Welcome to DARS testing. You are here to assist in the testing and implementation of a new tool to provide students with an interactive, “self-service”, degree audit system that gives them information in real-time from ISIS. The system will be at the student’s request and no longer depends on overnight batch processing. Students will no longer have to request an update from their advisor.

One Key feature for staff is a new way to obtain batches of audits and basic reporting. The Registrar’s office will also be able to implement and oversee role management, allowing varying degrees of access.

As for the projects timeline, the degree program conversion will be ongoing over the next year with the last conversions expected in 2018. The system will be turned on for Undergraduate students when the majority of Undergraduate degree audits have been re-written.

- DARS 2.0 has already been rolled out to Graduate students.
- The current target for rolling out to Undergraduate students is FA18. This is based on a goal to convert approximately 90% of current undergraduate students.
- Full conversion of all degree programs is expected by mid-2018. There are many majors with relatively few or no students that will still need to be re-written.
- Dates are only projections and will be based on the readiness of the application.
- Any critical issues will be escalated to senior management before 2.0 is turned on for UN students.
- Plans may also be impacted by delays to Package B caused by continued work on Package A.

Your Role:

Testing is broken up into two stages, Quality Assurance (QA) where the system is tested and issues are reported and User Acceptance Testing (UAT) which takes place after the issues from QA have been corrected.

- QA: The main purpose of QA is to find defects in the way the system functions that prohibit it from providing a complete and accurate audit. How we achieve that is by testing different types of students attending all of our colleges and Graduate programs. You will be given test PIDS to run Audits on. You will compare these audits with the information from ISIS and look for data discrepancies. These data discrepancies are sent to the DARS team for assessment.
  - Ensure that degree program requirements are correct, and function properly in the new environment.
  - Report any bugs or issues using the problem reporting procedures.

During QA Testing, the Core Team will:
  - Continually evaluate readiness to move on to UAT & Program Signoff
  - Continually evaluate readiness to implement on schedule

- UAT: The purpose of UAT is to determine whether a system satisfies the acceptance criteria and to enable the user to determine whether or not to accept the system with the known issues.
  - The testing conducted for UAT is similar to QA. Run audits and check the results for accuracy.
  - Retest – Make sure that fixes that worked previously still work, and that there aren’t any new issues caused by recent encoding or IT changes.

- Degree Program/GE Approval: At the conclusion of UAT a representative from each college/department is asked for their approval via email to go forward with rollout.
  - We will send an email to the main point of contact for your College/Department, confirming the program(s) have passed UAT.
The representative of your area will ensure that:

- Requirements are correct and function properly in the new environment
- Critical fixes, needed before implementation, have been addressed
- No new problems have been introduced by the requested fixes
- Any known issues will not impact, or has minor impact on, the current release

Your representative will reply to the original email, giving approval or reporting any new or unresolved issue.

**Testing Environment:**

DARS testing site:


- This area is to be used to call up and review Audits only
- No alterations to records is allowed in this environment. Read Only.
- No EXCEPTIONS please
- Access to QA and assistance in ISIS changes can be coordinated through the DARS team

**Bug Reporting:**

When you find something that is not correct please notify the DARS team by sending an email to new-dars@ucsd.edu. Please include:

- Student PID. One student per bug report.
- Steps to reproduce the problem with screen snips/shots and browser information.
- State the impact:
  - High Priority: Multiple Students? Multiple departments? Multiple majors?
  - Medium Priority: Is it an inaccurate audit for one student only?
  - Low Priority: Would it be OK to make this change in a future release?

A note about some requested changes: Be aware that two project goals are to increase standardization of the encoding, and to minimize UCSD-specific customization.

- This is a package software from our vendor and some change requests could be submitted to the vendor for consideration in future releases.
- This approach ensures that we will have a system that is easier to maintain and support, and that we will be able to take advantage of new features as they are release in the future.

What you will need to bring to testing: your curiosity and your expertise of the curriculum and the student body. We will supply training, assistance and PIDS. If you have certain PIDS of students you work with that you would like to see in 2.0 you are encouraged to test those as well. Your knowledge of the requirements of your degree program or College GE’s cannot be matched by the DARS team and we cannot get this system rolled out without your help.