

# News from



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[www.maine.edu/system/mainstreet/](http://www.maine.edu/system/mainstreet/)

## Highlights from our first Add-Drop in MaineStreet

Historically, Add-Drop at the beginning of each semester is by far the busiest time of the year for the student administrative systems, and this fall's Add-Drop period (September 2-5), the first in MaineStreet Campus Solutions, was no exception (see first chart below).

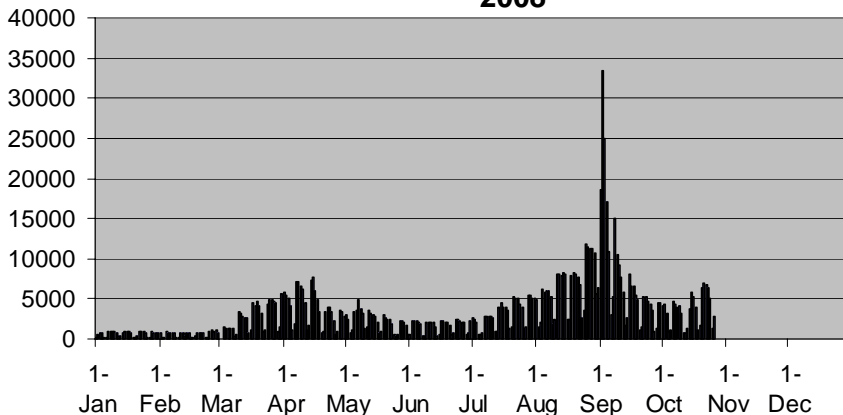
The busiest day, September 2, saw 33,000 logins to the system, with sustained periods of about one login per second (see second chart below). At peak times there were 1300 users on the Campus Solutions web servers and of those, more than 1000 had been active in the previous five minutes.

During the Add-Drop period, load on the system rises dramatically, nearly tripling the activity of the surrounding weeks.

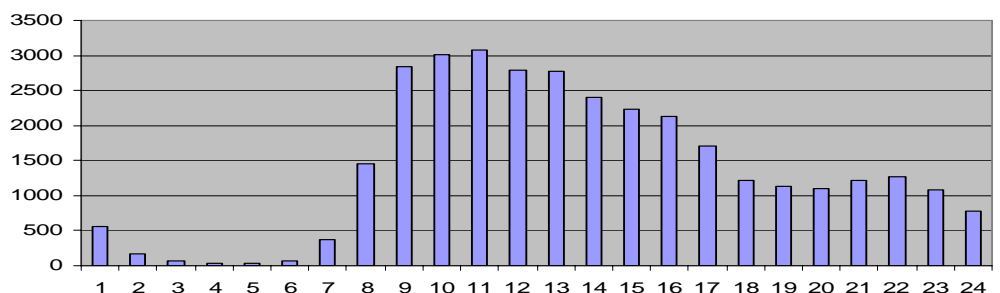
Even during the busiest of these days, however, the load on the system was reasonably constant throughout the day, with eight consecutive hours of more than 2000 logons each hour and 16 consecutive hours of more than 1000 logons.

Performance of the MaineStreet system remained very good during this heavy use period, due in large part to a great deal of planning and testing that took place prior to the registration period last spring (see "Balancing the load," [News from MaineStreet, Vol. 3, Issue 3, Mid-March 2008](#)), and prior to Add-Drop in September.

**MaineStreet Campus Solutions User Logons by Day  
2008**



**MaineStreet Campus Solutions Logons by Hour  
09/02/2008**



# Campus Solutions: what, when, who

Here's what we must still tackle before all student administration functions have been migrated to MaineStreet. See the previous issue of [News from MaineStreet](#) if you need a reminder about everything that has already been accomplished.

Fall 2008 final grades	December 2008 and beyond	All academic departments; Student Records Offices
Disburse Student Financial Aid	February 2009	Financial Aid Offices; Business Offices

The above chart does not include every process in every office that will be shifted to our new system, but is meant to provide an overview of the major events. Many implementation details are campus-based. Highlighted rows have the potential to involve all academic departments, depending on campus.

