

# Agenda for CWG Meeting

## April 30, 2003



1. Deployment Update..... Dan Hall
2. CGAP/eGrants Update..... JJ Maurer
3. Human Subjects Data Update... George Stone
4. eSNAP Pilot Discussion..... David Wright
5. FSR Module Discussion..... David Wright
6. Project Status Update..... JJ McGowan
7. NIH Vision on Institutional  
System Integration..... Dan Hall
8. Bug Reports/Helpdesk Issues... Tim Twomey
9. Miscellaneous Items..... David Wright

# Ready Reference Reminders



- eRA site including CWG minutes from previous meeting
  - <http://era.nih.gov>
  - [http://era.nih.gov/Docs/CWG\\_Minutes\\_01-08-03final.pdf](http://era.nih.gov/Docs/CWG_Minutes_01-08-03final.pdf)
- NIH eRA Commons V 2.0 home page
  - <https://commons.era.nih.gov>



# Status of the eRA Commons V2.0 Deployment

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Dan Hall  
eRA Commons Lead Analyst

# General System Statistics



- 266 Organizations Registered
- In April, we will have 10,000+ Logins
  - Reported 1,600 Logins in January
  - 17% of IMPAC II Enterprise System
- 6,500 Accounts
  - Consistently creating 900 a month

# More on Accounts



- Role Distribution (6,500 Accounts)
  - PI – 52%
    - 3,500 PIs (Only 5.6% of FY 2002 Applications)
    - 65% have not yet logged in
  - AO – 14%
  - SO – 12%
  - FSR – 10%
  - ASST – 5%
  - IAR – 3%
  - AA – 2%

# Application Statistics



- eSNAP
  - 84 SNAPs have been submitted to NIH
  - Looking for 500 by summer
- FSR
  - 1,900 FSRs by institutions (6,000 Total)
  - Moved to full production in March
- IAR (Internet Assisted Review)
  - 16 meetings to date (230 Users)
  - 17 meetings scheduled in June
  - Full production in July

# Outreach in FY 2003



- Presentations
  - Winter
    - NCURA National Washington, D.C.
    - FDP Los Angeles, CA.
    - SRA Orlando, FL.
    - M.D. Anderson Cancer Center
  - Spring
    - Internal NIH
    - SRA Providence, RI.
    - NCURA Regional, Cincinnati, OH.
- Training using Demo Facility
  - NIH Western Regional in Palo Alto, CA. (180)
  - SRA in Memphis, TN. (60)
- VirtualSchool (RoboDemo)
  - FSR – Deployed last week
  - Commons/eSNAP/IAR Planned

# March Release Highlights



- Performance Improvements
  - Code Optimization
  - Query Optimization (FSR and Status Search)
- Merged Commons/IMPAC II Databases
- Demo Facility (Admin/Status/FSR/eSNAP)
- Completed SuperUser Access for HelpDesk
- Added Other Relevant Documents
  - Scanned Application or eSNAP Submission
  - Abstract
  - Scanned FSR
- Maintain Accounts (Create Account)



# Demo of March Highlights





# CGAP Status Update

## Competitive Grant Applications Process

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JJ Maurer

Ekagra Software Technologies Ltd  
eRA CGAP Project Manager

# CGAP Objectives

- Receive electronic grant applications (R01) by 2003 as an XML stream (XML file and PDF files)
- Process e-applications through receipt and referral at NIH without printing
- Define requirements for downstream processing of e-applications (Review, Program, Grants Management, etc)

