



TalisList 2.01

Release Notice

May 2003

Contents

Summary objectives	3
Date available	3
Browser versions	3
Configuration files	3
Course code display	3
Error messages	4
Defects fixed/closed	4
FT and PT student fields - (call reference SH 1-1114404) - A01	4
Alternative entries - (call reference SH 1-1159801) - B01	4
Course code case inconsistency - (no call reference) - C01	4
Non existing period - (no call reference) - D01	4
Default public user - (no call reference) - G01	4
No list entry category - (call reference SH 1-11459) - I01	5
Pre and post text - (call reference BN 1-1321904) - J01	5
Course deleting - (no call reference) - K01	5
Incorrect error message - (no call reference) - D06	5
Period validation - (no call reference) - D08	5
Copy/move/delete/update - (no call reference) - D09	5
Alternative entry incorrect indentation - (no call reference) - 027	6
Known defects deferred to a later release	6
Action buttons with large numbers of entries - (call reference SH 1-1477122, UP 1-1521801) - 030	6
Context sensitive help - (no call reference)	6
Forcing a carriage return - (call reference UP 1-1455501) - 029	6
Bookmarked URLs displaying un-published courses - (call reference SH 1-1358201) - 028	6
Inconsistent tutor search results - (call reference) - D11	6
Installation instructions	7
Prerequisites	7
On the day of the upgrade	7
Collecting the upgrade files	7
Running the upgrade	8
Installing the TalisList version 2.01 software	8
Definition of reasons why the upgrade might fail	9
Fatal errors	9
Non-fatal errors	11

Summary objectives

TalisList 2.01 is a point release, intended to facilitate entry-shopping capabilities with TalisPrism. It also addresses defects raised by customers or identified by Talis since the release of v 2.0. There are thirteen defects corrected.



Note: When using TalisPrism for “entry shopping” into TalisList, selection is restricted to the “local Library OPAC” only. Other TalisPrism search targets are not supported at this time.

Date available

V2.01 is available from 02/04/03

Browser versions

Supported Browsers are:

- ◆ Netscape 4.5
- ◆ Netscape 4.7
- ◆ Netscape 4.79
- ◆ Netscape 7.0(*)
- ◆ Internet Explorer 5.5
- ◆ Internet Explorer 6.0

(*) There is a minor known defect on Netscape 7.02 which prevents the edit window popping to the front when the "Add + Edit" button is used. The suggested work around is to switch to the edit window using either the mouse or the alt and tab keys.

Configuration files

Course code display

Course codes within Talis can now be displayed either in upper or lower case depending on the value that has been assigned to a new parameter within the talislist.conf configuration file which is located in **/usr/opt/blcmp/talislist/app/WEB-INF/conf**.

The parameter within talislist.conf that governs how course codes are to be displayed is called **com.talis.talislist.bean.course.coursecode.uppercase**. When set to false all course codes will be displayed in lower case.

Error messages

- ◆ A new error message is displayed if you attempt to search a Prism system that is unknown to Talislist
- ◆ A new error message is displayed if you attempt to import via shopping an item that does not exist in the local LMS database.

Defects fixed/closed

FT and PT student fields - (call reference SH 1-1114404) - A01

Course Details, the FT Students and PT Students fields will not accept the fields to be left blank.

Fix: Now accepts a blank field

Alternative entries - (call reference SH 1-1159801) - B01

When you add an alternative entry with the type set to anything but "passive" it will add the entry as a main entry rather than alternative.

Fix: The entry is added as an alternative and NOT a main entry

Course code case inconsistency - (no call reference) - C01

Inconsistency of course code handling between v1.x and v2.0

Fix: We have added a parameter to the talislist.conf file that allows the user to determine how the course code case should be displayed either upper or lower case. The default value will be lower case.

Non existing period - (no call reference) - D01

If a list or course is associated with a Period that does not exist in the database the correct behaviour should be, the first existing period should be used when accessing the course or list. At present this does not happen and an error message is displayed.

Fix: Correct behaviour. The first existing period is selected and no error message presented.

Default public user - (no call reference) - G01

Occasionally default user "public" just disappears from USERS table.

Fix: We have inserted diagnostic remedy to pinpoint the cause of the problem. Introduced a guard to remove the capability of the "Public User" being deleted by user action.

No list entry category - (call reference SH 1-11459) - I01

If an alternative entry is stored in the database with LIST_ENTRY.CATEGORY set to NULL an Error 500 is returned when the list entry is expanded.

Fix: Enable the list to be expanded displaying nothing for the category of any entry which has a NULL value stored in the database.

