



FACULTY SENATE

Educational & Research Technologies Committee

Minutes

Microsoft Teams

February 8, 2023

9:00 to 10:30 Teams

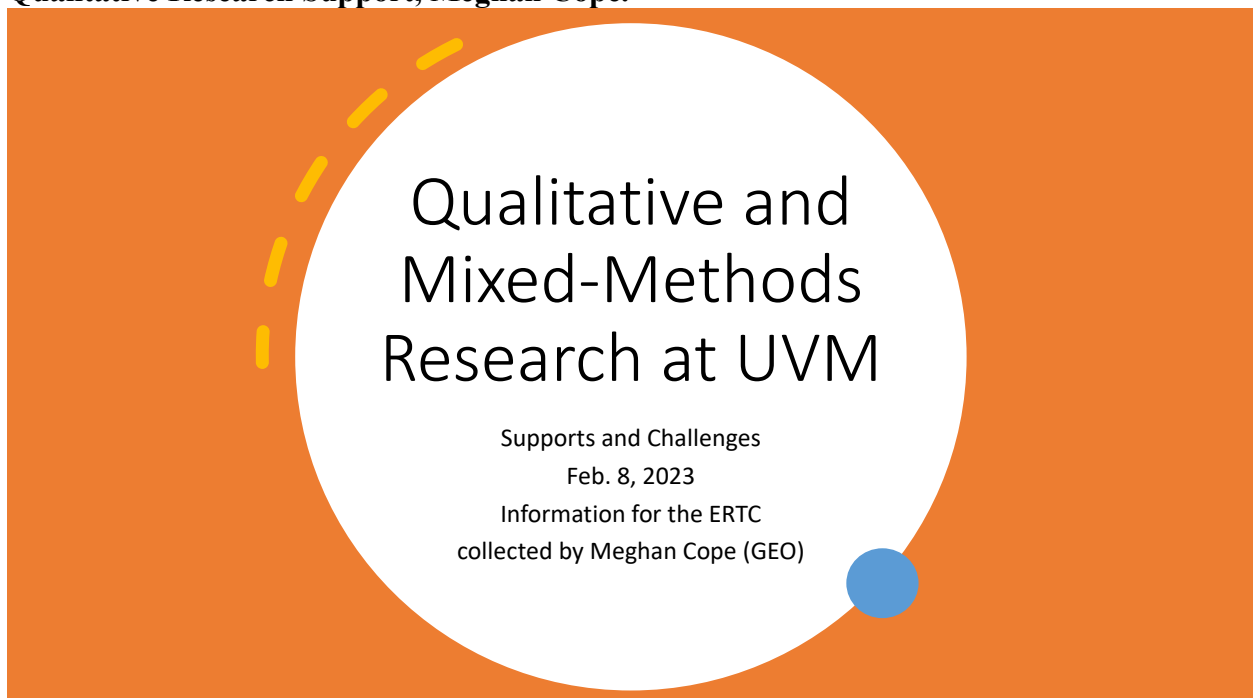
**Present:** Thomas Borchert (Faculty Senate), Steve Brown (LCOM), Meghan Cope (CAS), Hung Do (GSB), Laura Haines (LIB), Marc Law (CAS), Helen Read (CEMS), Regina Toolin (CESS), Tim Tourville (CNHS)

**Absent:** Steve Kostell (CALs), Jarlath O'Neill-Dunne (RSENR), Sara Pawlowski (LCOM), Vacant (SGA), Vacant (GSS)

**Guests:** Mike Austin, Ian Davis, Andrew Horvat

Chair Helen Read called the meeting to order at 9:00 am via Microsoft Teams.

