



Update Number 4 Week of June 12, 2006

Project Leadership Meeting Summaries & Decisions

At the last College Implementation (CIT) leadership meeting a number of issues and activities were discussed. In order to ramp up the functional team support, interviews are now being conducted to hire consulting assistance for the project. Consultants have previous implementation experience and will assist district personnel with data base development. The first area to be addressed is financial aid. Given the planned overlap between the legacy and SIS systems during implementation in October of 2007, and due to the inherent complexities of financial aid, additional consultant resources are needed.

The first draft of the project communication plan was shared with the CIT leads and this plan will be finalized soon. Both internal and external communications strategies are addressed.

By the end of June, six colleges will have prepared and delivered a tailored version of end to end demonstrations of the core functionality of SIS. These demos have been tabbed “R2G” or Recruitment to Graduation and have proven to be a valuable learning experience for the College personnel who will be facilitating the event.

Overall Project Status

Attached is the latest dashboard status report for the project. You will note that a significant project milestone – the “first pass” of version 8.9 - has been completed a week ahead of time! During the “first pass” all of the Oracle bundles (or routine fixes and updates) are applied to the software. Next, version 8.9 will be handed off to the functional leads and developers to begin to review the 8.9 software functionality and all of the MCCD modifications.

Issues Report

One area that has presented some challenges is the preparation for the integration of version 8.9 with all of the auxiliary applications that interact with SIS. Auxiliary systems such as the classroom scheduling software (R25), decision support system (DSS), course management systems (Blackboard and Midas), college data warehouse (CDS), identity management system (EIMS), and the reporting systems have complex relationships with SIS. To address this issue project leadership will develop detailed project plans for each of these projects. Work on this issue is expected to be done by the end of June.

Learning Bin

This issue’s Learning Bin feature will briefly explain how financial aid will be handled during the implementation using the legacy and SIS systems. The Financial Aid Council continues to play an exemplary leadership role in helping craft a strategy for this process. Because at any one given time, financial aid is dealing with three calendar years, the use of both legacy and the new SIS during implementation is required. There will be interplay between both systems with student demographic data, enrollment status, and award disbursement maintained in the new system, and aid data remaining in the legacy system. Interfaces for all of the elements of the financial aid process are being developed using models for other institutions that have successfully implemented PeopleSoft SIS.

Project Questions

If you have any questions about this project, feel free to contact:
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