eRA Program Official Users Group (ePUG) Meeting Minutes

Date: Friday, August 9, 2002
Time: 9:00–noon
Location: Rockledge 2, Room 9014
Chair: Carlos Caban and Bud Erickson

Next Meeting: September 13, 2002

NIH Portal Presentation and Demonstration

Molly Vanderbilt demonstrated the NIH Portal system, which she helped to develop. The NIH Portal allows NIH employees and users to create and access personalized Web links to access NIH information.

The NIH Portal allows users to:

- Personalize the page specifically for the user.

- Create multiple pages.

- Search the Internet.

- Remain current on national and NIH news.

The system is still in development. Molly predicted that by the end of the calendar year, the NIH Portal would be in full production.

Program Portal Update

Bud Erickson reported that because of a 10 percent budget shortfall ($6M), the Program Portal project has been delayed. Oracle Corp. is dropping support of Oracle Forms, which is used extensively in IMPAC II; therefore, the eRA Project Team made the decision to move to J2EE. The delay in the development of the Program Portal is primarily due to budget constraints resulting from reprogramming and changing technology. The next release of the system is scheduled for October/November 2002.

Carlos Caban provided a comprehensive synopsis of the budget history. Carol Martin emphasized that a number of other programs have had budget cuts as well, and Bud mentioned that JJ McGowan is in the process of revising the budget. Currently, the priority of the eRA is the deployment of the NIH eRA Commons, e-SNAP, and Committee Management.

A discussion took place about Program Portal security issues. It was agreed that there should be an overall security plan, such as a single log-on for users.

Announcements

Carol Martin announced the new listserv, IRDB-L, which is a discussion list to keep users informed about the IRDB. She said that the listserv is now available for use and can be subscribed to by sending an email to listserv@list.nih.gov and typing "subscribe IRDB-L *your name*" in the message body.

Attendees

Asanuma, Chiiko (NIMH)
Caban, Carlos (OER)
Christian, Vonetta (LTS/OCO)
Cole, John (NCI)
Erickson, Bud (NCI)
Finkelstein, David (NIA)
Gezmu, Misrak (NIAID)
Hann, Della (OER)

Heath, Anne (NCI)
Martin, Carol S. (NHGRI)
Nichols, Paul (NINDS)
O'Neill, Blanche (NIAID)
Sorenson, Roger (NIAAA)
Stecklein, Linda (OD)
Vanderbilt, Molly (CIT)
Wehrle, Janna (NIGMS)