

IRA Makes Its Debut at January Town Meetings

During the January town meetings, Project Manager Susan Zaslaw and Technical Leader David Ricker provided a preview of IRA.

They shared a demo of the tool and explained how it meets the need for a more stable and robust data warehouse while retaining many of the features of the current reporting tool. *See box at right for an overview of what's changing and what's not.*

What's changing with IRA:

- New data warehouse
- All reports in Hyperion are being rewritten in a new reporting tool
- The new data warehouse and reporting systems are known together as IRA

What's not changing:

- Chart of accounts segments (both GL and PTAE0)
- Journal entry tools and procedures
- User security
- Financial data currently available
- User support procedures

Basic Training for Users

To gain access to IRA, all Hyperion users will need to attend a 2.5-hour training course, after which they will be able to perform the same tasks in IRA that they do today in Hyperion. The training sessions will start on March 2 and will be instructor-led as well as hands-on. The sessions will focus on users' data and will allow users to immediately begin working in the new tool.

- **Who is the basic training for?**
All current Hyperion users, whether for GL, OGA, or both (*follow up training will be available for those who track grants*)



Sign up now for IRA Training in March and April

Go to: www.dartmouth.edu/~fiscalservices/irafr/

Important Dates to Remember

- **March 2** IRA training and transition to begin
- **March–May** Hyperion users switched over to IRA
- **June 1** Hyperion to be shut down (*see <http://www.dartmouth.edu/~fiscalservices/irafr/Hyperion-shut-down-memo.pdf>*)

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OGA Reports in IRA

When IRA goes live, all OGA reports currently listed on the Hyperion LaunchPad will be made available in IRA. The OGA reports have been developed in IRA, and are currently in testing.

As with the GL report conversion, our focus has been to move the OGA reports as quickly as possible, as is, to IRA. We have taken the opportunity to fix major report problems, but have not been able to make

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Is Your Sygate Up to Date?

Before attending IRA training, all users who have the Sygate security software installed on their computers will need to upgrade to the latest version of Symantec's security software called Endpoint ("SEP," for short) otherwise performance of IRA will be slowed significantly.

Your department IT consultant will be in touch with you to check your machine and install SEP for you, if needed. Please contact your department IT consultant with any questions about this change.



OGA Reports in IRA, *continued from p.1*

any major enhancements to the OGA reports in IRA.

You will be able to submit report enhancement requests for both GL and OGA reports, once IRA has been rolled out to all current Hyperion users. The process for submitting such requests is being developed and will be communicated to you once the initial IRA rollout is complete.

The transition to IRA will provide a more stable and accurate data source for sponsored project management, and once this stability is achieved we are committed to provide improved tools to project administrators.

OGA Reports Training

The IRA training that will be offered beginning in March, through mid-April, will focus on how to use the new reporting tool, and is not GL or OGA specific; therefore, both GL and OGA users can attend these classes to learn how to use IRA.

The Office of Sponsored Projects will continue to offer an OGA reports training course for folks who are new to grants management, or need a refresher on how to use OGA reports.

This course will be updated for IRA, will be offered beginning in March, and will focus on using the enhanced features of IRA reports in sponsored project management.

There will also be OGA-specific IRA documentation available on the OSP web site as soon as it is ready.

Thanks to All Our Advisors and Testers

Throughout the course of the IRA project, several project groups have been formed to ensure that departmental needs and issues are being considered as we develop the IRA reports and training.

The IRA Project Management Team would like to take this opportunity to thank the following for the time and energy they have devoted to the project:

*Thank
You!*

Advisory Board

Composed of 20 representatives from all the major Divisions at the College, the Advisory Board has served as a two-way conduit for information between the project team and end user reporting community. This group continues to meet every three weeks for project updates and discussions.

Pilot User Group

The Pilot User Group of 70 individuals represents the financial reporting user community within all divisions at the College. Its purpose is to provide early use of and feedback on IRA, in preparation for the campus-wide rollout of IRA.

Pilot User Group members will still be among the first users to begin using IRA, although later than originally planned, due to the performance issue we discovered during testing last November.

Beta Group

This 15-member subset of the Pilot User Group was formed to work closely with the IRA Project Team in diagnosing the performance issue we uncovered last November. They also participated in evaluating and testing various IRA performance enhancements.



Questions about IRA?

If you have any questions IRA, please e-mail:
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