Pre and post text - (call reference BN 1-1321904) - J01

Pre and Post text in "alternative source" entries displays in a serif font in IE6 (and 5.5) and Netscape 6.2. In Netscape 4.7 it is serif less, but a size larger.

Fix: the pre and post test is now displayed in the same font as the entry description"

Course deleting - (no call reference) - K01

Time taken to delete courses is to long in certain cases.

Fix: A new index as been added to the database that speeds up the deletion and copying of both courses and lists.

Incorrect error message - (no call reference) - D06

Incorrect Error Message, when creating a new user from the Utilities section.

Fix: Change to the error message when you create a new user. It now says you need to enter forename and surname

Period validation - (no call reference) - D08

No Period validation for Date Input

Fix: When you create a new Period it now performs a check to ensure that start year is not greater than end year, the same for start date, and if start and end years are the same it checks to see that start week is not greater than the end week.

Copy/move/delete/update - (no call reference) - D09

Pressing the Copy/Move/Delete/Update buttons when you either do not have permission to do so or you have not selected entries to move. Causes an inconsistent error message.

Fix: The error message has been changed to alert the user to the possibilities of both cases.

Alternative entry incorrect indentation - (no call reference) - 027

When alternative entries are displayed within Talislist they should be displayed below the main entry but indented slightly to the right. When viewing as a Public user they are not indented, in fact they are "outdented" and are displayed to the left of the main entry..

Fix: Alternative entry displayed to the right and below main entry.

Known defects deferred to a later release

Action buttons with large numbers of entries - (call reference SH 1-1477122, UP 1-1521801) - 030

Problem with Delete/Move/Copy/Update buttons when viewing Reading List contents. If the results table contains a large number of rows when the buttons are pressed no action is performed. During tests with 97 entries on a list the maximum that enabled the list to be processed, anymore rows resulted in the buttons not working.

Context sensitive help - (no call reference)

Context-sensitive help pages in talislist 2 not being displayed. If you attempt to display any help page it always returns just the initial public html help screen, although the URL in the hyperlink is apparently correct.

Forcing a carriage return - (call reference UP 1-1455501) - 029

It is not possible to enter a carriage return within the Entry Details screen in the pre and post text fields. A carriage return can be forced by entering simple HTML commands.

Bookmarked URLs displaying un-published courses - (call reference SH 1-1358201) - 028

Bookmarked URLs for courses can sometimes allow TalisList to display the Courses and Lists that do not have "published" status in the public version. If the URL is bookmarked with COURSE_ID present it is displayed. This will cause problems when the URL is bookmarked from the live system and the course status is later changed from "published". A short URL is needed so that users can incorporate links to both courses and lists

Inconsistent tutor search results - (call reference) - D11

Search for Tutor from with no search criteria correctly gives all academic users. User search from Utilities with no search criteria gives all users, but says "found 0 matches". Advanced Search for users with no search criteria says "0 tutors found"

Installation instructions

Prerequisites

Before running the TalisList 2.01 upgrade you need to ensure that the following two statements are both true:

- ◆ You are currently running TalisList 2.0. If you are still running TalisList 1.0 the upgrade program will not allow the upgrade to take place
- ◆ You have enough spare disk space in /scratch. It is recommended that at least 20MB is available.

On the day of the upgrade

Carry out a full_softdump to backup the existing Talis and TalisList software.

Use full_dbdump to backup the relevant databases. If you are upgrading your main TalisList system you will need to dump the master and prod_list databases using the command full_dbdump -dprod_list. If you are upgrading your tutor TalisList you should dump master and tutor_list using the command full_dbdump -dtutor_list. This is essential as the existing TalisList software is secured to /scratch during the upgrade.

Check the /users/talislist/.profile and ensure that no programs are automatically started by it. Disable automatic start if any are found.

It is not necessary to do any of the following before commencing the upgrade:

- ◆ Disable the root cron
- ◆ Set nologin
- ◆ Backup the software to disk
- ◆ Terminate any daemons
- ◆ Stop Tomcat

Collecting the upgrade files

The TalisList upgrade files should be downloaded from the Talis ftp site the day before the planned upgrade.

