Compendium of FY08 NIRS & Directory Changes

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Section I: Overarching Systems Enhancements

1. The NIRS style sheet has been changed.
The "style sheet" refers to the layout, colors, and fonts of the interface. While the layout and fonts remain the same, the new colors of the NIRS interface should be "easier on the eyes" and compliment the colors of the new (as of February 2007) look of the AUCD website.

2. LEAHs and PPCs are welcomed to full NIRS access.
Two MCH training programs, which previously used a limited version of NIRS, have been provided with full access to NIRS.
- Directions in the data entry forms that previously referred to LENDs only have been modified to be directions for "LENDs, LEAHs & PPCs."
- The report pages in each dataset incorporate the LEAHs and PPCs.

4. New standard report created to provide count of records added/modified by login name by week.
The report, "Records Added & Edited" is available under "Admin" "Reports." Users can create reports for any desired date range.

5.   Disciples have been added or renamed.
The list of disciplines in Trainee and Activity datasets have been updated: Four disciplines have been renamed and seven disciplines added.

Discipline List (Trainee and Activity Datasets)	Change		Discipline List (Trainee and Activity Datasets)	Change
Audiology			~~General Medicine~~ Medicine: General	Rename
Biological Sciences	New		~~Pediatrics~~ Medicine: Pediatric	Rename
Dentistry/Pediatric Dentistry			Mental and Behavioral Health	New
Disability Studies			Nursing	
Education: Administration	New		Nutrition	
Education: Early Intervention/Early			Occupational Therapy	
Education: General Education			Pastoral	
Education: Special Education			Physical Therapy	
~~Family Studies~~ Family Advocate	Rename		Psychiatry	
~~Genetics~~ Genetic Counseling	Rename		Psychology	
Health Administration			Public Administration	New
Human Development/Child			Public Health	
Interdisciplinary			Rehabilitation	New
Liberal Arts & Sciences, Humanities, & General Studies	New		Social Work	
Law	New		Speech-Language Pathology	

6. Definitions provided for Disciplines.
For the first time, definitions are provided for each of the disciplines. The majority of the definitions are adapted from *Classification of Instructional Program: 2000 Edition,* National Center for Education Statistics (2002) (the most recent edition available) and are designed to be consistent with the guidance issued by MCHB. Initial versions of these definitions were reviewed by the Training Directors and Data Coordinators and modified in response to their feedback. See the Appendix of this document for the FY08 NIRS Discipline Definitions.

Section II: Trainee Dataset

7. Trainee discipline list has been modified and discipline definitions provided.
See items number 5 and 6.

8. The standard report "Trainees by Discipline and Gender" has been modified.
This report now has the same filters as the standard report "Trainees by Race, Ethnicity, and Discipline."

9. Trainee "unique identifier" logic has been modified to accommodate cases where former trainees are deceased.
Centers are strongly advised *against deleting* the trainee records of former trainees who have passed away because the value of historical trainee demographic data is not diminished by the demise of former students. NIRS logic has been modified to help Centers take precautions against attempting to survey such individuals in the future.

The unique identifier (trainee login) automatically generated by NIRS for trainees to use to log into their follow up surveys is editable; however, the logic that prevents any Center from having duplicate identifiers has been modified to allow any Center to have an unlimited number of identifiers whose value is the word "deceased."

10. Accessing ST trainee data.
ST Trainee data entry fields are located between "trainee" and "year" fields in the Search and Custom Report functions. ST user defined fields are not automatically included in the main trainee tables during export (to avoid confusion with other trainee user defined fields) but can be exported through the Custom Report function.

Section III: Activities Dataset

11. "In person or live course" option has been added to "Training Method" pull down menu.
Within the Performing Training and TA core function, and under its "Training" subset, an additional training method has been provided.

12. A blank line has been added to the top of the "Staff Involvement" pull down menu.
It has come to our attention that some individuals entering data have (mistakenly) believed that the first staff person displayed in the pull down menu is automatically linked to the activity record. To reduce the likelihood of such confusion in the future, the first line is now blank. To link one or more staff names to any activity record, a name must be highlighted in the pull down menu, then the button "link this person to the activity" must be clicked.

13. Trainee discipline list has been modified and discipline definitions provided.
See items number 5 and 6.

14. The function for creating Product records from the Activity dataset has been discontinued.
In response to numerous requests from the network, this feature has been discontinued.

15. Customer satisfaction fields are inactivated when "Research" is selected as a core function.
As consumer satisfaction data are not required by ADD for research and evaluation activities, these fields are inactivated and appear as grayed out in the online data entry form when the "Research" radio dial is selected.

