



Workgroup on Extramural Training Systems (WETS)

Date: November 14, 2002
Time: 1:30–3:30 p.m.
Location: Rockledge 1, Room 3502
Chair: Dr. Walter Schaffer

Next Meeting: January 9, 2003, Rockledge 1, Room 3502

Action Items

1. (Steve Fitzgerald, Wally Schaffer) Talk with Sherry Zucker about putting the OFM Payback System on the eRA 2003 priority list and allocating resources for its development and deployment.
2. (Steve Fitzgerald, Lisa Chen) Check file label printing problem and make it work.
3. (Marie Willett, Steve Fitzgerald, Lisa Chen, Mike Cox) Address discrepancies in the Service Payback obligation calculation modification.
4. (Steve Fitzgerald) Contact QRC about data-quality issues with Profiles in IMPAC II.
5. (Steve Fitzgerald, Lisa Chen) Check/verify permissions for LRP data entry fields. Restrict access to payback center staff only. Investigate need for additional role access.
6. (Steve Fitzgerald) Get mandatory fields for current PPF.
7. (Steve Fitzgerald) Investigate level of effort/cost to implement modifications to the Trainee Resume as delineated by Elaine Sirkis (see last section of these minutes).

Presentations

- Training and Career Development Evaluation Plan: http://era.nih.gov/Docs/Professional_Profile_11-14-02.pdf
- X-Train Registration Workflow Proposal: http://era.nih.gov/Docs/X-train_registration_11-14-02l.pdf
- X-Train Screen Shots: http://era.nih.gov/Docs/X-Train_Screen_Shots_11-14-02.pdf

SITS

Wally Schaffer said that there is not much movement with SITS and it is not on the March release list. However, by next summer there will be a new analyst assigned to SITS. The redesign of this module will be extensive because it will affect many other eRA modules.

OFM Payback

Mike Cox completed the OFM Payback requirements document and handed it to Steve Fitzgerald, who has assumed the role of analyst for WETS. However, OFM has not received the resources necessary to continue this project. There are approximately 500 records in OFM now with another 500 that need to go to OFM.

Money for this project was allocated by the Payback Service Center but the project was not on the eRA priority list. Steve will get the Scope document, business plan and requirements in order so that this project can get back on the priority list and in process.

Wally and Steve will work with Sherry Zucker to procure development resources and get the project on the eRA priority list for 2003.

Action: (Steve Fitzgerald, Wally Schaffer) Talk with Sherry Zucker putting the OFM Payback System on the eRA 2003 priority list and allocating resources for its development and deployment.

Print Labels

Marie Willett raised the issue of printing file labels using the TA program. This was supposed to be available and, although a screen can be accessed, it is not functional. Steve agreed to investigate, working with Lisa Chen, so that the function works.

Action: (Steve Fitzgerald, Lisa Chen) Check file label printing problem and make it work.

Service Payback

The calculation is not being done correctly for the payback obligation as changed in the Revitalization Act. IMPAC II is showing that a person owes money when, in fact, they do not owe any money. A misunderstanding caused this discrepancy.

Action: (Marie Willett, Steve Fitzgerald, Lisa Chen, Mike Cox) Address discrepancies in the Service Payback obligation calculation modification.

QRC Data Clean Up

The source of the errors was located and is now being fixed. Marie Willett said that she is sending all errors found by the Payback Service Center staff to the Helpdesk and the Helpdesk is correcting them. There seem to be many duplications. X-Train is also generating some duplication. It was suggested that Steve Fitzgerald work directly with QRC on data-quality issues so that they don't duplicate efforts.

Action: Contact QRC about data-quality issues with Profiles in IMPAC II.

Loan Repayment Program

Start and end dates have been added as fields. Information also can be entered through Payback. It was suggested that there be a test algorithm to ensure that people aren't being charged if they are doing service and vice versa.

The Payback Administrator role can make certain changes. Someone needs to examine the access rights to be sure they are appropriate. Should there be a need to change access rights, that change would have to take place at an eRA deployment.

Action: (Steve Fitzgerald, Lisa Chen) Check/verify permissions for LRP data entry fields. Restrict access to payback center staff only. Investigate need for additional role access.

X-Train

It is very difficult to evaluate trainees once they complete their training because information about them is scant and often incomplete. They rarely keep up an NIH profile if they move on to another area in their professional career. Marie Willett noted that it would be useful to have more complete information so that the Payback Center could more easily find people who owe service or money.

The group discussed the Evaluation database and agreed that linking to other databases (e.g., association databases) would better assist the NIH in tracking people who are outside the purview of the NIH.

Currently, trainees don't have access to the NIH system. However, using the new access technology (e.g., Internet Assisted Review), each trainee can have an account, which they can maintain. In March, TA will use the Profiles from the NIH eRA Commons. It will be a two-stage process:

1. Trainee creates a Profile in the NIH eRA Commons, including personal information.
2. Trainee Program Director goes into system and formalizes appointment. The Program Director does not see the personal information.

Investigation should be conducted regarding how or when the trainee fills in specific fields. For example, the trainee may fill in basic fields upon registration, but after the PI approves the appointment, additional data is required.

In the future, trainee evaluation data will be on a database, which will incorporate other components of the eRA system. This database will provide more up-to-date data on trainees.

Action: (Steve Fitzgerald) Get mandatory fields for current PPF.

The appointment module will have the same interface as the acceptance module. There will be a separate termination module, which will be incorporated later. In March, the electronic appointment and registration processes will be in place. Terminations will be separate.

Trainee Resumes

It was requested that the list of earned degrees, and not just pre-doc or post-doc, be listed on the Trainee Resume. In addition, people would like to indicate specific dates when compiling the Resume, e.g., inception–present; years 6–10.

Action: (Steve Fitzgerald) Investigate level of effort/cost to implement the following modifications to the Trainee Resume as delineated by Elaine Sirkis:

- Modify Trainee Resume Report to include actual degree earned rather than degree type.
- A column to list the highest degree received at the time of the appointment. It should appear as M.D., Ph.D., B.A., B.S., M.S., etc. We enter the information from the 2271 and should be accessible.
- We would like to run the report from inception to present or request certain years at a time; e.g., years 6–10. This is information that is usable on a daily basis.

- Would it be possible to list how many “predoc” and “postdoc” slots have been awarded, not clumped together? This grant was awarded 4 predoc and 5 postdoc slots. The report shows, under “Trainees,” how many we have entered into the system and not the awarded number.

Attendees

Chen, Lisa (NGIT)

Cox, Michael (OD)

Fitzgerald, Steve (RN
Solutions)

Freese, Michelle (OD)

Linde, Emily (NHGRI)

Rosenfeld, Bobby (NCI)

Schaffer, Wally, chair
(OER)

Seppala, Sandy
(LTS/OCO)

Shreffler, Carol (NIEHS)

Sirkis, Elaine (NCI)

Sprick, Carin (DEIS)

Trunnell, Diana (NIMH)

Venable, Beverly (OD)

Willett, Marie (OER/OD)