⬙ ECB/QVR Steering Committee

Electronic Council Book–Query/View/Reporting System Steering Committee

Date: Wednesday, September 1, 2004

Time: 10:00 a.m.–11:20 a.m.

Location: Fernwood Bldg., Rm 3D-18

Advocate: Pete Morton

Chair: Thor Fjellstedt

Next Meeting: October 6, Wed., 10:00 a.m.–Noon, Fernwood Building, Room 3D-18

Action item

1. (Don Tiedemann) Incorporate the grant-counts rule in QVR to ensure that ICs with Roadmap dollars get credit for Roadmap grant money.

2. (Cathy Buckley) Have checkbox indicating grants with JIT information in QVR's Review Program Section.

Discussion

The End of the Fiscal Year—With September 30 marking the end of the government's fiscal year, Institutes will be in a feverish mode to give out the money for awarded grants and to close out the year. Thor Fjellstedt noted that QVR is heavily used during this period. Earl Hodgkins reported that there has been very little paid out on Roadmap grants. Only $1.2 million of the $129 million in Roadmap grant money had been paid out as of September 1, causing a lot of concern about the resulting workload. Institutes have until September 7 to have their Roadmap pay plans finalized by the budget office and another five days to get any responses before paying the money out.

Population Tracking Features—Thor reported that he made a presentation on August 19 to the Population Tracking Users Group (ePTUG) on how to use QVR to extract data in two reports newly designed for Population Tracking. One report tracks subjects enrolled in an awarded grant by gender and minority; the other tracks applications that are missing required data, such as enrollment approval and protocol assignments. ePTUG members showed much interest in these two reports. Staff in Building 1 want the ability to track by Institute, so more enhancements are being developed. EPTUG was asked to send suggestions for further QVR reports through their chair, Carlos Caban.

Checkbook/Scientific Indexing—Thor reported that Institutes are interested in tapping QVR to mine Institute-specific data in two ways. One is the scientific indexing of grants. CIT is working with two Institutes [Fogarty International Center (FIC) and the National Center for Complementary and Alternative Medicine (NCCAM)] to develop a prototype with the help of Altum, Inc., a Reston, Va., company. Once the centralized indexing prototype is complete, the QVR team will evaluate integrating this data into the QVR. The second way is to use QVR to create a funding or pay plan. Thor said that the QVR development team has had discussions with

the National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases (NIDDK) and the National Human Genome Research Institute (NHGRI) to develop a business model. This model will enable them to track grants through QVR that are unpaid or paid, similar to a checkbook that matches budget allocations against obligations.

Updates

Budget User Group—About 30 people attended the first meeting of the QVR Budget Users Group (BUG) held August 25 in Building 31, according to Earl Hodgkins. Chad Wysong, an NIDCD budget analyst, had proposed forming the user group to swap ideas and experiences on using QVR to enhance use of the tool in the financial management of grants. This meeting focused on end-of-year book closing. Chad is considering setting up a listserv (a communication tool that enables questions or comments to be automatically sent to everyone in the group). The group has not decided how often they will meet.

Blog—The QVR developers also are planning to create a blog (a bulletin board on the Web for posting comments, suggestions, ideas, etc.), which will be a useful way for QVR users to exchange information and techniques. The rollout out of the blog may coincide with QVR‘s migration to MX, the latest version of ColdFusion, an application-server software for building and deploying Web applications and services. This migration will give QVR more stability and allow for better and faster development of features such as a blog.

QVR Enhancement Updates

People Search—A People Search feature was added to QVR two weeks ago, enabling users to put in a person's name or key word and pull up information from the eRA System database on that person by state, country, degree or expertise, etc. The database includes all applicants who have sought grants from the NIH over the past 12 years plus all people who have participated on NIH review committees and advisory councils during that time period. This feature can help identify reviewers for a review committee or a workshop.

Not Scored Search Criteria—The "Not Scored" checkbox located in QVR's Review Program section is now based on IRG (Integrated Review Group) recommended code "6" instead of Project Status action codes. The change was made because IRG codes provide a more accurate indication of "Not Scored' grants than Project Status Codes.

Download of 800-Series Data—Users can now search on General IC data in the 800 series from the eRA System database (IMPAC II) as well as download these items onto a spreadsheet.

Enhancements Announced at Last Meeting (Aug. 18):

Review Meeting Date Range Search—Enables a user to pull up all meetings within a specified date range. This feature is located in the Review/Program section of the Main search screens.

Paylist Template Report—A new Budget report creates a paylist template in Excel. The template was designed by budget officers to support Roadmap awards, but also can be used for non-Roadmap activities.

Printer-Friendly Page—Pressing a button on the Principal Investigator Information page now lets users print query results as a Word document.

Update on Recently Requested Enhancements

- *Roadmap Grant Counts*—Cathy Buckley asked who should get credit for Roadmap grants, the Institute that is awarded the grant money or the Institute that spends it. Since the Roadmap initiative is new, the end-of-the-year report needs to incorporate that business rule. Earl said that the Institute or Center that has even one Roadmap dollar will get credit, regardless of who administers the grant as long as at least $1 was contributed from a Roadmap Common Account Number

Action: **(Don Tiedemann) Incorporate the grant-counts rule in QVR to ensure that ICs with Roadmap dollars get credit for Roadmap grant money.**

- *JIT-Submitted Search Criteria*—Cathy asked whether QVR users wanted grants with Just-In-Time information as a download item or as a search by date criteria. Rick Ikeda said that he would like to see a checkbox for now that would indicate grants with JIT information and maybe a date-search ability in the future. The current problem is that every grant in the Program folder has to be opened to figure out if it contains JIT information. Thor said that the checkbox should be in the Review Program section near the Application Image/eSNAP Available checkbox.

Action: **(Cathy Buckley) Place checkbox indicating grants with JIT information in QVR's Review Program Section.**

Classes

ECB/QVR and Related Training Classes

- 730C: **Introduction to the QVR System,** September 2
- 729C: **Understanding the Grants Process,** September 3

Both of these classes are full. Thor stated that he would add more classes as needed.

Attendance

Buckley, Cathy (CIT)	Januszewski, Joe (CIT)	Rivera, Eddie (NHGRI)
Connors, Anne (NIAMS)	Jones, Terry (NIAID)	Subramanya, Manju
Fjellstedt, Thor (CIT)	Lingham, Angela (NIA)	(LTS/PCOB)
Hodgkins, Earl (CIT)	Mason, Tom (CIT)	Ta, Loan (NIA)
Ikeda, Rick (NIGMS)	McHale, Carolyn (CIT)	Tiedemann, Don (CIT)
Floura, Ranvir (CIT)	Occhipinti, Sandra (NICHD)	