1. Log onto the system as the 'talislist' user
2. Enter your 'talislist' password when asked
3. Check if the upgrade directory exists:

```
cd /scratch
```

```
ls -l upgradeTalislist_2.01
```
4. If the directory is not found then make an empty directory called upgradeTalislist_2.01 under /**scratch** and change into it:

```
mkdir /scratch/upgradeTalislist_2.01
```

```
cd /scratch/upgradeTalislist_2.01
```

Otherwise move into the directory and remove all old files:

```
cd upgradeTalislist
```

```
rm -f /scratch/upgradeTalislist_2.01/*
```

5. Download the self extracting wrap file **tlist_2.01_upgrade.cpio** and the script **tlist_2.01_upgrade.sc** from the Talis ftp server as follows:

```
ftp ftp.talis.com
```

6. If you are unable to access the ftp server by name try using the following command at the ftp> prompt:

```
open 194.80.17.40
```

7. Log in using your member login and password and enter the following commands:

```
cd talislist2.01
```

```
prompt
```

```
bin
```

```
mget *
```

8. Once the files have arrived log off of the ftp server:

```
quit
```

9. Finally, check the sizes are the same as though listed on the ftp server:

```
-rw-r--r-- 1 talis  blcmp  16606 Apr 15 15:06 tlist_2.01_upgrade.sc
```

```
-rw-r--r-- 1 talis  blcmp  2913280 Apr 15 15:06 tlist_2.01_upgrade.cpio
```

Running the upgrade

Unlike the TalisList 2.0 upgrade (which involved a number of complex steps) the TalisList 2.01 upgrade is a lot simpler and only involves running just one script. The upgrade script performs the following steps:

- ◆ Stops Tomcat and clears the 'work' directory
- ◆ Secures to /scratch the TalisList 2.0 software
- ◆ Installs the new software and maintains your original settings
- ◆ Updates where necessary the TalisList databases
- ◆ Restarts Tomcat

If you intend to upgrade both your live and tutor TalisList systems the upgrade script will need to be run twice, once for each TalisList system.

Installing the TalisList version 2.01 software

To successfully run the upgrade script (tlist_2.01_upgrade.sc) you need to enter the following mandatory command line arguments:

- ◆ The name of the database that you wish to upgrade to TalisList 2.01
- ◆ The directory into which the TalisList software has been installed.

1. Log onto the system as the 'talislist' user

2. Enter your 'talislist' password when asked
3. Change into the installation directory:
`cd /scratch/upgradeTalislist_2.01`
4. Ensure that the upgrade script can be executed by the 'talislist' user:
`chmod u+x tlist_2.01_upgrade.sc`
5. Run the upgrade script passing to it the name of the database you wish to upgrade and the directory that houses the TalisList software:

For example, to upgrade the prod_list database and the software in /usr/opt/blmp/talislist enter:
`tlist_2.01_upgrade.sc prod_list /usr/opt/blcmp/talislist`

Alternatively, to upgrade the prod_list database and the software in /usr/opt/blmp/tutor_talislist enter:
`tlist_2.01_upgrade.sc tutor_list /usr/opt/blcmp/tutor_talislist`
6. If you see a message starting "Upgrade aborting" make a note of the message and check the section [Fatal errors](#) for the reason why it failed and how a statement of how to fix the problem. Once you have fixed the problem you can run the upgrade again.
7. After the upgrade completes without any fatal errors, check the report file to ensure that no other errors occurred:
`view tlist_2.01_upgrade.rep`

Search through the file looking for lines starting with "ERROR". If any errors exist check the section [Non-fatal errors](#) and call the Talis Helpdesk for assistance. To exit 'view' type ':q!'
8. After the live TalisList system has been upgraded, contact the Talis Helpdesk and inform them that your system is now running TalisList 2.01.

Definition of reasons why the upgrade might fail

Errors maybe generated when the upgrade is run. These errors can be split into two classes:

- ◆ Fatal errors
- ◆ Non-fatal errors

Fatal errors

Before the upgrade script starts the upgrade a number of checks are performed on your system. If any of these checks fail the script will terminate immediately before the upgrade has started.

If you encounter any of fatal errors you need to fix them before the upgrade can start. Below is a list of each of the fatal errors along with a definition or the problem and a statement of how the problems can be fixed:

- **Upgrade aborting, can only be run as user 'talislist' – exiting**
 - The script needs to be run by a Unix user called 'talislist'. If you are logged in as any other user this message will be displayed. To resolve this problem log in as 'talislist' and try again.

