



ECB/QVR Steering Committee

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

Date: Wednesday, April 7, 2004
Time: 10:00 a.m.–Noon
Location: Fernwood Bldg., Rm 3D-18
Chair: Thor Fjellstedt

Next Meeting: May 5, Wed., 10: a.m.–Noon, Fernwood Building, Room 3D-18

Action Items

1. (Tom Tatham, Thor Fjellstedt) Meet to discuss Knowledge Management technology in regard to QVR.
2. (Thor Fjellstedt, Carolyn McHale) Meet to discuss revisions to the group charter and determine what type of group it should be: e.g., steering committee, user group.

QVR System

Advanced Training—An advanced QVR training course was held yesterday, April 6, which focused on exercises with PivotTables. The exercises were available as handouts at this meeting.

Introduction to QVR Training—There will be an introductory QVR course today, April 7, at 1:30. The class filled quickly so Thor made arrangements for the class to be videocast. The videocast will be available for future reference.

Save Queries for Retirees—When someone retires from or leaves the NIH and is no longer a QVR user, their saved queries normally would be deleted. However, often these queries are shared/used by other users in their IC and it would be a problem for them to be deleted. To remedy this situation, QVR will now retain the “shared queries” of persons who retire or no longer use the QVR System. However, there will be a business rule to delete these queries after some period of time and based on usage. Thor recommended that anyone who uses someone else’s shared queries should make it a practice to save the query as their own.

New Way to Create a Saved Query—It was decided at the Steering Committee meeting to develop a new way to create a saved query. Many users wanted to be able to create a “skeleton” saved query that they could use as a basic format for future queries. However, the current system required that the user run the query before it could be saved. This new feature allows the user to select search parameters for a query and save them without running the query.

Link to Publications—The link to PubMed through the grant number as well as through the PI name is in production. PubMed is a powerful tool that has listings that include 4,100 journals. The QVR Information page has been updated with links to tutorials on how to use PubMed, frequently asked questions and the list of PubMed journals available.

Added Features—Several new data fields were added at the suggestion of Tom Tatham. They include: HOM and MLG addresses (with a description of what they are), email address, study

section history, grant history and committee service. Tom noted that CSR now is requiring SRAs to make a printout of this PI page for the grant folder instead of the Committee Management screen.

Roadmap Update

Thor submitted a proposal for building required Roadmap functionality into QVR. This functionality is already in the test environment but the final decision from the Roadmap group has not been made.

Thor demonstrated the functionality of this new feature. It allows the user to find applications marked for Roadmap and then QVR funnels the data into a listing that sorts the data by Roadmap theme. It also provides reports, which use Excel PivotTables and allow customization. There also is a summary output table. There are some standard report formats including one for project counts and one for calculated accumulated dollars that calculates used funds as in a checkbook.

Both the Council Administrative Module (CAM) and the ECB will have a Roadmap query available in the next two weeks.

For dealing with Roadmap grants at the Council, early concurrence will be available. This will be presented to EPMC and it is hoped that the few issues involved will be resolved.

Population Tracking

QVR now includes some queries relevant to Population Tracking, e.g., missing target approval. It also shows data from the Old Form and the New Form. It allows the choice of viewing the totals for race or gender or “show all.”

However, QVR does not have the security features in place that only allow the user’s IC data to be viewed. It was noted that IMPAC II Cool Tools provide the same data and allow the data to be downloaded into Excel.

Carlos Caban said that he would like to see a complete demonstration and hold a discussion so that he can be clear regarding the purpose of this functionality in QVR and for whom it is intended. He would like to have a demonstration of it at the next Population Tracking Users Group meeting.

Knowledge Management

Tom Tatham discussed the uses of Knowledge Management that are under development. The NIH has a license for Collexis.

Here is a description of what Collexis does, as quoted from their Web site:

A completely new approach has been taken by Collexis; that of *knowledge retrieval*. Besides the standard data and information retrieval capabilities Collexis® technology is also able to discover relationships between elements of different information items (via clustering and/or aggregation) and thus uncover important implicit knowledge. The result of a query can be presented by sets of documents that together hold the answer to the question. Especially in environments with huge amounts of

data within certain fields of interest or expertise this leads to impressive retrieval results both in terms of quality and performance.

For one NIH application of this technology, Collexis takes a text document, works in conjunction with a thesaurus and uses MeSH key words to distill the document down to themes or a document *fingerprint*. Then it can compare these fingerprints to discern relationships. The application can be used to collapse profiles or find people with expertise relate to an application.

Richard Morris is the eRA Advocate for Knowledge Management. In the eRA project, the focus is first on scientific/disease coding for an automated way to gather data. In the future, there may be a focus on fingerprinting grant applications.

It was noted that SRAs now enter abstracts as part of the Summary Statement and these could be fingerprinted.

Thor has seen a demo of an application using Knowledge Management technology in Referral: the Referral officer makes a decision, the referral decision is recorded in a fingerprint, the fingerprints are searched for scientists as possible reviewers.

Tom said that he thought that QVR might be able to take advantage of the Collexis technology.

Action: (Tom Tatham, Thor Fjellstedt) Meet to discuss Knowledge Management technology in regard to QVR.

ECB/QVR Steering Committee Charter

Carolyn McHale has resurrected the original (circa 1995–97) ECB/QVR Steering Committee Charter. The charter incorporates who we are, our purpose, who is represented, and may or may not say who you advise. This old charter states that this committee “provides structure and guidance to analysts for the development and enhancement of QVR.”

Action: (Thor Fjellstedt, Carolyn McHale) Meet to discuss revisions to the group charter and determine what type of group it should be: e.g., steering committee, user group.

Attendance

Bashir, Karen (NIA)	Fjellstedt, Thor (CIT)	McHale, Carolyn (CIT)
Bates, Angela (OD/ORWH)	Fotheringham, Dave (Altum)	Parker, Marie (NIAID)
Buckley, Cathy (CIT)	Hodgkins, Earl (CIT)	Poma, Shelly (NIMH)
Caban, Carlos (OER)	Januszewski, Joe (CIT)	Rich, Linda (NCCAM)
Cao, Nanwei (NIAAA)	Jordan, Paul (NIEHS)	Seppala, Sandy (LTS/COB)
Casavant, Don (NIGMS)	Lingham, Angela (NIA)	Ta, Loan (NIA)
Connors, Anne (NIAMS)	Mason, Tom (CIT)	Tatham, Thomas (CSR)
Fischetti, Greg (NCI)	McDermott, Julie (NIDDK)	Walters, James (NINDS)