

Coeus Release Notes

About this weekend's release

Over this past weekend, MIT upgraded Coeus to version 4.3.2.1. Coeus 4.3.2.1 is a major release. In addition to the Coeus application upgrade, we installed and migrated to new hardware (both our web server and database server were replaced) which will greatly improve the performance of the system. Also, the Coeus database was updated to Oracle 10g.

A special thanks our colleagues in IS&T that assisted in such an unprecedented upgrade for Coeus and OSP!

You will see from the enhancements summarized below that many of your suggestions and comments have been incorporated into this release. Please continue to provide feedback. Coeus is *our* tool. Your input is appreciated and very much needed.

Selected highlights from this weekend's upgrade

2229: Multiple PI's

This enhancement is in response to the Multiple PI policy implemented by NIH. For Coeus Premium and Lite, a new column, Multi PI, on the investigator tab has been introduced and users can now flag multiple investigators as PI. The PI flag is still used to flag the "contact" PI as defined by NIH. This data is brought forward from development proposal to institute proposal and award.

2270: Tracking of effort

Prior to version 4.3.2.1, percentage effort was only captured in total for a particular investigator. In addition to total over-all effort, effort can now be broken into academic, summer, and calendar year effort for both Premium and Lite. This data is brought forward from development proposal to institute proposal and award.

2279 and 2298: Ability to include Rolodex persons in budget

In addition to all MIT investigators and key persons, Rolodex persons used on the investigator tab and key person tab are now automatically brought forward into the budget in proposal development for Premium and Lite. Previous versions of Coeus did not bring forward Investigators and Key persons to the budget if they were not MIT employees or students.

2308: Number of development proposals open in edit mode

Previously in Coeus Premium, a user could only have one development proposal open in modify mode and two proposals open in display mode. We removed the restriction on number of windows that can be opened. You can now open multiple proposals in edit mode and/or display mode.

2356: Graduation date field - Proposal Persons module

When adding the graduation date for the investigators in proposal development, you had to enter mm/dd/yyyy. Only the year was needed for the government and often the user didn't have the exact month and day adding unnecessary burden to add the investigators degree information in Coeus. The Graduation Date field format was changed and now accepts only the year, YYYY. .

2420, 3670 and 3855: Coeus 4.2 - Allow for upload of files on the Edit Module Details window

Significant improvements to the user interface have been implemented when uploading narratives for the proposal development module in Coeus Premium. You may now upload files, select narrative types, modify the status of the narrative, and change permissions on the narrative on one screen. Other information has been included such as timestamp of the narrative when uploaded and the location of the narrative that was uploaded from the local machine. Additionally, you no longer need to select one icon for Word attachments and another icon for PDF attachments. Coeus now supports a single upload for any type of attachment and will display the appropriate icon based on the type of file uploaded.

2785: Routing enhancements

Coeus now stores all routing attempts. In the past, in the event the proposal was returned for correction, the history of all prior routing attempts was lost along with any comments made during those routing attempts. Now, the history of all routing attempts is maintained along with comments and the user can easily display prior routing information.

2924: Budget summary level on/ off campus flag

In both Premium and Lite, users can now select on- or off-campus flag for the entire project. Prior to this release, salary cost elements were defined as on or off campus, but all non-salary cost elements were defined as on campus. This enhancement will allow the user to mark the entire budget as off campus and the user no longer has to manually change all non-salary cost elements to off campus.

2940: Coeus Lite - Adjust period boundaries

Prior to 4.3.2.1, users had to use Coeus Premium to adjust period boundaries once the budget had been created. Adjust period boundaries in Coeus Lite is now fully functional.

2941: TBA enhancements and default job code assignment

A new button, "Add TBA" on the budget person window has been added to facilitate using TBAs in the budget. Additionally when using Rolodex entries or TBA entries in a budget, the Rolodex persons and TBA persons did not have a job code forcing the user to input a job code before proceeding to the budget. Now, Coeus will insert a default job code if no job code exists for budget persons.

2943: YNQ - Do not force users to answer all questions at the same time

Previously in Coeus, once a user opens YNQ window all questions had to be answered before the window could be saved. Users are now able to save and close YNQ window in Premium and Lite even if all the questions have not been answered. Validations will be performed prior to the routing of the proposal to require the user to answer any remaining questions.

3009: Make person name editable

Sometimes, investigator's legal name stored in MIT's HR database is not the professional name known by colleagues, reviewers and/or journals. Investigators wanted alternate names to be used in proposals. The person name is now fully editable in the person's detail window.

3479: Cost sharing distribution in Coeus Lite application

A cost sharing distribution screen is now available in Coeus Lite. Users no longer need to upload a separate cost sharing detail attachment when using Lite.

3480: Under recovery distribution in Coeus Lite application

An under-recovery of F&A distribution screen is now available in Coeus Lite. Users no longer need to upload a separate under-recovery detail attachment when using Lite.

2228: Print budget summary

Significant performance enhancements have been included when printing all budget forms within Coeus. Sometimes printing could take an extremely long time to complete before rendering the PDF file. These performance enhancements greatly reduce the time it takes Coeus to render PDF files when printing various budget reports.

2349: Uploading files to Coeus now includes time stamps, users and file's directory path

For personnel attachments, such as biosketch and current and pending support pages, Coeus now displays the update timestamp, user and includes an indicator to show where the file was stored on the local computer at the time of the upload.

2776: Allow concurrent proposal development access in Lite:

Coeus Lite now allows for multiple users to work on different pieces of the same proposal (on user on budget, another on coversheet information, for example).

3572: Other approvers see comments in the e-mail when approved by others

Comments entered by one user are now sent to any other alternate listed at the approval stop. Prior to this release, when a proposal is rejected by one user in the routing stop, other users were notified that the proposal was rejected by the other alternate user, but the reason for the rejection was not included in the notification to alternate approvers. The e-mail now includes the comments to all alternate approvers at that stop.

2406: Organization tab improvements for FFATA

The organization screen in proposal development has been modified in anticipation of full implementation of the Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act (FFATA). The user interface has been modified and simplified and the ability to enter multiple congressional districts is now available in both Premium and Lite.

3472: Sync to Direct Cost Limit

In proposal budget development, Coeus Premium offers the ability to sync to a period total cost limit. Users can now sync a period to a direct cost limit in addition to the total cost limit. This functionality is especially useful when trying to sync NIH modular budgets.

3577: Replace personnel attachments while proposal development is “Approval in Progress”

Like narratives, personnel attachments such as biosketches and current and pending support pages can now be modified while the proposal is routing for approval in both Premium and Lite.

2939: Additional Grants.Gov validations

Coeus 4.3.2.1 now has the ability to validate proposal PDF files under certain circumstances. OSP will be implementing new validation rules that help proposal aggregators conform to NIH and other sponsor requirements. In addition to the new PDF validation engine, other new Grants.gov validation rules have been created and will be implemented over the next several weeks.

2241: Technical - Support of Java

For Coeus Premium, the desktop client is now fully support using Java 1.5 for Macs and PCs. Users *may* now update their Java to 1.5 (not required, however). Both Java 1.4.2 and Java 1.5 are now supported with this release of Coeus.