16. Two additional fields have been added to the "Customer Satisfaction" section.
To assist UCEDDs with reporting, two fields have been added that will be incorporated into the FY08 UCEDD annual report to ADD function in NIRS:
- A "yes/no" pulldown menu to indicate if the UCEDD was the "lead" on the activity. Guidance from ADD indicates that Centers are not obligated to attempt to collect satisfaction data in activities that they do not lead (e.g., speaking at a conference you do not host).
- A text box to indicate the number of customers surveyed. This figure will be used to autocalculate response rate in the annual report.

Section IV: Projects Dataset

17. New standard report created to provide, for each project, a list of associated activities, the number of participants, and duration.
The report "Projects and Associated Activity Records" is available on the Projects reports page under "All."

Section V: Products Dataset

18. The authority to add/modify product dissemination numbers has been restricted.
In response from numerous requests from the network, this feature has been restricted to the owner of the Product record itself and users with an Admin level of access.

19. The capacity to add a URL to the abstract (presumably to the product itself) is enabled.
URLs can be provided with or without the http:// prefix; no special tagging or formatting is needed. Once saved, the URL will display in "view" mode and in the public search as an underlined link. The clicked link will open in a new window.
NOTE: Users are cautioned to use this function when they are sure that the link will be remain valid for some time.

Section VI: Public Search of NIRS

20. A prominent link for searching NIRS has been added to the AUCD homepage.

NIRS   **Login**>

National Information Reporting System

Search NIRS for Network Projects and Activities   **Search**>

21. The default search option has been changed from "current year" to most recent "complete data year."
Users will continue to be able to change their search criteria by particular or "all" years.

22. The first pulldown menu line for "Center Name" has been changed.
While the function of searching all UCEDDs and LENDs remains unchanged, the line has been changed from blank to "Search all UCEDDs/LENDs."

23. "All years" search results are now filtered to display only the most recent FY of a project.
When the same project title is used by a Center over multiple years, only the most recent record will be returned in the search; however, the record now provides links to all previous Product year records.

Section VII: Directory

24. The discipline list has been revised.
Continue to check all that apply.

25. Check boxes are provided to indicate an individual's membership on an AUCD council.
Council membership will not be displayed in an individual's directory listing (however a list of Council members can be obtained through the search function, see item number 26). Eventually, we hope to be able to generate lists of Council members for access through the council web pages from the directory, streamlining the updating activities. Check all that apply.

26. An additional check box is provided to filter non-staff COCA representatives out of Directory display.
For those COCA representatives who are not employees of a UCEDD—and therefore should not display in the UCEDD's directory—we have provided a mechanism for Centers to manage their online listing of their COCA representative without displaying the individual in their online staff list.
NOTE: DO NOT enter any information in Sections II or III of the directory record for non-staff COCA representatives. These Sections are to be used solely for employees.

27. AUCD Council names have been added to the bottom of the list of "positions" in the directory search.
Select the appropriate Council to generate a list of membership from Directory entries.

28. The capacity to add a URL to the vita section is enabled.
URLs can be provided with or without the http:// prefix; no special tagging or formatting is needed. Once saved, the URL will display in "view" mode and in the public search as an underlined link. The clicked link will open in a new window.
NOTE: Users are cautioned to use this function when they are sure that the link will be remain valid for some time.

29. Report created to display Directory entries.
The report "Staff Expertise" displays, by staff name: discipline(s) and text entered in their "Research," "Education," and "Service" fields.