- 1. Approval of the Minutes.** The minutes of the January 2023 meeting were approved with a minor edit.
- 2. Qualitative Research Support, Meghan Cope.**



# What support is available now?

- NVivo site license available to UVM users:

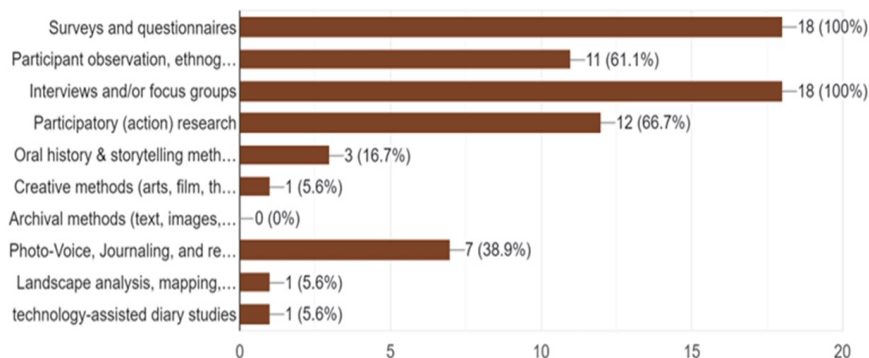
NVivo is a qualitative data analysis (QDA) software designed for qualitative researchers working with very rich text-based and/or multimedia information, where deep levels of analysis on small or large volumes of data are required. NVivo is intended to help users organize and analyze non-numerical or unstructured data, allowing classification, sorting and arranging information; examining relationships in the data; and combining analysis with linking, shaping, searching and modeling.


- Qual-Res listserv with approx 60 users
- YouTube videos to use NVivo
- Qualitative Research at UVM Website (student-created in 2019 as service-learning project): <https://blog.uvm.edu/qualrsch/>

## Nov. 2022 Survey in Response to Listserv Discussions & Grievances

Please describe the methods you use in your qualitative or mixed-methods research (check all that apply):

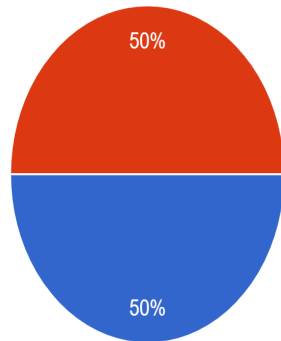
18 responses







Do you use NVivo through UVM's site license?

18 responses



- Yes - please comment in next question
  - No - please comment in next question
- 



If you DO use NVivo, please comment on its suitability for your work, any suggestions for improvement (e.g. increased capabilities UVM's license doesn't cover), and other comments here. Additionally, please let us know how it has *helped* your work if that is the case.



Positives:

- Generally liked
- “Industry standard”
- Free for fac/staff
- Available for students
- Better than nothing/what we had before

*NVivo has made my work so much easier than the previous software UVM offered.*

*NVivo has been critical for interview coding and analysis.*

*I love NVivo and it works for me. I love that my students can also access it for free.*

If you DO use NVivo, please comment on its suitability for your work, any suggestions for improvement (e.g. increased capabilities UVM's license doesn't cover), and other comments here. Additionally, please let us know how it has *helped* your work if that is the case.

### Negatives:

- Limited functionality
  - Transcription
  - Collaboration tools limited
  - Multiple researchers
- NO SUPPORT

### Survey Responses

**If you DO use NVivo, please comment on its suitability for your work, any suggestions for improvement (e.g. increased capabilities UVM's license doesn't cover), and other comments here. Additionally, please let us know how it has helped your work if that is the case.**

