MEMORANDUM

To: Dennis Stropes
From: W. David Wimberly
Copy: ISM-L
       Tom Dorre
Subject: October Status Report

General

Report Output Destinations

A meeting was held with the Service Center, Network Services, and Tech Services to discuss past problems in getting distributed printers setup and working. Following the meeting, Service Center staff was trained in the use of the USA application to define the printers. The three Registrar printers were used for training since Allen Fields had found that the printer name to use when printing to a Netport XL box was TEXT. The plan is for the Service Center to assume this interface and setup role, which they were going to test out with a new request that was coming from Chemistry.

My role will be to provide application support to the Service Center. It was agreed that immediately we should develop a brief instruction sheet that could be distributed to users identifying how they should request new printers and how they would use them within BASIS once they are setup. This will be primarily Pete Campbell's responsibility, with assistance and input provided by the Service Center and myself. Additionally, a print capability should be added to the USA application so that the Service Center could test out new printer definitions and become familiar with how BASIS printing works. (This has been done, but no instruction has yet been provided -- pending the completion of the instruction sheet.) Given this progress, we still have the following outstanding problems:

- Bill Jasinski (BADM's Netware administrator) still needs assistance in performing the necessary Netware setup to accept print from ADMIN.
- The problem with the Law printers has been isolated to Netware, and may involve a third party Network Loadable Module, FlexIP, which makes unix type printing to Netware possible. It is not known why these print queues fail while other, seemingly identical, print queues work fine.
- Craig is doing research into potential products that would permit us to LPR to printers directly attached to Macs.

The USA application was modified to permit online printing to CMS IDs on SYSB, which became the default when SYSA was decommissioned.

Training

I have been conducting almost daily training sessions with David Savage, Cindy Knott and Ken Osredker. We had an open question session on the Natural Basics Class and reviewed/discussed the following topics: the reporting methods outlined in the Basics Class, the Natural Advanced Class, the User Profile, the Edit Profile, the NSM Architecture Specs, the NSM Maintenance System, Predict, UAF Standard Help, Edit Macros and the UAF Program Generator, the Super List model/macro, the compare utility, a small part of MOVEIT, and other related issues we would
stumble upon. The sessions are now focused on addressing questions that have arisen during development activities, currently the conversion of lists to Super Lists.

Script/DCF

I provided support and assistance to Pete in the generation of postscript output from our Script/DCF documents, and the downloading and printing of that output.

Labor

The fix made in September for batch jobs not running when no report output was requested (file output only) was finally moved to production, but only after users continued to experience problems. (It had been on DEMO but never requested to be migrated to PROD.)

The TARGET routing within PD was altered to exclude the special routing that had been coded for HR for the first few months of implementation. An edit was also added to PD to ensure that some change had been made before accepting a PF10. This prevents the creation of transactions with no status and no reviewers -- which were essentially lost though a confirmation message is provided. (This will happen with any TARGET function when TANETRL is never called to establish the reviewers.)

Purchasing/AP

The AP and Payment files went through further changes, primarily as the result of extensive discussions and meetings regarding credit memos. Similarly, I participated in several meetings and reviewed documentation regarding the accounting resulting from various UPS activity. I also reviewed a write-up for Appropriation table maintenance and fixed bugs in XCRP and the subroutine used to maintain the center/category balances on the requisition header. I fixed two problems in the Administrative Text Manager that were occurring when viewing text and help was requested:

1. Even though no data was changed, Natural was reporting that the field was modified which resulted in the user receiving the warning about losing data.
2. After returning from the help, the message line showed “VVVV” indicating that there was more data to be displayed, and the screen was scrolled and the off screen elements displayed when you pressed ENTER.

The only way I could fix either of these problems was by removing the help routine specification from the map, making PF1 program sensitive, and coding in the call to UANSHSS when PF1 was pressed.

Position Control

The salary encumbrance report was modified to derive (via HRCDICAT) and segregate data by Institutional Category and calculate associated Fringe Benefit encumbrances, including shuttling the Fringes Not Allowed to company 0103. LPBD was modified to accept a null Budgetary Unit in order to list all unallocated positions. I participated in discussions regarding the display of the pay calculation results, but am unaware of any decision regarding how this is to be handled. This particular meeting revealed that our concept of summer appointments was wrong, and has lead to the decision to not record summer appointments on the position file. Instead, they will be treated as a special type of supplemental pay since they are a request to pay an employee a fixed amount over a defined period from specified cost centers. I also discovered that the wrong copy code was being used within the processing rule HP-TRANSLATE-BU-CD to translate the BU code to a BU number
within the banner. It was changed from UACBUCNI to UACBUCN2, which uses a control variable to know to only perform this translation when the value has been changed by the user.

Budget

I participated in a briefing with Agri and in discussions regarding rebuilding our test data from production in order to have appropriate data from which to test conversion processes.

Departmental Accounting

Several meetings were held discussing center/category maintenance functions, desired changes within TABLES, Institutional and Fringe Benefit categories, Fringe Benefit rates, the PSB and DART GDAs, and DART file design. As a result, the Dynamic-Balance, Dept-Acct-Category, and BU-Balance files were modified on TEST, and GLxDICAT code written to validate/decode Institutional Category. The file changes required development of programs to unload/load data since other logical files on UA-DATA-7 were affected. I also reviewed an early version of the program request for Computing Services related to TABLES.

Hrly-TS

I discovered that the same problem as discovered in PSB regarding the BU translation exist within Hrly-TS. Since this is in production, we really should correct this HP-TRANSLATE-BU-CD processing rule, retest the online functions, and get this moved to PROD. I advised Ava of this situation.

Supplemental Pay

Due to meetings between the team leaders and Continuing Education, there seem to be several changes brewing regarding the initial concepts for Extra Compensation/Overload processing. The addition of Summer Research to this module has also been discussed extensively in the hallway and within personal offices. Currently it seems that all three of these may be combined into one Extra Pay (XPAY) function, though the requirements for each seems to be rather fluid at this time.

TARGET

David Hyatt has reported (on more than one occasion) an error received in TANCOMML, the routine that lists TARGET transaction comments. The problem is that there are no comments and the program never should have been accessed. In fact, David reports that he was actually attempting to add a comment when this last problem occurred. Somehow, the users desired selection is not what is being acted on. I have been unable to duplicate the problem, and can't figure out what circumstances are different for David on production.

NSM

The local data areas used by our online programs were all modified to include an initialization for TEST, DEMO or PROD, and these were setup appropriately in each environment. Now, as programs are recompiled they will display this environment identification.

A new type of command security has been created. In addition to a list of commands being allowed or disallowed, the list can now be only commands requiring special access. Commands not listed
will be accessible with the view only security level. Those listed may be disallowed, allowed with the user's normal security level, or allowed with a more restrictive security level. This required modification of the CS command in NSM-MS, the NSNVCSV subprogram used to validate commands within NSM v2 applications, the NSCVCSV copycode used to invoke this subprogram, and a recompile of all NSM v2 commands. I have not received any user feedback on this new option.