Agenda

• Acceptance Environment
• Changes
  • To Production Since We Last Met
  • Currently in Development
  • Planned for the Future
  • Feedback for the Future
• LionPATH Update
Reminder: Acceptance Environment Available

• Available for testing GRADS changes in the application
  • The application
    (https://secure-acc.gradsch.psu.edu/app/gradapp/index.cfm)
  • GRADS
    (https://secure-acc.gradsch.psu.edu/app/grads/)

• Used for projects by The Graduate School
• Interfaces with LionPATH QNA (a testing environment)
• Does not upload to LionPATH QNA every day
  • If you are testing something and do not see your application uploaded by the next day, please notify
gradschoolhelp@psu.edu.
• Is down/refreshed along with LionPATH schedule, typically monthly
  • Latest refresh was yesterday, April 18, 2017.
Challenges During the Busy Season

• More Power
• More Space
• Thank you for your patience!
To Production Since October: discussed at our last meeting

- Graduate Ranking Index System: Formula and Acceptance Probability
- Ability to assign Reviewers
- Custom application list
- Faculty updating own comments – The group agreed that this update can be limited by SAR, so a comment could not be corrected after evaluation – offer or decline of admission. Comments can be added, regardless of SAR.
To Production Since October: Transcripts

- PSU Transcripts located within GRADS now display "The Pennsylvania State University" at the top and have transfer credits and AP Test Score credits at the bottom.
- Transcript description change from “unofficial” to “application”
To Production Since October

- SAR Workflow change: CN-ADRV-DEFR can now be changed to AP-APPL-MI
- SAR brought from LionPATH to update GRADS every hour
- Early Aid Estimate Information fed to Sunapsis (Global Programs)
- Top of Page Controls and Counts by Status
- Style change to CN-DENY-PREF rows
- Limit the excel fields in download – via custom list
Other Additions

- GRADS Advisory Committee membership published in Documentation
- New Graduate Program Management System (GPMS)
- New Wiki for Program Information: https://wikispaces.psu.edu/display/GPSRP/Resource+Page+for+Graduate+Plans
Currently in Development

• View all applicants in one view
• GRADS settings at plan and option level (major and degree)
• Semester deadlines for certificates
• GRADS Interview/visit system
• Changing Applicant Account process
Planned for Future

- “Official use only” questions
- Multiple notifications per applicant
- Different types of program-specific questions, for example, numeric and date
Specific Feedback Requested

• Mass Refusal – should AP_APPL_POFF be removed from the list?
  • The group agreed with removing AP_APPL_POFF from the Mass Refusal list. Applications with this SAR may be individually set to refused, if/when appropriate.

• Include unofficial test scores in Excel spreadsheet download?
  • Several members of the group would like to have these test scores added, with a clear differentiation so there is no accidental confusion with official test scores.

• References tab previously did not show when an applicant did not supply any references even though the program requires references. This allows program staff to upload documents as references instead of as program-specific documents. Also works for CHD. Is this acceptable? Do we need to let programs know since they have become used to not seeing the References tab if none were provided by the applicant?
  • The group would like this tab to appear and found this solution to be acceptable. The documentation will be updated when this feature is available.
Accept/Refuse Feedback

• Is wording on Accept/Refuse screen confusing to applicants? Currently states:

One suggestion for change:

The department you submitted an application to intends to offer you admission. Would you like to accept?

Accept Decline

After you accept, the Graduate School must finalize the offer of admission. In this step of the admission process, the Graduate School will review your application and communicate with you in the near future.

• After some discussion, the group found the current wording to be better. Lori encouraged the group to share any suggested wording they have for anything they find problematic. The suggested wording will then be reviewed by the Graduate School and must be approved by the Graduate School leadership.
General Feedback Requested

• Retention for Accredited Programs
  • In an effort to comply with AD35, the Graduate School will be collecting information regarding retention requirements for accredited programs. Application materials for admitted students will be retained for 50 years. Application materials for others will be retained according to University policy or retention requirements. Our goal is to eliminate the need for programs to store materials separately/outside the GRADS system.

• Ways to Monitor Application Data and Update from GES
  • For example, GES coordinator notes after admission offer
  • With the increased volume and shifting of assigned duties, GES coordinators are no longer able to send as many individual emails/communications as had been sent in the past. Data and comments are updated in the GRADS system and are available for staff and faculty to view. There was a brief discussion about ways staff keep up to date with this information. The request was made that, if possible, a staff email notification be made available in the GRADS settings that will notify staff when notes are added. The request will require further investigation of the options and requirements.
Additional Wish List Items?

Email to gradschoolhelp@psu.edu
GRADS or Wish List Questions?
LionPATH Update

• Milestones
  • Used to track non-course requirements
  • Expect to open up this functionality to plans on 6/1/17 (in time for SU17 graduation)
  • Plans will enter and update milestones
  • Milestones appear on advising transcript
  • Milestones appear on graduation tracking

• Committee assignments
  • Still Cleaning up converted data
  • GES is entering new and revised committees into LionPATH
  • We will provide plans with security to view and associated queries by June
LionPATH Update cont.

• Doctoral Exams
  • Finalizing the business processes
  • Still need to complete security and documentation
  • Hoping to use functionality that allows faculty to enter their own doctoral exam results directly into the system
  • Most likely will launch in summer

• Thesis data is in the system.
  • Working on converting to Milestones
  • Will be visible on Graduation Tracking
Questions?