# Workgroup on Extramural Training Systems (WETS)

**Date:**       August 12, 2004
**Time:**       10:00 a.m.–10:30 a.m.
**Location:**   Rockledge 1, Room 3502
**Advocates:**  Barbara Huffman, Rick Ikeda, (Dr. Walter Schaffer)

**Next Meeting:** September 9, 2004, 10 a.m.–Noon, Rockledge 1, Room 3502

## Action item:

1. (Elaine, Linda) Elaine will send Linda names of some trainees whose reappointment screens did not include FOT codes. Linda will check if the FOT codes in those cases are in the database but are not being selected and she will inform the group of her findings.

## Update on X-Train

Linda Katzper reported that the redesign of X-Train is ongoing. Linda stated that a decision was made at another meeting that trainees will have their own account and will be able to access their account. Rick Ikeda explained that the rationale for trainees having their own account is because it is questionable if Principal Investigators can submit personal data for trainees and whether it would violate privacy rules.

Linda stated that X-Train will be developed in three iterations but none of the iterations will go into production until all three are in place. The first iteration will develop the capability of creating an appointment, amending an appointment and processing a reappointment. The second iteration will develop the capability to process terminations. The third iteration will provide the functionality to create an account. The development is expected to begin in mid-September of this year. X-Train is slated to be in production in approximately nine or ten months. No one will have to access X-Train until then.

Some of the other details are also being worked out. For instance, the project director will create an appointment and the account will be updated by the trainee and verified, but exactly how all that will be done has not been decided. Linda distributed a draft handout showing how the screen will look to the trainee. She also distributed a second handout showing a project summary screen that will make it more user friendly.

## Open Discussion

### Field Of Training (FOT) Codes
Elaine Sirkis reported that when she is processing a reappointment the Field Of Training codes are missing. Her co-worker is experiencing the same problem. FOT codes identify areas of science and research, such as nuclear chemistry or anthropology, that NIH is funding in research

training. The FOT codes have replaced the DSF (Discipline, Specialty and Field) codes that are supposed to have been phased out. Linda questioned whether the FOT showed up in the record for the trainee's initial appointment; Elaine said she had not checked. Rick said that it would help Linda if Elaine went back and checked if the FOT code was retained in the original appointment. Linda requested that Elaine send her details such as name of trainee; she needed to check if the FOT Code was in the database and was simply not being selected.

**Action: (Elaine, Linda) Elaine will send Linda the names of some trainees whose reappointment screens did not include FOT codes; Linda will check if the FOT codes are in the database but are not selected and she will inform the group of her findings.**

Elaine also stated that a user can bypass the FOT code in making a new appointment and that was a problem. If a user cannot enter the FOT code, she suggested that the cursor should stop and a red bar should pop up to state that the user could not proceed without entering the FOT code. Elaine also noted that she could not change the trainee address on termination. Linda said she is trying to get a yellow bar to pop up on screen to indicate that one can work around that bug; however, she stated that she had no idea when maintenance was going to get around to putting it in. Rick stated that he did not have a time frame for when these defects— whether it is a bug fix or a revamp of a program — would be corrected.

## Attendees

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| Ikeda, Richard (NIGMS) | McGarvey, Bill (OER/OEP) | Subramanya, Manju (LTS/PCOB) |
| Katzper, Linda (OER) | Myers, Chris (NIDCD) | Vann, Cecelia (OD) |
| Knipple, Joy (NIMH) | Sirkis, Elaine (NCI) | |
| Mayer, Pamela (NINDS) | Sprick, Carin (DEIS) | |