



# DARS/u.select News

## Special points of interest:

- Audit refreshed each time it's produced
- Change to INCLTOP #07 Catalog processing
- Statistics in u.select
- u.direct—Graduation Planner
- Query Share
- DSST (DANTES Subject Standardized Test)
- 2011-2012 Curriculum Changes
- 2010-2011 New Course and MnTC Inserts
- Campus Announcements

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## Announcements:

### Interactive Audits for Students and Advisors



**24/7 service as always and now NO WAITING!!**

As of June 2, 2011 each time an audit request is made by a student or an advisor, a new audit will be produced. Gone is the requirement that only one audit may run per 24 hour period – midnight to midnight. You may wish to change language in your INCLTOP requirements that reference 'audits may be run only once per day'.

### Change made to INCLTOP #07 Catalog processing

Because some schools no longer maintain the ST3601UG Valid Catalog Maintenance screens, audits produced for students with older catalogs would reference a two-year catalog and newer audits would reference a specific term from UT3056UG – Year/Term Calendar Maintenance. For schools who prefer to use the term values from UT3056UG, once they make the catalog values inactive in ST3601UG, they will no longer be read in #07.

### Statistics in u.select

Do you know that in just one week's time in early May, our Minnesota schools had their Equivalencies by School searched 18,175 times by people from 38 different states in the U.S.? In that same time frame, 694 Plans were requested. The 5 top schools for which the most plans were requested are (in order): Anoka-Ramsey Community College, University of Minnesota Twin Cities, Itasca Community College, Metropolitan State University and Minneapolis Community and Technical College! In addition, the Schools pages for our Minnesota schools were viewed 5,036 times.

Campus u.select administrators can find out more about their school's statistics in u.select by logging in and then selecting the Statistics link at the far right on the menu ribbon at the top. Three statistics categories are available: General Statistics, Course Statistics and Program Statistics. For more information on how to use the u.select Statistics pages go to <http://clients.redlanternu.com/home/display/USL/Statistics>

### u.direct - Graduation Planner

On May 11, 2011, a grade entry was made to all production DARS databases. The grade entry is PL and represents Planned courses. This is the grade that will be assigned to courses that the student will be planning for future terms, as they build their roadmap in the Grad Planner (u.direct) software. This grade should basically function like a Z – in progress grade in the audit, but has been set up with an IP value of W-Planned/What if Courses.

A note explaining the grade has been entered in the memo field for this grade: "This grade was added for Grad Planner (u.direct) processing of courses student is using in their PLANNING. Do not remove please!"

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## Campus Announcements:

Please let us know about information you wish to share with other MnSCU schools. We particularly welcome news from you that will impact DARS encoding and transfer processing within MnSCU. Celebrate accomplishments by sharing your victories ...small or large ... with your colleagues.

**No new announcements this month...**

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## Query Share

Are you knowledgeable about running Access queries and interested in getting some information out of the DARS tables? We have 3 queries recently shared by a user that might be of use to you:

- What Transfer Equivalency? *When you change your curriculum and want to update transfer equivalencies from other schools, use the results to find which rules need updating.*
- Who took a transfer course? *To find the students who took a course at another school, in order to identify student transfer evaluations that may need fixing or amending.*
- Who has Z graded courses in Joe Cool? *Find any student with a grade of Z in their transfer record in DARS from a term prior to the term specified in the query and use the results to update their final grades.*

We are working with the MnSCU ITS RADS team to make these available by putting them into a DARS Dashboard. If you would like any of these queries sent to you before the dashboard is available, or if you have a query you would be willing to share, please email us at: [darsinfo@csu.mnscu.edu](mailto:darsinfo@csu.mnscu.edu)

We also have a query shared by M State which runs off ISRS data looking for students who have courses on the Transfer Course tab with Z or blank grades for the specified year term and who have an admission year term that is not end dated. It doesn't verify if they are actually enrolled - just if their admission status is still active. Email us if you would like us to send that query to you as well.

*[Disclaimer - - - The DARS/u.select Team members are not skilled in developing and running Access queries. We provide this information for those with a basic skill set who need help in establishing the correct parameters for the query.]*

## DSST (DANTES Subject Standardized Test)

"Business Ethics and Society" has been added to the list of DSST exams. DSST standardized exams can be encoded in DARS. DSST is a standardized examination in u.select.

Encoding documentation for DSST is at: <http://www.dars.mntransfer.org/updates/documents/pdf/DSST.pdf>

The list of DSST exams is at: <http://www.dars.mntransfer.org/updates/documents/pdf/DSST%20list.pdf>

DSST is available for inserting into your DARS tables. Request the DSST catalog at: [http://www.dars.mntransfer.org/updates/documents/pdf/DARS\\_Catalog\\_request\\_list.pdf](http://www.dars.mntransfer.org/updates/documents/pdf/DARS_Catalog_request_list.pdf)

## 2011-2012 Curriculum Changes

The annual Curriculum Comparison schedule changed this year. Primary encoders received the 2011-2012 excel document in May, with a requested return of June 17<sup>th</sup>. From this point forward, Curriculum Comparison will occur in May of each year.

