



Special points of interest:

- Training Information
- u.achieve Update
- Action Needed: Blank Rules in TA



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DARS/Transferology News

Announcements:

TRAINING INFORMATION

We will continue to offer DARS Basic Encoding Training and Transfer Articulation Training on an "as needed" basis. Please submit your training needs to the DARS/Transferology Team using the normal Training Registration links at http://www.dars.mntransfer.org/training/training_dates.html and we'll work with you to determine a "best plan" based on those requests. Please use the 'Comments or Special Requests' section to give us more details on your training needs and timing.

We recommend that all attendees would first attend a CollegeSource online tutorial session in either or both of these topic areas. Starting in 2015, *Basic* and *Transfer Articulation Tutorials* will not only continue to be offered by CollegeSource free of charge, but will also no longer require any registration or use of a third-party download! The goal is to provide high-level overviews on encoding to every licensed client who needs it—at your convenience. Following the online tutorials, we would meet either one-on-one or in small groups to do more individualized training to meet your needs.

Additionally, we would like your feedback on any training or labs we provide. We will send out an email to request evaluation/feedback following any training or open lab, but please feel free to offer ideas or comments at any time, at <http://www.dars.mntransfer.org/training/evaluation.php>.

U.ACHIEVE UPDATE

Over the last two plus months, we have progressed far enough in having the u.achieve testing environment working to be able to do some fairly intensive testing with a group of 10 or so students at each college and university. We have been manually comparing audit results between u.achieve and production DARwin.

We continue to work on several items on our end, including how courses and data feed from ISRS and with CollegeSource to provide solutions for some processing differences for which they will be responsible.

One of the most important things we've learned is that DARwin is much more forgiving of encoding done in a way that was never intended to have worked the way it has. When we find this happening, we will contact you in order to fix the current encoding in DARwin so that it will work seamlessly when we switch to u.achieve.

We greatly appreciate your patience and understanding. Over the next month or two, we expect to establish a more firm timeline for the upgrade.

ACTION REQUIRED: BLANK RULES IN TA TABLES

Recently, entries in the TA tables of all campuses were queried to identify rules that contain blanks. In the next few days, a list will be sent to each campus identifying these entries.

We ask that you give these rules your attention as soon as you can, so that no blank Source or Target entries remain. (We do realize that Spring 2015 begins soon, and that for many, other issues will therefore take priority.) If a course equivalent does not exist or cannot be identified, please consider assigning your generic rule or deleting the entry entirely.

Once changes have been made to all the rules identified, please let us know.

USERS ON THE MOVE:

Is a DARS/Transferology User from your institution retiring, leaving the region, or moving on to new adventures? Have you hired someone new? We'd love to include it in a future newsletter. Email Marla Delaney at marla.delaney@so.mnscu.edu with the news you would like to share. News could include a brief history of work experience(s) at your institution, future plans/new adventures, and anything else you'd like to say.

WEBINARS:

2015 Upcoming CollegeSource Webinars are posted at: <http://www.collegesource.com/news-events/webinars>

January Webinar highlights:

Transferology™ 1.3 Release Updates—January 6, 2015, 1:00 PM-2:00 PM (2:00 PM-3:00 PM EDT)

Introducing Transferology™—January 6, 2015, 2:00 PM-3:00 PM (3:00 PM-4:00 PM EDT)

Transferology™ Lab for Administrator —January 8, 2015, 1:00 PM-2:00 PM (2:00-3:00 PM EDT)

Transferology™ Lab for Transfer Specialist—January 13, 2015, 10:00 AM-11:00 AM (11:00 AM -12:00 PM EDT)

Transferology™ Lab for Recruiters and Advisors —January 22, 2015, 2:00 PM-3:00 PM (3:00-4:00 PM EDT)

Transferology™ Lab for Administrator —January 27, 2015, 12:00 PM-1:00 PM (1:00 PM-2:00 PM EDT)

CollegeSource is also offering some of their training materials and tutorials online. Everyone with a support center account has unlimited access to these materials at no cost. They include abridged PDF versions of u.achieve “Best Practices Encoding” and “Best Practices Intermediate Encoding.

CURRICULUM UPDATES:

No curriculum updates or changes to report this month.

DOCUMENTATION:

No documentation to report this month.

SQLs:

No SQLs to report this month.

Training & Conferences

Please indicate your interest in training by registering for the appropriate training session. Once registered, you will be contacted to arrange date(s) and time, and possibly where the training will take place.

- ◆ **Basic Encoding Training** – Training offered upon request (When registering, please indicate specific needs in the Comments area. You will be contacted for detailed arrangements.)
- ◆ **Transfer Articulation Training** – Training offered upon request (When registering, please indicate specific needs in the Comments area. You will be contacted for detailed arrangements.)
- ◆ **Transferology Advisor Training** – to be determined
- ◆ **Transferology Administrator Training** – to be determined

All training will be held at the system office in Saint Paul, unless otherwise indicated. Training will be in Room 2204 or 3354, depending on the number of registered participants.

Registration and information can be found at the following link: http://www.dars.mntransfer.org/training/training_dates.html.

The format will allow you to check the dates of the training, review agendas, and register from the same page. **REGISTRATION DEADLINE: 1 week prior to training or open lab dates.**

Upon completion, please complete the Training Evaluation at: <http://www.dars.mntransfer.org/training/evaluation.php>.

Third Wednesday & Thursday/DARS Open Labs

We are trying to be creative about ways for campus staff to get the help they need to update/maintain/improve DARS encoding, transfer articulation and Transferology.

We have added a link on our Training Registration page to request “On-site Campus Assistance”. We’ll do our best to either come to your campus or meet you half way at a convenient location that could accommodate us.

We can also schedule WebEx sessions for one-on-one assistance, plus have our Third Wednesday/Thursday Open Labs here in St. Paul and will schedule a day at the Quarry Center in Waite Park monthly.

Third Wednesday & Thursday – January 14 & 15, 2015 in training lab 2204.

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DARS “**On-site Campus Assistance**” – upon request

DARS “**Central**” **Open Lab** – Wednesday, February 4, 2015 at Quarry Center, Waite Park, 9:00am-3:00pm in Quarry Center Training Room.

DARS “**Central**” **Open Lab** – Wednesday, March 18, 2015 at Quarry Center, Waite Park, 9:00am-3:00pm in Quarry Center Training Room.

DARS “**Central**” **Open Lab** – Wednesday, April 22, 2015 at Quarry Center, Waite Park, 9:00am-3:00pm in Quarry Center Training Room.

REGISTRATION: http://www.dars.mntransfer.org/training/training_regform.php

DIRECTIONS: <http://www.mnscu.edu/system/directions.html>

*For questions or comments about this newsletter, contact Marla Delaney at marla.delaney@so.mnscu.edu.
Thank you.*