

**ASSIST Technical Advisory Committee  
Web ASSIST Displays Project Summary  
September 1, 1997**

**Background**

Web ASSIST delivers all of the articulation related reports that are currently provided by the Revelation- and Telnet-based ASSIST products to end users running web browser software via the Internet. The servers for Web ASSIST are located at and supported by the ASSIST Coordination Site. Web ASSIST was originally referenced in the 1996-97 ASSIST Technology Plan, and is a part of the ongoing effort to migrate the ASSIST software away from the Revelation operating environment and into a centralized, mainstream, production-oriented environment. Web ASSIST is described in a Project Proposal and a Definition of Functional Requirements, both dated January 23, 1997.

**Time line**

All functionality described in the Definition of Functional Requirements was implemented and a prototype delivered in April 1997. A beta test cycle was then conducted from May 5-16, 1997. Twenty-five sites participated in the beta test, and the ACS received 57 comments from testers. As a result, several action items, ranging from minor bug fixes to an improved layout of the entire site, were identified and implemented. This work is now complete.

Online help and guidance information has been written by ACS staff and integrated into the site. Final ACS testing began on August 28. This testing consisted of a final review of functionality to ensure that all goals have been met and no anomalies exist, a final review of all types of reports to ensure that they match the corresponding reports produced by the Revelation software, and load testing to ensure that no performance problems exist with the Web ASSIST server or Internet connection. During the month of September, the ACS is conducting a number of demos of the final Web ASSIST product in conjunction with the Outreach Officers Workshop and Community College Counselor Conferences.

The Project Proposal originally targeted full deployment of Web ASSIST in October 1997. The development of Web ASSIST has remained on schedule, and deployment is currently scheduled for October 6. The ASSIST home page has been redesigned, and will provide users access to both Web ASSIST and the ACS web site.

**Future tasks**

The following items have been scheduled following the deployment of Web ASSIST on October 6:

1. Product evaluation

The ACS will solicit customer feedback to evaluate how well Web ASSIST functions compared to their expectations and the level of success of the product. Action items will be

assimilated from this feedback and scheduled for development as appropriate.

2. Articulation Matrix and Single Course Query

These two reports, currently available in the Revelation-based ASSIST software, have not been implemented for Web ASSIST. These reports will be scheduled for development and integration with Web ASSIST.

3. Campus Information

The Revelation based ASSIST software provided textual information describing campus services, admission requirements, majors, and institutional requirements. Since most campuses now maintain the same information on their own web servers, and these sources are more robust, thorough and up to date, it became pointless to maintain a separate copy of this information in ASSIST. Future projects may be proposed to expand Web ASSIST to provide links to campus web pages with this information.

4. CAN Catalog of Courses

The Revelation based ASSIST software provides information from the CAN Catalog of Courses. The CAN System Office is currently developing a web page to provide access to CAN information via the Internet. Web ASSIST will provide links to the CAN web site when it is available.

5. High School A-F Data

Web ASSIST currently provides a link to the UC Office of the President web page with high school A-F information. The ASSIST Executive Committee has asked the ACS to develop a proposal for including A-F information in the official articulation repository.

6. Database Conversion

A separate project provides for the conversion of the ASSIST maintenance application from Revelation to centralized, Internet-based technologies. Sybase System 11 has been identified as the target platform for the ASSIST database in this new environment. The design of the database in Sybase is nearing completion, and Web ASSIST will be modified to access this database once the design is finalized and the database is populated.