



**Special points of interest:**

- **Microsoft Migration at the System Office**
- **u.achieve Upgrade Update**
- **DARS Team Member Retires**
- **Spring Training Changes**

# DARS/u.select News

**Announcements:**

**Microsoft Migration at the system office Complete**

OOO staff have migrated to Windows 7 and Outlook. Some email addresses changed to make all OOO emails consistent. Previous emails displaying as: [first.last@csu.mnscu.edu](mailto:first.last@csu.mnscu.edu) have changed to [first.last@so.mnscu.edu](mailto:first.last@so.mnscu.edu). Please note that Marla Delaney's new email address is: [marla.delaney@so.mnscu.edu](mailto:marla.delaney@so.mnscu.edu). Although we will continue to receive any email sent to the old addresses, please update your own records, if necessary.

**u.achieve Upgrade Update**

We've worked diligently to have an operational testing environment for u.achieve 4.0 before Fred's retirement on December 28. Much work remains to be done, and at this point we do not have an idea of when we expect to be ready to complete the upgrade in production. Stay tuned!

**DARS Team Member Retires**

Fred Forseman, System Developer, retired on December 28, 2011. Fred was assigned to do the technical setup and implementation of DARS and CAS (now u.select) in 1998. Except for a few years' break starting in mid-2005, he has worked with the DARS Team since then. His retirement plans include spending more time with his lovely wife, Gin, (pictured at the left), "missing the DARS team" and he and Gin also have some travel plans this winter. He will be greatly missed!



Fred Forseman and Glen Guida at Fred's System Office retirement party



Gin and Fred at Fred's team retirement party

**Inside this issue:**

Curriculum Corrections	2
Documentation	2
SQLs	2
Webinars	2
Training & Conference	3
Third W/Th & Other Open Labs	3
Registration Links	3
Directions/Parking Info	3

**Student and Advisor eServices Web Audit requests limited**

In our June 2011 newsletter, we announced: "As of June 2, 2011 each time an audit request is made by a student or an advisor, a new audit will be produced." As of December 29, 2011, that has been amended to only allow a new audit request every two minutes. There have been situations where students repeatedly hit the link for their major, which caused the engine to recalculate the Degree Audit each time. Reducing the recalculation to a minimum of once every 2 minutes will reduce the traffic and the load on the DARS database.

*(Continued on page 2)*

**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.

(Continued from page 1)

## **Spring Training Changes...**

Since DARS transfer data is fairly robust, we have found that the Transfer Articulation Training takes less time to cover. Therefore, we've reduced the training to 1 ½ days rather than 2 full days. In addition, we've added a half day of Exceptions Training on the second day. This gives participants the option to register for either training session or both training sessions, possibly reducing travel costs/time.

## **CURRICULUM CORRECTIONS:**

### **Minneapolis Community and Technical College**

20113 AMIS 1910, Dakota 1, Goal 8 (previously announced as Goal 1)

20113 AMIS 1920, Dakota 2, Goal 8 (previously announced as Goal 7)

### **Lake Superior College**

20061 HUM 1123, Film Genres: The Science Fiction & Fantasy Film, Goal 6 (course has been Goal 6 since summer of 2005)

20125 GS 1200, Explorations Abroad, Goal 8 (new course)

## **DOCUMENTATION:**

No new Documentation posted this month.

## **SQLs:**

There are no new SQLs to report this month.

## **WEBINARS:**

The new webinars, as well as previous webinars, are posted on the CollegeSource, Support Center, Webinars page. The latest webinar for January is:

- Using the Issue Tracker - January 18, 2012 at 2PM EST (1PM CST)

For information about CollegeSource Webinars, go to:

[http://www.dars.mntransfer.org/updates/documents/pdf/CollegeSource\\_Webina.pdf](http://www.dars.mntransfer.org/updates/documents/pdf/CollegeSource_Webina.pdf)

Once logged into the CollegeSource Support Center Webinars page, click the 'Register' link and complete the online form. You can also set your Time Zone so reminders will reflect CST.

You access prior webinars - "View Webinar" or "View PowerPoint" - by simply submitting your email address.

## Training & Conferences

Training dates for Spring 2012 are listed below. 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.

- ◆ **Basic Encoding Training** – January 24-25, 2012, 8:30 a.m.-4:00 p.m. at Wells Fargo Place, Training Room 3354.
- ◆ **Transfer Articulation Training** – February 7, 8:30 a.m.-4:00 p.m. and February 8, 2012, 8:30 a.m.–noon, at Wells Fargo Place, Training Room 3354. (Note: Changed from 2 day to 1 1/2 day training session)
- ◆ **Exceptions Training** – February 8, 2012, 1:00 p.m.-4:00 p.m., at Wells Fargo Place, Training Room 3354.
- ◆ **u.select Advisor Training** – training offered via WebEx upon request, (after registering, participants will be contacted to arrange date & 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** – January 18 & 19, 2012 at Wells Fargo Place, Room 2204.

REGISTRATION DEADLINE: 1 week prior to training or open lab dates.

- ◆ **DARS "Up North" Open Lab** – March 27, 2012 at Northwest Technical College, 8:30 a.m.-4:00 p.m. in Room 322.
- ◆ **DARS "Out West" Open Lab** – March 29, 2012 at Minnesota State University Moorhead, 8:30 a.m.-4:00 p.m. in Library 204.
- ◆ **DARS "Down South" Open Lab** – April 10, 2012 at South Central College, 9:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m. in Room 155.
- ◆ **DARS "Central" Open Lab** – April 12, 2012 at Quarry Center, 8:30 a.m.-4:00 p.m. in Quarry Training Lab.
- ◆ **DARS "North Shore" Open Lab** – April 26, 2012 at Lake Superior College, 8:30 a.m.-4:00 p.m. in Library Bldg Room E1022.

**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@so.mnscu.edu](mailto:marla.delaney@so.mnscu.edu).  
Thank you.