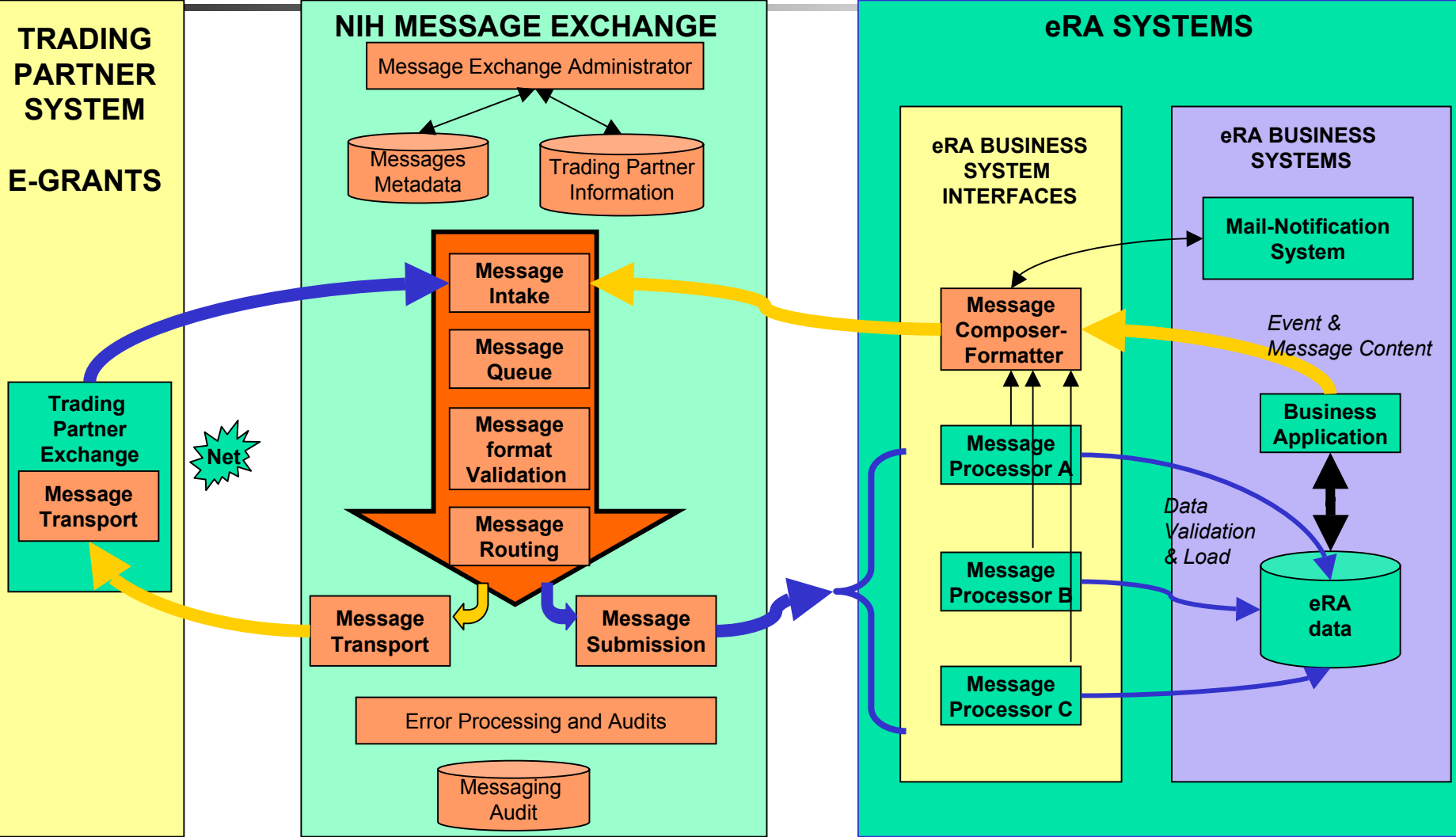


# How: eRA Exchange



- Computer-to-computer information exchange, no front end
- In-coming applications and requests
- Out-going messages, status updates
- XML as the technology for structured data
- PDF for text and graphics

# Functional Components of the Exchange



# CGAP completed activities

- ✓ Developed detailed project plan
- ✓ Got funding approvals for team
- ✓ Organized project team (now 5+)
- ✓ Developed iterations 1,2 requirements
- ✓ Design document + prototypes
- ✓ Receipt and Referral Steering group meetings
- ✓ Coordination meetings with E-Grants