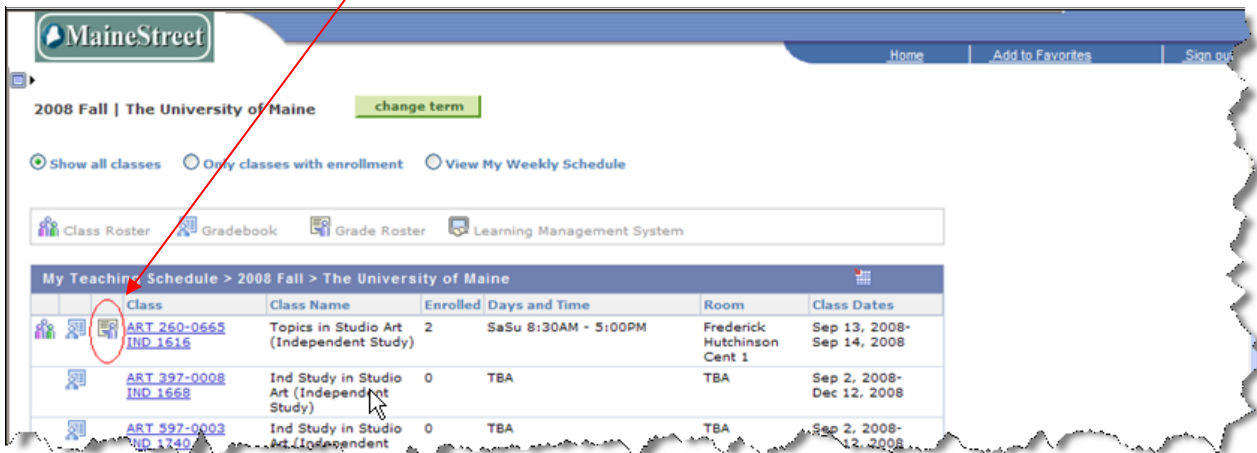
## Entering final grades in MaineStreet

Final grades will be entered into MaineStreet for the first time at the conclusion of Fall Semester 2008. Whether faculty members will enter their own grades is a campus decision.

The following screen shot illustrates what a faculty member will see if s/he is entering final grades into MaineStreet.

Near the end of the semester, the **Grade Roster** icon will appear in the Faculty Center next to each class a faculty member is teaching. The Grade Roster allows faculty to enter, approve, post, download and print class grades.

For more information about the Grade Roster, check the documentation available in **Training Tools and Materials** → **Campus Solutions** → **Student Records**. UPK help is also available for this topic.



# Registration on MaineStreet: how appointment windows help

During registration for spring 2009, a surge of logins will hit MaineStreet. Though registration for the fall semester is big, registration for the spring semester will probably be bigger, for two reasons:

1. First-year students are registering for the spring.
2. Seniors are registering for the spring term (they would not be registering in the spring for fall classes).

Presumably, all 32,000+ students System-wide will register in November.

Students tend to register as early as possible in the time frame (“appointment window”) allotted to them. This is not surprising, as the chances of getting into a course are maximized by early registration. When only a few appointment windows are available, the very large number of students attempting to register simultaneously runs the risk of overwhelming the system.

**Webload!**  
**overloads**

Here’s where we have seen a striking difference between last spring’s registration and previous years. On our legacy system, we would hit or exceed the maximum number of connections allowed within a minute or two of the opening of the appointment window. Students would try for minutes or hours to get into the system to register for their classes; many were turned away during periods of intense activity.

Last spring, smaller appointment windows in MaineStreet were designed. That is, rather than opening registration to all students at 12:01 a.m., for example, students were allowed in in chunks over time based on number of credit hours attained.

In this way, campuses ensured that all students from all seven institutions were able to register when they logged in without encountering a “sorry, all circuits are busy” notice.

