



FACULTY SENATE

Research, Scholarship & the Creative Arts Committee

December 7, 2017

427a Waterman 12:30-2:00

Present: Chris Burns (LIB), Rachelle Gould (RSENr) Seth Fritz (CNHS), Jeffrey Marshall (CEMS), Cathy Paris (Faculty Senate President), Jessica Sheehe, Albert van der Vliet (COM)

Absent: Steve Budington (CAS), Beth Kirkpatrick (COM), Tammy Kolbe (CESS), David Neiweem (CAS), Chuck Schnitzlein (GSB), Matthew Price (CAS), Mary Tierney (CALs)

Guests: J. Dickinson, Constance van Eeghan, Kelly Clark Keefe

Chair Chris Burns called the meeting to order at 12:33pm in 427a Waterman.

1. **Approval of the Minutes.** The minutes of November 9, 2017 were approved as written.
2. **HyperResearch to NVivo, J. Dickinson, Constance van Eeghan, Kelly Clark Keefe.**

Qualitative Software at UVM



We are here today to:

- Review site-wide licensing of qualitative software at UVM
- Discuss faculty support for switching the site license from HyperResearch to nVivo
- Request ERTC support for moving this process forward

History of Qualitative Software at UVM

- In 2012, a group of faculty asked the ERTC to take up the question of qualitative software at UVM
- Three packages were considered: HyperResearch, Atlas.ti and nVivo; only HyperResearch offered both Windows and Mac
- HyperResearch was chosen, with a peer support (listserv) model
- In 2014-2015, a Faculty Area Network for Qualitative Research was funded by the VP for Research's office
- This group noted that NVivo and ATLAS.ti are now available across platforms

Proposal to Move to NVivo: Evidence of Support

- Information gathered in 2012 and through the Qualitative FAN indicate that NVivo has status as the "industry standard"
- Anecdotal evidence indicates that the widespread use of NVivo would ease cross-institutional collaborations and is recognizable to funding proposal reviewers
- A recent survey of participants in UVM's "Qualitative" listserv indicated strongest support for NVivo across the three packages considered

Survey: Rating of 3 packages

“Rate each of the following qualitative data analysis software packages in terms of how well it suits your research needs.”

- HyperResearch scored 1.9/4
- ATLAS.ti scored 2.6/4
- NVivo scored 3.4/4

Scores for “how well it suits your teaching needs” were similar

Survey: Comfort level with low support level

Most respondents indicated that they were “very comfortable” learning and using any of the three software package with the current (vendor-based) support model

However, in the comments several had recommendations for more robust support

Other comments on NVivo:

- "Excellent geo-coding, program support and flexibility."
- "Very important for getting grants from NSF, NIH, etc."
- "I personally don't find HyperResearch adequate for my needs. I've used it pretty extensively for several papers and ultimately stopped using it because its application is limited compared to NVivo."
- "[NVivo] has all the functionality of ATLAS.ti, including network analysis, but with the added bonus of multiple types of visual data -- which are important qualitative fields that will become of even more interest as researchers work more and more with web data. Make the switch -- I beg of you!"
- Other respondents referred to nVivo as "Industry Standard" and "Cadillac" of applications

Proposal Progress

- Licensing Costs reviewed by Associate CIO Julia Russell
- Conducted Survey of qualitative software users on campus
- Project team assembled to draft prospectus and advocate for the proposed change. Membership from CAS, CESS, CNHS, COM, RESNR
- Bring to ERTC and request committee's support (may not require a vote)
- Next: Send prospectus with funding request to VP for Research

Jeffrey Marshall motioned to support the transition from Hyper Research to NVivo at the University of Vermont, it was seconded by Albert van der Vliet . The motion was unanimously approved.

3. New Business.

- a.** Invite Ann Kroll Lerner to a spring meeting.
- b.** Discussion on Open Access
- c.** Gund Institute conversations
- d.** Tax implications for Graduate Students
- e.** Funding to support research.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:35pm

The next meeting of the RSCA is scheduled for Thursday, January 11, 2018 from 12:30 – 2:00 in 427a Waterman.