Identifying the new courses before the start of fall term allows colleges and universities to display articulations in u.select. The equivalent courses are also used in the registration Equivalent Course Search function.

The shortened timeframe between curriculum cycles this year produced a surprise bonus: the list of courses on the Excel documents is shorter than the December comparison!

## 2010-2011 New Course Inserts and 2010-2011 New MnTC Course Inserts

New courses for MnSCU institutions, for seven academic years, are available for electronically inserting into your TA tables.

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- Request New Course Inserts for any years between 2005 and 2011at:

[http://www.dars.mntransfer.org/updates/documents/pdf/NewCourse\\_Insert\\_req.pdf](http://www.dars.mntransfer.org/updates/documents/pdf/NewCourse_Insert_req.pdf)

- Request New MnTC Course Insert for any years between 2005 and 2011at:

[http://www.dars.mntransfer.org/updates/documents/pdf/New\\_MnTC\\_Course\\_Inse.pdf](http://www.dars.mntransfer.org/updates/documents/pdf/New_MnTC_Course_Inse.pdf)

See April's Newsletter for needed 2010-2011 Curriculum details.

Please contact Mary D'Andrea at [mary.dandrea@so.mnscu.edu](mailto:mary.dandrea@so.mnscu.edu) if you have questions.

## Curriculum Corrections:

No curriculum corrections reported this month.

## Documentation:

### New documentation added for D-graded courses in many-to-many articulations

We have recently posted documentation explaining how to prevent D-graded courses in many-to-many or many-to-one articulations from fulfilling a requirement that requires a grade of 'C' or better.

You may have programs that require a grade of C or better in certain requirements and those requirements may accept transfer courses articulated from two or more source courses with different grades. If a student earns a D in one of the original courses and a C or better grade in the other, the resulting articulation MAY produce a grade high enough to get a C condition code in DARS processing.

This documentation will be useful to you:

- a. If you want the courses to combine and articulate to the correct course(s) at your institution, but want to use DARS processing to prevent them from going into a requirement which will only accept C or better graded courses.
- b. If you have already changed your grade table to assign a meaningful GPA points calculated grade for many-to-many or many-to-one articulations.

Find this documentation at: [http://www.dars.mntransfer.org/updates/documents/pdf/Not\\_accept\\_C\\_in\\_audi.pdf](http://www.dars.mntransfer.org/updates/documents/pdf/Not_accept_C_in_audi.pdf)

### To Clone or not to Clone—Revised

This document outlines the reasons and procedures for cloning programs and requirements when updating the DARwin database tables to keep up with program (catalog) changes. Revised version is at:

[http://www.dars.mntransfer.org/updates/documents/pdf/Clone\\_not\\_to\\_Clone\\_r.pdf](http://www.dars.mntransfer.org/updates/documents/pdf/Clone_not_to_Clone_r.pdf)

## SQLs:

No new SQLs to report this month.

## Training & Conferences

Fall 2011 training dates TBA. If you have new or existing staff that will be using DARS or u.select, please encourage them to attend the appropriate training session(s) as they are announced. Even if you or your staff already attended training, you are welcome to attend again. Many people find a return visit to training helpful.

- ◆ **Transfer Articulation Training** – Fall 2011 dates will be announced at a later time.
- ◆ **Basic Encoding Training** – Fall 2011 dates will be announced at a later time.
- ◆ **u.select Advisor Training** – Fall 2011 dates will be announced at a later time.
- ◆ **u.select Administrator Training** – training offered via WebEx upon request, (after registering, participants will be contacted to arrange date & time).

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

Registration for all training, open labs, and conferences can be found at the following link:

[http://www.dars.mntransfer.org/training/training\\_index.html](http://www.dars.mntransfer.org/training/training_index.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 of all training and labs, please complete the Training Evaluation at:

<http://www.dars.mntransfer.org/training/evaluation.html>.

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## Third Wednesday & Thursday/DARS Open Labs

**Third Wednesday & Thursday** – June 15 & 16 at Wells Fargo Place, Room 2204 or 3354. **REGISTRATION DEADLINE: 1 week prior to training or open lab dates.**

- ◆ **DARS "Out West" Open Lab** – Spring lab completed. Fall dates will be scheduled at a later time.
- ◆ **DARS "Up North" Open Lab** – Spring lab completed. Fall dates will be scheduled at a later time.
- ◆ **DARS "Central" Open Lab** – Spring lab completed. Fall dates will be scheduled at a later time.
- ◆ **DARS "Down South" Open Lab** – Spring lab completed. Fall dates will be scheduled at a later time.
- ◆ **DARS "North Shore" Open Lab** – Spring lab completed. Fall dates will be scheduled at a later time.

**REGISTRATION:** [http://www.dars.mntransfer.org/training/training\\_regform\\_new.html](http://www.dars.mntransfer.org/training/training_regform_new.html)

**DIRECTIONS:** [http://www.dars.mntransfer.org/registration/directions\\_WFP.html](http://www.dars.mntransfer.org/registration/directions_WFP.html)

*For questions or comments about this newsletter, contact Marla Delaney at [marla.delaney@csu.mnscu.edu](mailto:marla.delaney@csu.mnscu.edu).  
Thank you.*