- Since they upgraded to newer version, I find it always asks for license code and says it's expired. It also won't save work. The functionality seems weakened and it would be lovely to have some training other than YouTube. YouTube has some great resources but we don't seem to have many of the features it is expected we would have.
- I love NVivo and it works for me. I love that my students can also access it for free. I wish I could use the transcription functionality :)
- Much of the functionality in NVivo is not available through the site license that the university has. I have contacted Technology Services three times through the footprint system, and they say they do not have an understanding of the software and do not know who the license administrator is. I would like to create some consistent queries to look at evaluation data regarding DEI content in medical education curriculum, a standard question on our course surveys, but I cannot run basic queries such as a word count in the NVivo software that I have access to through UVM. I would love training on how to use NVivo more effectively and efficiently.
- The NVivo license UVM provides is too limited to access the functions that would make the software dynamic. Since support isn't provided through UVM, I've had to learn to use the software through online tutorials, which always discuss features that we do not have access to. I have used NVivo to analyze my qualitative data independently and have found workarounds for some of the things other software programs seem to do easily, such as collapse codes. I am currently funding a graduation research assistant and planned to support their development as a qualitative researcher through collaborating on data analysis. Unfortunately, UVM tech support informed me that our license does not cover collaboration. Not having access to NVivo's full functionality slows down my research process - due to the energy and time it takes to learn the software (finding relevant and helpful tutorials that relate to the functions our license can perform, seeking workarounds from colleagues or on social media, which is not a good look for UVM's reputation as an institution that supports research), it takes me longer to analyze my data due to the software's limited capabilities, and affects how we support the development of our graduate students. One good thing about NVivo: I was part of a research project with limited budget and a need for transcription. One researcher on the team used grant funding to purchase a more advanced license that included transcription. They used that license to transcribe all of our audio files, which we then were able to get checked by students. The files required a lot of editing, but it was a worthy investment.
- I didn't realize that UVM had a site license for NVivo. Until recently, I had used my professional development funds to acquire my own license. I use the software to code large data sets from interviews and focus groups, student essays, my ethnographic field notes, and other data sources. I did my doctoral studies at Michigan State University, where this is the most commonly used software, and many of my colleagues and co-authors in the field are familiar with it, so access to this software allows me to continue to collaborate with them smoothly.
- There is no support on campus for NVIVO and I have basically had to teach myself and thus am probably not getting what I need out of it because I just don't know what I am doing.
- NVivo has made my work so much easier than the previous software UVM offered. I can easily get transcriptions (I have grant funding for the online NVivo transcription service - \$500/year), code, and analyze my data. I am curious to learn about other functionality that the software offers which I am unaware of, and particularly support the idea of having access to on-site trainings to increase my research capacity.
- NVivo has been critical for interview coding and analysis.
- Our current license doesn't allow for group qualitative research -- meaning we cannot use a cloud based option to co-analyze data within research teams
- Overall, I like NVivo. However, when versions change (which seems to happen somewhat frequently), I have had difficulty accessing my files. Also, I've had weird things happen where I create a memo or transcription and then can't access it or edit it. Also, I wish there was the ability to do visual mapping. I ended up having to do this in another application.

**If you do NOT use NVivo, please comment on why (no need; use another software program, dislike NVivo, etc.).**

- I joined UVM a year ago. The version UVM currently has is not suitable for my work.
- I do use it a bit, but have recently taken to coding by hand, the old-fashioned way because I couldn't get NVivo to do what I needed and there is NO ONE on campus to help.
- I pay for Dedoose because it has the ability to code collaboratively, and whether it's working with students or colleagues, I'm almost always coding with a team. (Perhaps NVivo does this now, but it didn't a few years ago, when I was looking at software.)
- I have tried to access the NVivo software through UVM but have never had success with being able to download it. I would love to be able to though.
- I have my own version and didn't know UVM had it. I'm new faculty and this place severely lacks tech for a so called aspiring R1. I am glad to know this is possible and I would like to stop paying for NVivo on my own.
- I have never been trained in how to use NVivo and don't know who I can ask for help with that here at UVM.
- As a new hire I am new to having this access and have not yet employed it at UVM.
- I didn't know we had a license (as a lecturer, I tend to not have this info), but I prefer MAXQDA. I find it more user friendly and I like its outputs.
- I have used NVivo in the past, but for the last several years I have been using Dedoose. I work with a small team of U.S. and Canadian researchers and they all preferred Dedoose. I believe one of their main points was that Dedoose was better for collaborative work. I paid for Dedoose myself.