FY08 NIRS Discipline Definitions for the Trainee and Activity Datasets

Discipline	NIRS definitions	MCH definition (provided for your information)
	All definitions <u>except</u> disability studies, family advocate, and nutrition adapted from: *Classification of Instructional Program: 2000 Edition.* National Center for Education Statistics (2002) http://nces.ed.gov/pubs2002/2002165_2.pdf	
Audiology	Graduate students or clinical fellows in programs that focus on the scientific study of hearing processes and hearing loss, and that prepares individuals to diagnose hearing loss and impairments and advise patients on means to use their remaining hearing and select and fit hearing aids and other devices.	Master's or doctoral candidates; consideration may be given to post-master's and post-doctoral clinical fellowships.
Biological Sciences	Undergraduate students, graduate students, or post-doctoral fellows in programs that focus on the biological sciences and the non-clinical biomedical sciences, and that prepare individuals for research and professional careers as biologists and biomedical scientists. Includes but not limited to biology, biochemistry, biophysics, genetics, molecular biology, physiology, neurobiology, neurochemistry, neuroscience, epidemiology, ecology, and health/medical preparatory programs (e.g., **pre-dentistry, pre-nursing, pre-pharmacy, pre-med**).	
Dentistry/Pediatric Dentistry	Graduate students or post-doctoral fellows in programs that prepare individuals for the independent professional practice of dentistry/dental medicine, encompassing the evaluation, diagnosis, prevention, and treatment of diseases, disorders, and conditions of the oral cavity, maxillofacial area and adjacent structures and their impact on the human body and health. For pre-dentistry students, use Biological Sciences.	Pediatric Dentistry—post-doctoral trainees in graduate pediatric dentistry programs.
Disability Studies	Undergraduate students, graduate students, or post-doctoral fellows in programs that examine disability in social, cultural, and political contexts.	
Education: Administration	Undergraduate students, graduate students, or post-doctoral fellows in a program that focuses on the general principles and techniques of administering a wide variety of schools and other educational organizations and facilities, supervising educational personnel at the school or staff level, and that may prepare individuals as administrators and supervisors. Includes but not limited to educational leadership and administration, principalship, and superintendency.	
Education: Early Intervention/Early Childhood	Undergraduate students, graduate students, or post-doctoral fellow in programs that focus on the design and provision of teaching and other educational services to infant and pre-school age children with special learning needs or disabilities, and that prepares individuals to teach such students.	
Education: General Education	Undergraduate students, graduate students, or post-doctoral fellows in programs which focus on the general theory and practice of learning and teaching; the basic principles of educational psychology; the art of teaching; the planning and administration of educational activities; school safety and health issues; and the social foundations of education.	

	Includes but not limited to teacher education and professional development, curriculum and instruction processes, educational and instructional media design, and education assessment, evaluation, and research.	
Education: Special Education	Graduate students or post-doctoral fellows in a program that focuses on the design and provision of teaching and other educational services to children or adults with special learning needs or disabilities, and that may prepare individuals to function as special education teachers.	Special Education—master's or doctoral candidates.
Family Advocate	Family member advocate of a person with DD or SHCN, including self -advocates of any age.	Parents of children with developmental disabilities and/or youth consumers with developmental disabilities.
Genetic Counseling	Undergraduate students, graduate students, or post-doctoral fellows in a program that prepares individuals to counsel patients and families concerning inherited genetic disorders and diseases or birth defects; assess risk factors and planning options associated with potential and actual inherited conditions; and serve as patient advocates and provide referral services in relation to private and public support services. For research or other geneticists, use Medicine (either general or pediatric) or Biological Sciences.	Genetic counselors
Health Administration	Graduate students or clinical fellows in a program that focuses on the application of policy analysis, public administration, business management, and communications to the planning and management of health services delivery systems in the public and private sectors, and prepares individuals to function as health services administrators and managers. Includes instruction in health systems planning, public health organization and management, pubic health policy formulation and analysis, finance, business and operations management, economics of health care, organizational and health communications, marketing, human resources management, and public health law and regulations.	Master's or doctoral candidates; consideration may be given to post-master's and post-doctoral clinical fellowships.
Human Development/Child Development	Undergraduate students, graduate students, or post-doctoral fellows in a program that focuses on basic human development across the lifespan and/or the intellectual, social, emotional, and biological development of children.	
Interdisciplinary	Undergraduate students, graduate students, or post-doctoral fellows in programs that derive from two or more distinct programs to provide a cross-cutting focus on a subject concentration that is not subsumed under a single discipline or occupational field.	
Liberal Arts & Sciences, Humanities, & General Studies	**Undergraduate** general instructional programs and independent or individualized studies in the liberal arts subjects, the humanities disciplines, and the general curriculum. Includes but not limited to arts, biological and physical sciences, social sciences, humanities, languages, literatures, art, music, philosophy, and religion.	
Law	Law students in program that prepares individuals for the independent professional practice of law, for taking state and national bar examinations, and for advanced research in jurisprudence. OR Undergraduate students, graduate students, or post-doctoral fellows in programs that focus on the study of	