# CGAP current activities



- Prepare message specification for publications (ticket, error messages, status request)
- Complete design for iterations 1,2,3
- Development on-going for iteration 1
- Definition of validation rules
- Definition of new receipt business process
- E-Grants coordination

# CGAP outputs



- Description of process and technologies
- XML for 398 ( draft and revised)
- SOAP packaging instructions and format
- Major milestones and project plan
- Internal documents for design
  - Use cases
  - Supplemental specifications
  - Design documents
  - Validation rules



# Coordination with E-Grants



- E-Grants hired development contractor (Northrop Grumman, AT&T, Ekagra)
- Proposed Solution includes
  - Proven framework-tool kit for submission process
  - Downloadable forms to compose applications off-line
  - Hosted solutions by ATT
  - XML files to Agencies
  - Tool kit to help agencies accept e-applications
- Draft XML schema for Form 424 published
- Proof of concept in 90 days; Pilot by October 2003
- Charlie Havekost on panel tomorrow 4 PM
- Monthly coordination meetings E-Grants - NIH

# Target Time Table

(Original Nov 02)



- **Phase 1:** Now to end of January 03
  - Standard XML documentation, technology and application receipt flow
  - *Inception, tech architecture and analysis*
- **Phase 2:** February – April 03
  - Application Receipt and validation
  - *Build and test the receipt of XML stream*
- **Phase 3:** May – July 03
  - Business to Government flow and interchange infrastructure
  - *Complete Design and build B to Gov exchange*
  - *Pilot*
- **Phase 4:** August – November 03
  - Integration with bi-directional communications on IPF, PPF, FSR and potentially other requests
  - *Build out the integrated system for e-Applications : Test and Gradual introduction*

# Current Short-Term Schedule



- Publish Application Packaging specification (SOAP with attachments) **May 2, 2003**
- Publish draft specifications for tickets, status, error messages **May 12, 2003**
- Gather feedback by **May 26, 2003**
- Complete Release 1 prototype and make available for test **June 6, 2003**
- Complete Release 1 and make available for test **June 27, 2003**

# Clinical Research/Clinical Trials/IRB Data Standards



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George Stone  
eRA Commons Group Advocate

# eSNAP Pilot and FSR Module Deployment Status and Discussion



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David Wright  
eRA Commons Group Advocate



# eRA Project Status Update

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JJ McGowan  
eRA Project Manager

# NIH eRA Vision on Institutional Systems Integration



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Dan Hall  
eRA Commons Lead Analyst

# July Initiatives (Tactical Improvements)



- Fixing Minor Role Issues
  - Allow PI role to be assigned to AO/SO
  - Allowing AA role to be assigned to other Accounts
- eSNAP (Demo)
  - Adding Human Subjects Inclusion Report in eSNAP
  - Improved workflow (“Section Complete”)
- FSR
  - NIH operational fixes to streamline process
  - Rejection notification
- IAR
  - Show application and performance improvements