- **Upgrade aborting, could not find the wrap file**
 - The wrap file called `tlist_2.01_upgrade.cpio` needs to be present in the same directory as the upgrade script. To resolve this problem ensure that the wrap file is present in the same directory as the upgrade script.
- **Upgrade aborting, wrap file is not a valid CPIO file.**
 - The file `tlist_2.01_upgrade.cpio` exists but it is not a valid cpio file. It is possible that it may have been corrupted during the ftp process. To resolve this problem download the file from the ftp server ensuring the ftp instructions are followed correctly.
- **Upgrade aborting, current directory can not be written**
 - The permissions on the directory you are currently in that house the installation script and the wrap file are incorrect, as they are not allowing the 'talislist' user to write to it. To resolve this problem use the Unix 'chmod' command to grant write permission to 'talislist'.
- **Upgrade aborting, report file already exists but is read-only**
 - A report file called `tlist_2.01_upgrade.rep`, created by a previous run of the upgrade script exists and its permissions do not allow 'talislist' to write to it. To resolve this problem use the 'chmod' command to grant write permissions to 'talislist'.
- **Upgrade aborting, could not find isql in your path**
 - The upgrade checked the PATH for 'talislist' and was unable to locate the program 'isql'. This program is required as it grants access to the databases. To resolve this problem you need to ensure that the path for the 'talislist' user is correct.
- **Upgrade aborting, your chosen database does not exist**
 - When you ran the upgrade the name of the database you supplied was invalid as it is not a valid database. To resolve this problem re-run the upgrade script ensuring that a correct database name is entered.
- **Upgrade aborting, your chosen database is an LMS database**
 - When you ran the upgrade the name of the database you supplied is an LMS database and not a TalisList database. To resolve this problem re-run the upgrade script ensuring that a correct TalisList database name is entered.
- **Upgrade aborting, your chosen software directory does not exist**
 - When you ran the upgrade the name of the software directory you supplied does not exist. To resolve this problem re-run the upgrade script ensuring that a valid software directory is entered.

- **Upgrade aborting, version 2.0 database is not found**
 - A pre-requisite of the TalisList 2.01 upgrade is that TalisList 2.0 is running installed. A check was performed and the supplied database was not a version 2 database i.e. is it still version 1.0 or it has already been upgraded to 2.01. To resolve this problem ensure that you upgrade to TalisList 2.0 before hand.

- **Upgrade aborting, TOMCAT_HOME is not set and can not be set**
 - A check was performed to ensure that the environment variable TOMCAT_HOME was set correctly. Either it was not set or it is incorrectly set to a directory that does not exist. To resolve this problem you will need to ensure that TOMCAT_HOME is set correctly to the directory that houses the Tomcat software.

- **Upgrade aborting, can not secure existing software as the directory \$SECURE_DIR already exists**
 - A check was performed to ensure that the directory to be used to secure the existing TalisList software to does not exist. The upgrade however managed to find the directory. If this is an old directory that has nothing to do with the TalisList 2.01 upgrade the solution to this problem is to rename the directory and re-run the upgrade. If the directory was created by a previous run of the upgrade it is highly possible that you have entered the same software directory as a previous run of the script.

Non-fatal errors

Unlike fatal errors, if the upgrade script encounters a non-fatal error the upgrade will not terminate immediately. Instead a message will be written to the screen and the report file describing the error and the upgrade will move onto the next stage.

If any non-fatal errors are encountered they will need to be fixed before TalisList 2.01 works correctly. Due to the nature of these errors it is advised that a support call is raised with the Talis helpdesk describing which of the errors occurred. Talis will then fix the problem for you and let you know when the upgrade is complete.

Below is a list of each of the non-fatal errors along with a definition or the problem:

- **ERROR: KEYWORD_LINK_INDA was not found**
 - The upgrade attempted to apply a new index to the database. Unfortunately when it checked to see if the index was present it failed to find it.

- **ERROR: talislist.conf has not been updated - source not found**
 - The upgrade tried to locate the talislist.conf file in the software backup file. Unfortunately the file was not located.

- **ERROR: talislist.conf has not been updated - target dir not found**

- The upgrade tried to locate a directory called /app/WEB-INF/conf which it expected to find below the specified software directory. Unfortunately however the directory was not located.

- **ERROR: script update_talislist_conf.pl could not be found**
 - The script update_talislist_conf.pl should be present within the directory /setup_database that is located within the software directory. The upgrade however could not find this file.

- **ERROR: talislist.conf has not been updated**
 - The script update_talislist_conf.pl was run but errors were encountered.

- **ERROR: script fix_list_course_id.sc could not be found**
 - The script script fix_list_course_id.sc should be present within the directory /setup_database that is located within the software directory. The upgrade however could not find this file.

- **ERROR: could not find the stored procedure directory**
 - The upgrade was unable to locate the directory that holds the stored procedures used by TalisList.