31 – Data Remodeling

Action Item Template Response

General Action Item Information

Lead Division/Office: Enterprise Software
Action Item Number: 31
Action Item Short Name: Data Remodeling
Dependencies with other EP Action Items: TBD
Implementation leader (name & email): Brian McGough (bmcgough@indiana.edu)

I. DESCRIBE YOUR PLANS FOR IMPLEMENTING THIS ACTION.

Indiana University’s Enterprise Data Warehouse has been in existence for nearly 20 years and is largely built on an outdated and inefficient data model. The Data Warehouse currently contains multiple terabytes of data from all University-wide Enterprise Applications and is heavily used by thousands of users for operational reporting.

With the current data model and ever-increasing data volume, the time needed for the nightly refresh continues to increase, creating an unsustainable environment. Remodeling the data will provide efficiencies and reduce the time needed to refresh the Data Warehouse.

While operational reporting needs are being met with the current data model, the University lacks the ability to perform analysis across functional areas in both a structured format as well as in an ad-hoc nature.

A Business Intelligence Task Force was formed and an external assessment of the current Data Warehouse has already been conducted by IBM. Review of and remodeling of the data structures where necessary are the next steps to be taken. This step is the foundation and precursor for Action Item 30, Reporting Tools, to deliver a true Business Intelligence environment for the University.

II. WHAT ARE THE POLICY AND PRACTICE IMPLICATIONS OF YOUR PLANS?

It is critical that data remodeling efforts not interfere with existing reporting activity and that all existing business rules be incorporated into the new data structures to ensure
consistency and accuracy. Therefore, the approach to updating the core data model to a dimensionally modeled warehouse must be deliberate and incremental. Building subject-specific data marts will improve performance and provide flexibility not possible in a large data warehouse. A Business Intelligence Task Force comprising leaders representing all functional areas of the University, IU Foundation, Alumni Association, and IU Medical Center has been established to oversee and guide the refinement of our existing reporting environment to an ideal BI environment to establish executive and general institutional sponsorship and support, garner support from the user community, and maximize data utility as a University asset.

**III. IDENTIFY STAKEHOLDERS.**

University staff and academic administration are primary stakeholders of this effort which is led by a Business Intelligence Task Force:

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