	legal issues in non-professional programs, prepare individuals for the legal profession, professional legal research, or related professions.	
Medicine: General	Medical students, residents, or fellows in a program that prepares individuals for the independent professional practice of medicine, involving the prevention, diagnosis, and treatment of illnesses, injuries, and other disorders of the human body in any specialty (other than psychiatry) that **does not have a pediatric emphasis**. For pre-med students, use Biological Sciences.	
Medicine: Pediatric	Medical students, residents, or fellows in a program that prepares individuals for the independent professional practice of medicine, involving the prevention, diagnosis, and treatment of illnesses, injuries, and other disorders of the human body in any specialty (other than psychiatry) that **has a pediatric emphasis**	Medicine—Developmental-Behavioral pediatrics, Neurodevelopmental Disabilities, and other relevant pediatric medical specialties and subspecialties (e.g., Child Psychiatry, Pediatric Neurology, and/or Medical Genetics) can be supported as a special residency/fellowship. Family practice and physical medicine and rehabilitation may also be considered as a residency/fellowship, provided a pediatric emphasis can be demonstrated.
Mental and Social Health Services	Undergraduate students, graduate students, or post-doctoral fellows in a program that prepares individuals for the professional practice of counseling involving the rendering of therapeutic services to individuals and groups experiencing mental or social problems and exhibiting distress symptoms. Includes but not limited to: counseling, marriage & family therapy, and substance abuse/addictions counseling. For vocational rehabilitation counseling students, use Rehabilitation and Therapeutic Professions.	
Nursing	Graduate students or post-doctoral fellows in a program that prepares individuals with the knowledge, techniques and procedures for promoting health, and providing care for individuals with medical conditions. Includes but not limited to critical care nursing, family practice nursing, maternal and child health nursing, neonatal nursing, nursing administration, nursing clinical specialties, occupational and environmental health nursing, and pediatric nursing. For pre-nursing students, use Biological Sciences.	Master's or doctoral candidates; consideration may be given to post-master's and post-doctoral fellowships.

Nutrition	Graduate students or post-doctoral fellows in programs that focus on the scientific study of metabolic and physiologic responses of the body to diet.	Master's or doctoral candidates; consideration may be given to post-master's and post-doctoral clinical fellowships.
Occupational Therapy	Graduate students or post-doctoral fellows in a program that prepares individuals to assist patients with physical, cognitive, psychosocial, mental, developmental, or learning disabilities, as well as adverse environmental conditions, to maximize their independence and maintain optimum health through a planned mix of acquired skills, performance motivation, environmental adaptations, assistive technologies, and physical agents.	Post-baccalaureate entry level, post-professional master's or doctorate levels; consideration may be given to post-master's and post-doctoral clinical fellowships).
Pastoral	Undergraduate students, graduate students, or post-doctoral fellows in programs that include the academic study of organized systems of belief and religious practices or the study of theology and that prepare individuals for the professional practice of religious vocations. Includes but not limited to religious studies, theological and ministerial studies, pastoral counseling, and specialized ministries.	
Physical Therapy	Graduate students or post-doctoral fellows in a program that prepares individuals to alleviate physical and functional impairments and limitations caused by injury or disease through the design and implementation of therapeutic interventions to promote fitness and health.	Post-baccalaureate entry level, post-professional master's or doctorate levels; (Consideration may be given to post-master's and post-doctoral clinical fellowships).
Psychiatry	Medical students, residents, or fellows in training program that prepares **physicians** in the diagnosis, treatment, and prevention of mental, emotional, behavioral and neurological disorders. Includes instruction in psychotherapy, family counseling, referral, clinical diagnosis, and practice management.	
Psychology	Graduate students or post-doctoral fellows in programs that focus on the scientific study of the behavior of individuals, independently or collectively, and the physical and environmental bases of mental, emotional, and neurological activity. Includes but not limited to clinical, community, comparative, developmental, educational environmental, experimental, family, forensic, gero, health, industrial, organizational, personality, social, or school psychology; psychobiology, psychometrics, psycholinguistics, and psychopharmacology.	Doctoral candidates and post-doctoral clinical fellowships (in any specialization in which the focus is on child health and development).
Public Administration	Undergraduate students, graduate students, or post-doctoral fellows in a program that prepares individuals to serve as managers in the executive arm of local, state, and federal government; and that focuses on the systematic study of executive organization and management.	
Public Health	Undergraduate students, graduate students, or post-doctoral fellows in a program that prepares individuals to plan, manage, and evaluate public health care services and to function as public health officers.	
Rehabilitation	Undergraduate student, graduate student, or post-doctoral fellows in a program that prepares individuals to plan, organize, and direct recreational activities designed to promote health and well-being for individuals with	

	physical, mental, or emotional disabilities. Includes but not limited to **recreation**, art, music, dance, and kineso therapy; vocational rehabilitation counseling; **assistive technology**; and rehabilitation engineering.	
Social Work	Graduate students or post-doctoral fellows in a program that prepares individuals for the professional practice of social welfare administration and counseling, and that focuses on the study of organized means of providing basic support services for vulnerable individuals and groups.	Master's or doctoral candidates; consideration may be given to post-master's or post-doctoral candidates in a clinical sequence and to clinical fellowships.
Speech-Language Pathology	Graduate students or post-doctoral fellows in a program that prepares individuals to evaluate the speaking, language interpretation, and related physiological and cognitive capabilities of children and/or adults and develop treatment and rehabilitative solutions in consultation with clinicians and educators.	Master's or doctoral candidates. Consideration may be given to post-master's and post-doctoral clinical fellowships