# For NIH To Accept Transactions



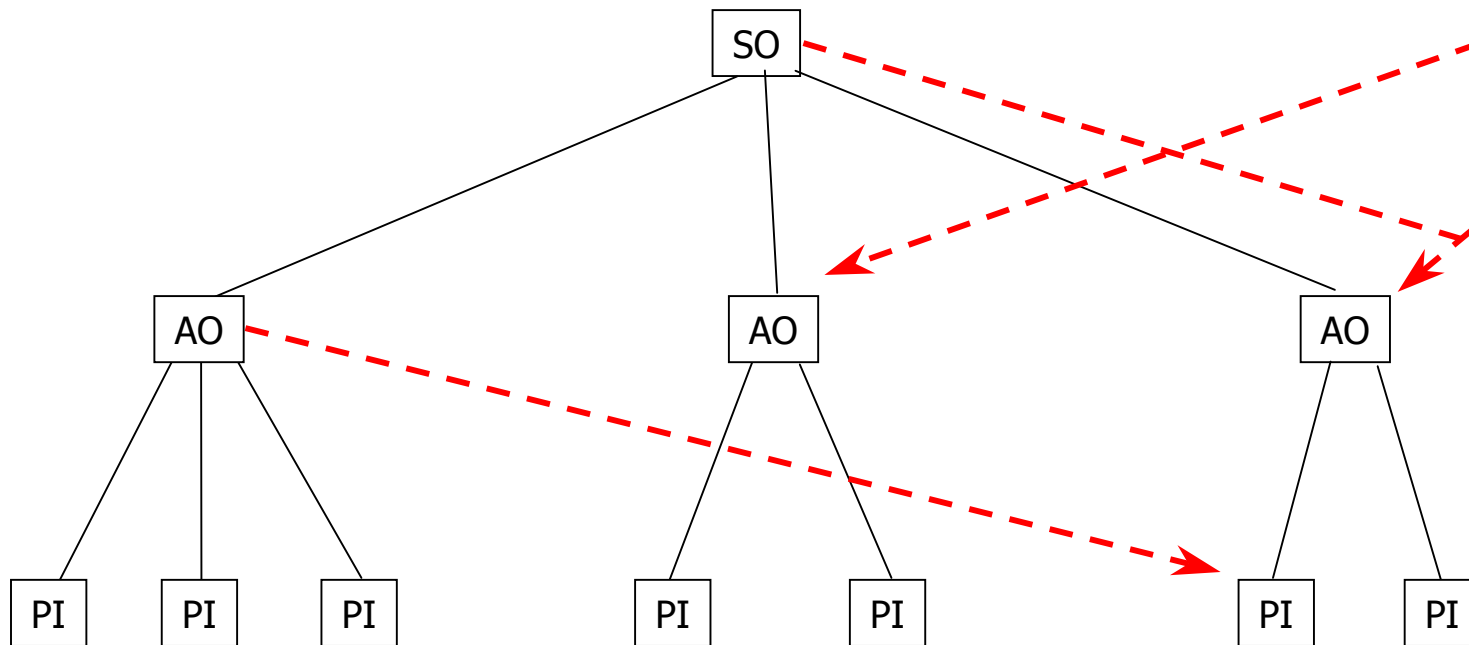
- Minimize Data Quality Issues
  - Eliminate multiple profiles (tracking a PI through entire career)
  - Strictly enforce Person Profile policies
  - Data quality improvements
- Physical Architecture in Place
  - Handle transactional load
  - Implement automated failover/disaster recovery
- Operational Processes in Place
  - CMM Level 3
  - Validate peak load thresholds
  - 99.5% availability

# July Initiatives (in Support of Strategic Goals)



- Significant Infrastructure Enhancements
  - Load Balancing (Middle Tier)
  - Clustering (Data Tier)
- Revamping Create Account (Demo)
  - Increase both speed and accuracy of account creation
  - Allows for post-account creation resolutions
  - Frees Data Quality Group to fix systematic issues
- Data Quality
  - Consolidating degrees
  - Improvements to addresses (City/State/Zip)

