT Publications

<http://www.modot.mo.gov/newsandinfo/>

#### MoDOT *Roadside Review* Newsletter

<http://www.modot.mo.gov/services/community/documents/RoadsideReviewSummer09.pdf>

#### MoDOT Plans & Projects

<http://www.modot.mo.gov/plansandprojects/>

### **For more information about the MoDOT Library, please contact:**

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