

Effort Reporting System
Technical Advisory Group
Notes of the November 15, 2005 Meeting
DRAFT - 1/13/2006 Accepted - 2/21/06

Participants: Beatrice Cardona (UCSF), Judith Freed (UCLA), Mabel Lai (UCLA), Lyle Kafader (UCSD), Mojgan Amini (UCSD), Renata Ellis (UCB), Don Rutherford (UCB), Jeff Makaiwi (UCB), Jeff Kreutzen (UCB), Larry Johnson (UCD), Dan Lemus (UCD), Adam Cohen (UCOP), Steve Hunter (UCOP), Wayne Kidd (UCOP)

The meeting was conducted via conference call. Notes from the October 18th meeting were reviewed and accepted without revision. The group welcomed a new member, Mojgan Amini, who will be managing the ERS implementation at UCSD.

Project Status Update

Adam reported that work is nearly complete on the QA process. Effort reports have been generated for multiple periods using UCLA and UCD data. These reports have been viewed online via the web application. Additional reporting periods will be tested and printed effort reports will be distributed for functional review. Approximately two dozen issues were uncovered in both the batch and online sides of the application which have already been resolved or are being worked on.

The two largest issues have to do with cost sharing, where a programming problem caused imported cost sharing percentages to be too large, and a second issue where some unresolved FAU's were not being excluded properly from the effort calculation. These issues should be resolved this week.

The development team plans to issue a new build on Friday November 18th which will include bug fixes as well as all of the remaining features that are required to move forward with user pilot testing. After this release, work will continue on additional minor feature additions and more bug fixing.

Campus Pilot Updates

Larry reported that the Davis pilot stalled temporarily while issues were resolved by the development team. Data file loading has completed but report generation was waiting for some bug fixes. Davis expects to be able to resume generating report periods shortly.

Adam commented that differences between Sybase and Oracle were presenting some issues despite the use of Hibernate as a database mapping layer.

Mabel reported that the UCLA pilot was proceeding slowly because of long runtimes for some batch jobs. The financial system interface took thirteen hours

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to load. Mabel further reported that the PIUpdate batch process has failed and did not complete.

Adam said that the likely cause of the FS performance problem was due to code added to deal with an Oracle problem. However, this code was considered to be a temporary workaround and the development team will be working on a better fix that does not degrade performance for other database management systems.

The development team will respond to the issue about the PIUpdate problem after examining the documentation submitted by the UCLA testers.

Judith mentioned that UCLA had determined their ISIS and DACSS systems may not be able to plug into ERS as they had originally expected.

Adam reviewed the design of the authorization system highlighting implicit rules implemented in code, and explicit rules which are implemented in either the internal authorization system or a campus external authorization system such as DACSS. The application makes authorization checks which check implicit rules and then fall through to check explicit rules if the request is not approved. Campuses may modify the implicit rules modules and/or write custom code to communicate with the external authorization system to check for explicit rules.

Adam recommended that a discussion be setup between UCLA and the development team to discuss how authorization can be implemented at UCLA.

Adam also mentioned a presentation that was made at the Requirements Group which reviewed key concepts of the authorization design. This presentation will be distributed to the TAG for their reference.

Mabel asked if the application testing could include the Safari web browser for the Mac. Adam responded that Safari was one of the supported browsers and would be tested.

Review of System Administration

Adam introduced Dan Lemus from UCD who led a demonstration of the System Administration module of ERS.

Next Meeting

The next ERS TAG meeting will be Tuesday January 17, 2006 from 2-4pm, and will be conducted via conference call. The ERS team will publish agenda and

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other materials via project website and will announce availability and confirm conference call details in advance of the meeting.