

Argos Reporting Update Summer 2016

Argos is Fredonia's new centrally supported application used for report regeneration, information delivery, data dash-boarding, and data file extraction. While Argos can be used for a variety of critical business processes, one of our initial uses for Argos is as a replacement to our existing "Cool Query" in-house developed reporting application.

The Cool-Query conversation project is not specifically limited to simply Cool Query conversion, it also includes for the development and delivery of new Argos Content Elements (ACE's). What follows is a summation of ITS progress on the overall project, our tangible accomplishments to date, and our plans/goals for the immediate future.

Project Progress

To date, significant progress has been made in a combination of Argos administrative tasks, initial functional area on-boarding, and limited new ACE development.

Administrative tasks include:

- Establishing the Argos environment security schema which includes integrating e-services login credentials as to eliminate the need for multiple usernames / passwords, per application.
- Identifying campus functional areas (For example: Registrar, Student Accounts, Athletics, etc.) and how each can quickly utilize ARGOS through overlapping data blocks and queries.
- Drafting standard documentation such as content naming standards and the Argos content change management process.
- Creating common Argos dashboard templates that provide a consistent theme while decreasing development time.
- Developing Argos content to assist the campus community and ITS with the conversion to Argos

Functional Area on-boarding

After identifying 32 separate Functional Areas, ITS selected 4 initial functional areas to begin the on-boarding process. One programmer each focused on areas within the 4 major University divisions. ITS elected to start with functional areas that have a significant amount of Cool Query content requiring conversion.

Selected functional areas included:

- Student Accounts
- Admissions
- Registrar
- Alumni/Advancement

The on-boarding tasks for each Functional Area included:

- Identifying all required resources per Cool Query, per functional area
- Meet with the functional area representatives to discuss the on-boarding process, complete the on-boarding documentation, and review the list of Cool Queries to be converted.
- With the functional areas, review assigned and utilized Cool Queries in an effort to eliminate unused queries as well as to group the remaining Cool Queries into logical Business Processes

As time varied within each functional area due to the need to complete various business processes, ITS was able to engage with other smaller functional areas to maintain momentum. This included the College of Education, International, and EDP.

New Content Development

In the first six months of 2016, ITS developed several Production Argos dashboards including:

- **Ultimate Student Dashboard** - A dashboard that was taken from the Envisions Argos user community and was modified per Fredonia's requirements for Student Affairs.
- **Argos Administrator Dashboard** – An Argos Security dashboard used by ITS to track and audit Argos security assignments, by User, Role, and Group.
- **LMS Administrator Dashboard** – An Argos dashboard used by the LMS administrators to troubleshoot LMS related issues in support of a successful migration from Angel to OnCourse.
- **Several Student Account Dashboards** – This group of dashboards were specifically developed to convert Cool Query content based on identified business processes (Holds reporting, Perkins reporting, Account Summary, etc...)
- **Active Student Survey Dashboard** – Identified during the conversion of student accounts cool queries, this Registrar dashboard reports on the status of active student survey's, their completion rates, etc.
- **Several College of Education Reporting Dashboards** – These dashboards are specifically designed to be used by the College of Education to assist with enrollment and end of semester reporting.
- **CQ Interface Web Version Dashboard**– Allows users to execute their Cool Queries through an Argos interface. The dashboard uses the Cool Query tables to execute the exact same scripts executed through the Cool Query tool. This was developed as an on-boarding tool in helping the campus community learn Argos and become more familiar with its interface and solidify the concept of Argos being Fredonia future repository for all campus reporting needs. There is a quick training video to guide users into and through the Cool Query Interface dashboard:

<https://ensemble.itec.suny.edu/Watch/Ff59AeSj>
- **Cool Query Tools and Conversion dashboard** – This dashboard is designed to provide a cross-reference tool for users who had Cool Query content converted to Argos content. The user can select the Cool Query that has been converted and the dashboard will provide the instructions on how to duplicate that Cool Query in the new Argos Content.

Dashboards and ACE's that are currently being developed include:

- Office of International Education and EDP
- University Police Dashboard
- Class Roster Dashboard
- Admissions Dashboard(s)
- Perkins Disclosure Notice Dashboard

Future Plans/Goals

Future plans include improving not only converting Cool Queries into Argos, but determining efficiencies and duplicative processes that can be refined and eliminated as to gain efficiencies in processing time and to reduce the amount of manual touch currently existing within various processes and procedures.

The Cool Query to Argos conversation project is scheduled to continue through December 2017. If your area currently utilizes Cool Query, you can log into the Argos production system via <https://argos.fredonia.edu> and run these same queries via the “CQ Interface – Web Version” dashboard.

If you have any issues connecting to Argos, please contact the ITS Service Center at ITS.servicecenter@fredonia.edu or via x3407. New employees will need to be added to Argos before they can login.

Future Argos status information will be made available through the Banner User Group (BUG) meetings and via email notifications.