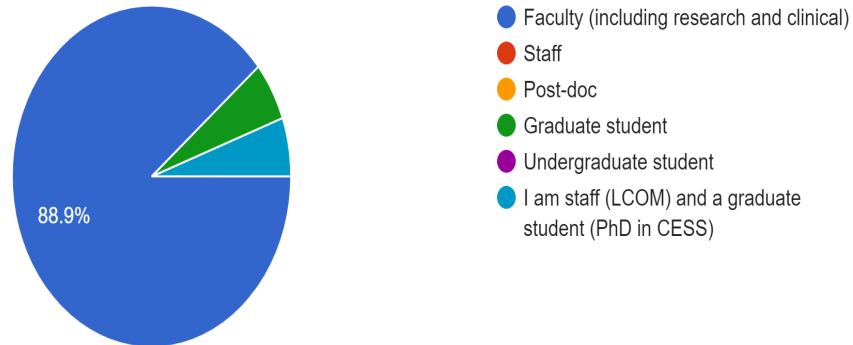
**What additional support would be helpful to you for doing qualitative or mixed-methods work at UVM?**

- Better and streamlined IRB support for non-medical qualitative human subject research. Currently, the IRB process is centered around medical research, which means non-medical researchers have to fill out unnecessary paperwork and the process causes much confusion.
- Technical support. OVPR should host regular workshops/trainings on software, new techniques, etc.
- an NVivo tutorial for students would be phenomenal!
- I would like support on both mixed methods and qualitative research, especially support on how to use NVivo to do mixed methods
- It would be helpful to have someone trained on this software that could offer support and assistance for the license that we do have. There must be a way to do some of the things I need it to do, but the license is more limited than most of the tutorials and guides available. If an NVivo license is too expensive then I would welcome the purchase of another software. There have been many times when I have considered just buying a month of access to software that I am more familiar with and getting all of my analysis done quickly.
- Training in Nvivo and training support for students I work with on qual research methods/software
- on campus, walk in tech support- someone to sit with me and answer my questions
- Resources and training material on how to use NVivo; access to alternative software options as well (atlas.ti comes to mind).
- A group workshop with others on this list to meet, share uses, get a tutorial on usage
- On-site trainings for deepening my skill with NVivo analytic tools would be very helpful.
- I was a PhD student and am now a lecturer. I have been having to stay involved in research via hourly positions outside of full-time work as a lecturer. I did once try to apply for a grant as a PI (doing qualitative research) so that I might get research work as part of my contract, but my request for approval to be a PI was turned down. So I continue to stay involved as much as I can through being involved in other people's work. It is challenging to do this, plus lecture full-time and I wish there could be an easier way.
- Having a full time qualitative analyst/consultant at the library to support qualitative research design and analysis methods aligned with the resources that are there to support quantitative research
- Support for how to use NVivo. Support for prior versions of the software. (It would have been nice if I could have avoided upgrading during the data analysis phase of my dissertation.)
- I would love support on campus, but I realize that I have chosen a software that is not supported at UVM. For my younger colleagues doing qualitative work I would love for them to have someone on campus who they could call/email for help/guidance.



Please identify your role at UVM

18 responses



The committee would like a better scope of the issues surrounding this topic on campus. Reaching out to the Office of Research, working with the RSCA and the IRB are ways to get more knowledge, Meghan will continue to work on this and update the ERTC. Meghan will also work with Laura and the Libraries to help move this along. For more information on qualitative research please visit <https://blog.uvm.edu/qualrsch/>.

### 3. Old or New Business.

- a. Invite Wendy and the CTL to the March meeting for an update on Bright Space.
- b. Non-Blackboard platforms (<https://vtcynic.com/opinion/learning-platforms-should-be-streamlined/>). Thomas will gather some data and invite SGA (since we do not have an appointed SGA member) to be at the March meeting.

### 4. Adjourn.

The meeting adjourned at 10:02 am.

The next meeting of the ERTC will take place on March 8, 2023, from 9:00 to 10:30am on Teams.