To the surprise of many, this process not only ensured student access to MaineStreet, but also allowed academic departments to more easily keep track of the process for their students.

Based on last spring’s success, a similar approach is being taken during the current registration period (through November 24).

Each institution has set multiple, staggered appointment windows. The goal: no student is turned away, ever, when logging in to MaineStreet to register for classes.



## *Financial Aid is coming to MaineStreet*

In February 2009, students will be able to find their Financial Aid information in MaineStreet. Representatives from all campuses are working incredibly hard this fall to get all details hammered out and in place. Sincere thanks to **CHRIS BELL**, UMPI; **SHERRY MCCOLLETT**, UMA; **RON MILLIKEN**, UMF; **ELLEN COST**, UMFK; **STEPHANIE LARRABEE**, UMM; **HELEN PARKER** and **KEITH DUBOIS**, USM; and **PEGGY CRAWFORD**, **CONNIE SMITH**, and **KELLY ROBINSON**, UMaine, for their efforts.

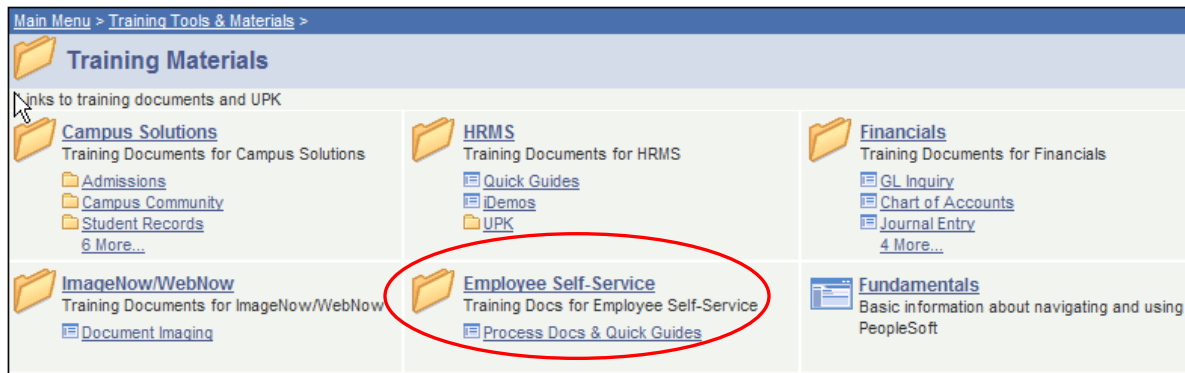
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*Pay it green.* 

If you have not done so already, please go to Employee Self-Service and arrange to have your paycheck deposited directly into your bank account. While you're there, eliminate the paper copy of your pay statement. It's easy to do, saves your time and energy, and saves paper and postage costs for your employer. See the [Quick Guide for Direct Deposit](#) for how-tos.

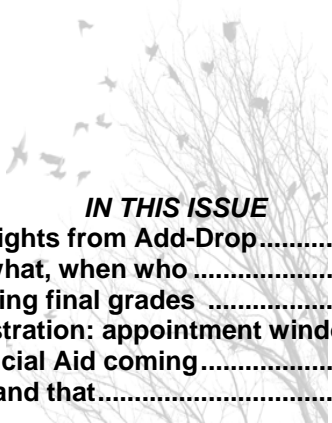
*This and that...*

**A new folder for Employee Self-Service help:** Employees can now find training materials (Process Documents and Quick Guides) for all Employee Self-Service functions in a new folder in **Training Tools & Materials** under MaineStreet Menu on the portal. See screen shot:



**Chrome is not recommended for use in MaineStreet.** In September Google unveiled a new web browser called Chrome. This browser is not currently supported for use in MaineStreet.

**Reminder:** WebDSIS and ISIS are not long for this world, as MaineStreet becomes the go-to source for information and tasks. The only current data left in WebDSIS/ISIS is Financial Aid information. Old data (Student Records, Student Financials, for example) can still be viewed in WebDSIS/ISIS, but that information is not current.



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