# Why have Role Types?



# Questions Driving Strategy



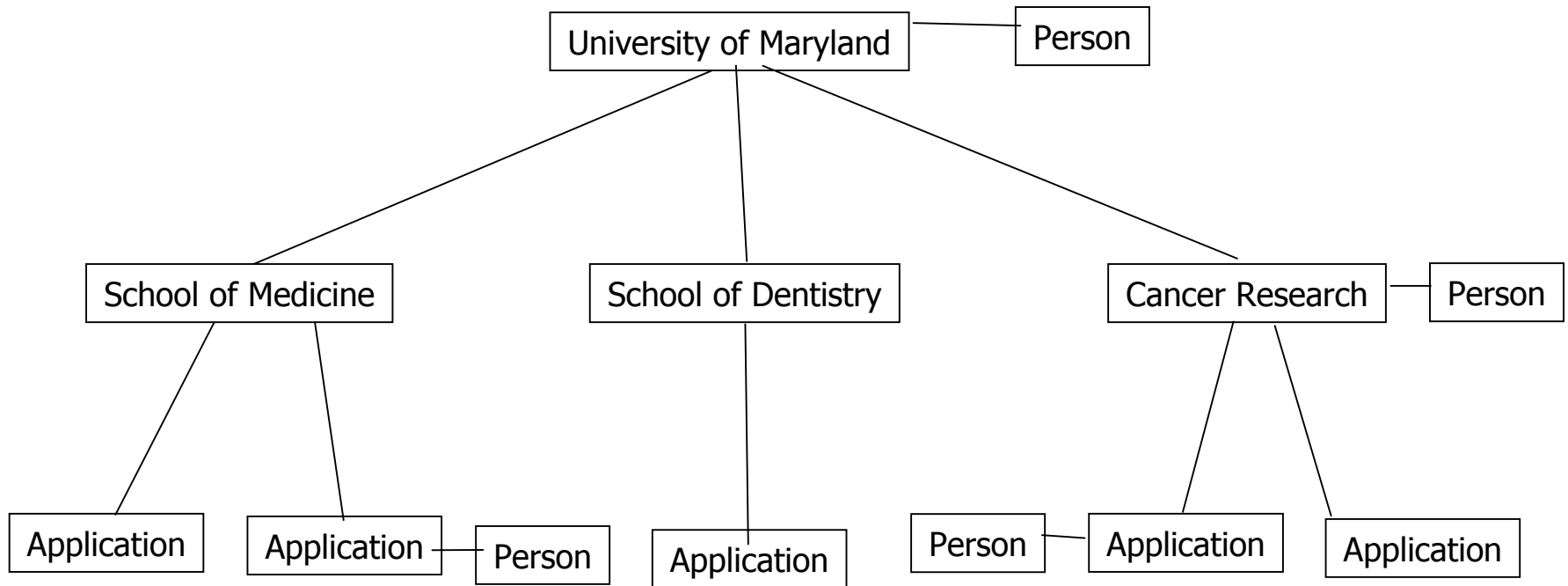
- Rights vs. Roles?
  - Existing approach (SO->AO->PI) is adequate but...
    - Limits access to data (AO access)
    - Is not helpful in showing “appropriate” applications/data
    - Is inadequate in support of Reporting requirements
  - If we exposed an interface to assign applications to hierarchy, would you use it?
- Professional Profile Integration?
  - Profile interface / PPF delegation works but...
    - Does this reduce PI burden?
    - Is the data now accurate?
    - Who is the best source? PI or institutional systems?

# Strategic Focus



- Granular Access to Detailed Data
- Building on the CGAP Architecture Define:
  - Personal Profile XML stream
  - Maintain org hierarchies (User Interface and XML transactions) to define applications to organizational hierarchies
  - Define rights associated within the organizational hierarchy (User Interface and XML transactions)

# Or Is This What is Needed?



1. Approach assumes application is defined to a department and a department rolls up in a hierarchy
2. People are attributes of application or department within the hierarchy
3. A person may be defined multiple times

# What Should Our Focus Be?

- Strategic Focus Previously Defined?
- Tactical Initiatives Including:
  - eNotifications
  - Extract Citation Abstracts directly from NLM
  - Consolidate eSNAP/Status search
  - Extend eSNAP to include non-steamlined Progress Reports (eNAP)
  - X-TRAIN
  - eRACommons/CGAP integration





# eRA Commons V2.0 Bug Reports and Help Desk Issues

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Tim Twomey  
User Support Branch Chief



# Help Desk Initiatives



- Trouble Tickets
  - 180 in January to 300 in April
    - (Increase less than system usage)
- Increased staff 33% to 8 persons
- Full functional SuperUser capability
- Reviewing Webex/Sharing Tools to better resolve user issues



# Miscellaneous Items

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David Wright  
eRA Commons Group Advocate