ECB/QVR Steering Committee

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

Date: Wed., June 25, 2003
Time: 10:00 a.m.–Noon
Location: Rockledge 2, 9th Floor Conference Center
Advocate: Pete Morton
Chair: Thor Fjellstedt

Next Meeting: July 16, Wed., 10–Noon, Fernwood Building, Room 3D-18 (note change)

Action Items

1. (Cathy Buckley) Make the Training Degree Report available in the QVR, and provide appropriate training data on the Snapshot.

CSR User Group—George Chacko reported that a CSR Wireless User group is in the process of being assembled. Once it is functioning, George said that it could also be used as a forum for feedback on QVR. He said that most of the potential participants in the group were likely users of QVR and would be a good source of feedback.

WETS—Rick Ikeda reported that he presented the QVR to the Workgroup for Extramural Training Systems (WETS). He said that the WETS group is still trying to decide what capabilities would satisfy this very diverse group. The Training Activities (TA) module is used primarily by Grants Management and Closeout staff. Generally, only one or two people in each IC use it. The TA module consists of internal and external sections. The data can be used by institutions to track their trainee appointees. However, the TA module is not much used. Training directors are not entering data so internal NIH staff is entering data from the appointment form.

It was noted that it may be required to include data on graduate students who worked or trained on a project on the R01, which would provide much more data than now. Today, because of the lack of data, the NIH is unable to provide data regarding the number of people who have trained in NIH-funded projects or where students go after graduation.

Profiles for graduate students are another issue that is under discussion. Should students maintain their own profiles? Should we continue to maintain their profiles if we never hear from them again? Additionally, there continues to be many duplicate profiles in the system, which are being addressed by the data quality group. However, the many issues connected with Profiles are gating items for some system development. When the TA module finally is upgraded, it will be part of the J2EE eRA Commons.

Training Degree Report—The group agreed that the Training Degree Report should be available in the QVR and that appropriate training data should be on the Snapshot. Training directors want to know who worked on their training grants.

Action: (Cathy Buckley) Make the Training Degree Report available in the QVR, and provide appropriate training data on the Snapshot.

Excel PivotTables—Developing Excel PivotTables® can be difficult, but, once a template is assembled, it easily can be manipulated and used. Several standard reports will be available through QVR. Data from IMPAC II will be used. QVR also will be expanded to pull in data from the Central Accounting System (CAS) to provide PivotTables for Budget staff.

PivotTable Presentation—Thor showed how to manipulate and use data in a PivotTable, noting the incredible power it possesses. He will investigate how to merge PivotTables to satisfy requests to merge data.

http://era.nih.gov/Docs/QVR-PivotTables_Tutorial_06-26-03.pdf

Training—There will be an advanced class aimed at Budget and GM staff on how to use and manipulate PivotTables. The class also will include hands-on training. All tools and tutorials from these classes will be posted on the QVR Web site. Thor said that the QVR classes are always filled to overflowing, which speaks to QVR's popularity as well as to the realization by IC staff that they must move to the enterprise system instead of continuing to use local extension systems.

Future Plans

IC-Specific Data—This project will move ahead soon. The project would provide a central database of IC-specific data that is not included in IMPAC II. This data might include scientific indexing and preliminary financials. Many smaller institutes are interested in this project. Jack Jones, CIT, has indicated that there may be funds available. There also will be some financial obligations by participating ICs.

Thor said that Dr. John McGowan, eRA manager, supports the IC-specific data project because the eRA project is not going to address or include this data.

R&D Contracts—Including intra- and intermural contracts will be investigated for the future.

Future Meetings

Thor asked the group to change the meeting dates and location for future meetings. The next meeting will be held on Wed., July 16, in the Fernwood Building. There will be no meeting in August. Starting in September, meetings will be held on the first Wednesday of the month, 10 a.m.–Noon, in the Fernwood Building—that would be September 3 for the first one.

Attendance

Buckley, Cathy (CIT)	Ikeda, Rick (NIGMS)	Musson, Bob (NHLBI)
Chacko, George (CSR)	Jones, Terry (NIAID)	Seach, Jim (NCI)
Fischetti, Greg (NCI)	McDermott, Julie (NIDDK)	Seppala, Sandy (LTS/COB)
Fjellstedt, Thor (CIT)	McHale, Carolyn (CIT)	Tiedemann, Don (CIT)