Dear Project Enterprise,

What’s Next?

We’ve now been using Campus Solutions for a couple of months. What new developments are in store next for end-users of MaineStreet (PeopleSoft)? And when?

The original Campus Solutions timeline called for Admissions & Recruitment and Campus Community to be implemented on July 31, 2006. Done. Student Records, Student Financials, and what Oracle calls Academic Advisement (we call it Degree Audit but it’s really more than that) were scheduled for implementation in March of 2008, with Financial Aid coming in during January of 2009.

However, after a great deal of consideration of the ramifications of this schedule, after studying best practices, and after consultation with affected user groups—especially the Financial Aid Officers and the Project Enterprise teams—the Steering Committee has determined that Financial Aid should be implemented in 2008, along with Student Records and Student Financials.

This plan means that we won’t have to invent costly and time-consuming interfaces between MaineStreet (PeopleSoft) and our legacy systems as we would have to do if the implementations did not coincide. (We’d like to get out of the interface business.)

So what’s the date for all of this to happen? There won’t be one specific implementation date for the whole package. Various components within Student Records, Student Financials, and Financial Aid will be brought live as they naturally occur in the academic year business cycle. So, for example, admissions deposits received during the winter of 2007-08 for Fall Semester 2008 applications will be processed in PeopleSoft Student Financials, as will any refunds.

Financial Aid offices will begin processing documents in PeopleSoft during January 2008 for the Summer (UMA and USM) and Fall 2008 semesters (UM, UMF, UMFK, UMM, UMPI).

PeopleSoft will be used for class registration for the first time during the Spring of 2008 for the Fall 2008 term (Student Records).

The Degree Audit module will be built alongside the other Campus Solutions modules, with a ready-to-use date likely toward the end of 2008.

Of course, before any of these plans can be realized, a lot of work must be done by the IDP teams in each of the functional areas, and a great deal of historic academic data must be converted from the old systems to PS.

And a final note about these plans: The teams are establishing important milestones that must be met as they progress through their development tasks. Readiness for go live will be assessed regularly. If milestones are not met as anticipated, tweaks to the schedule may be required.
News from the world of Financials

Did you know this?

If you purchase items for your department, or arrange for services provided by outside suppliers, be sure to check out the University System’s Office of Strategic Procurement website. It is continually changing, as the number of contracts that the System has in place with vendors grows. (So remember to bookmark it and visit frequently to see what’s been added.) You’ll find vendors’ names, their websites, contact information, payment terms, return policies, and more! These contracts have all been competitively bid, so you may not have to request a quote—but first check with your local campus purchasing department to be sure.

To find this information, follow the links from the University System homepage (www.maine.edu) to System-wide Services and Offices, and then to Strategic Procurement. Alternatively, click on http://www.maine.edu/system/stratProcure/UniversityContracts.php to go directly to the University Contracts page.

Are you seeing this Timeout Error?

Some MaineStreet Financials users have reported a timeout error when they try to log in to Financials through the MaineStreet portal. Some might have problems logging in to the portal itself. If you are one of these folks, you might see a timeout message similar to this, as soon as you log in or when you click on any link:

"Your PeopleSoft connection has expired... ."

Some GL Inquiry users have reported that they are being thrown out to the login page when they try to view reports they have just run.

These strange behaviors on the portal/Financials might result from one of the following scenarios:

**Scenario 1:** Your browser cache may have been corrupted.

**What to do:** You should clear your browser cache (cookies and temporary internet files), close the browser, and open a new browser session. You should then be good to go.

**Scenario 2:** You might have applied the latest Windows updates and you haven’t rebooted your machine after installing the update.

**What to do:** For most users, the system settings are such that updates are automatically applied and you are notified to reboot. In some cases, the system may “think” that a reboot is not necessary. However, you may experience these strange behaviors with the MaineStreet portal if you do not reboot your machine after a Windows update. The problems will disappear after you restart your machine.
A refresher:
**IDP = Interactive Design and Prototype**

At IDP sessions, representatives from specific functional areas at all UMS institutions meet, usually at UMS offices in Bangor. They look carefully at the functionality provided by the Oracle/PeopleSoft software and first determine what “fits” with our existing and desired business processes, and where there may be “gaps.” The gaps are filled by modifying how we do business to conform with best practices, or by slightly re-configuring the software.

Next, the IDP team actually designs and populates the many setup tables that form the underpinnings of the Oracle/PeopleSoft architecture. This results in a working prototype of the final system.

Members of the IDP teams for the four functional areas at work now are listed below. All of these teams, and their subject matter expert leaders, work with Darren-Michael Yocum, Project Manager for the Campus Solutions implementation.

**Financial Aid IDP Team**
*Sarah Doheny, Subject Matter Expert*
- UM – Peggy Crawford, Connie Smith
- UMA – Leslie McCormick
- UMF – Ron Milliken
- UMFK – Ellen Cost
- UMM – Stephanie Larrabee
- UMPI – Chris Bell
- USM – Keith Dubois, Helen Parker

**Academic Advisement IDP Team**
*Peter Reid, Subject Matter Expert*
- UM – Tammy Light, Mary Malone
- UMA – Pam Ford-Taylor, Tricia Dyer
- UMF – Hazel Doak, Carla DeGraw
- UMFK – Don Raymond
- UMM – Mary Stover
- UMPI – Lorelei Locke
- USM – Mark Menezes, Steve Rand

**Student Records IDP Team**
*Peter Reid, Subject Matter Expert*
- UM – Tammy Light, Linda Reid, Jan Williams
- UMA – Ann Corbett, Emily Johnston
- UMF – Carla Degraw
- UMFK – Don Raymond
- UMM – Mary Stover
- UMPI – Kathy Davis
- USM – Pat Davis, Steve Rand

**Student Financials IDP Team**
*Sharon Nadeau (UMF), Subject Matter Expert*
- UM – Dennis Casey, Eliot Estabrook, Dawn Marie Glidden
- UMA – Holly Maffei, Emily Johnston
- UMFK – John Murphy
- UMM – Joan Getchell
- UMPI – Eldon Levesque
- USM – Marty Berry, Holly Spencer

We always strive to produce an error-free *Employee Update*, but sometimes we don't quite succeed. Issue #24 in September 2006 contained two inaccuracies. First, Kim Yerxa in fact works for *Systems and Operations*, not the Shared Processing Center.

Second, the telephone number for Margaret Jamison (who does work at the Shared Processing Center) is 561-3446. The offices of both *Systems and Operations* and the Shared Processing Center are located in Neville Hall on the University of Maine campus, and both are offices of UMS System-wide Services.
A Project Glossary

Information Technology Services: Newly-named (September 2006) office in University of Maine System, headed by Ralph Caruso, Chief Information Officer. Consists of four units, including:
- Systems and Operations, led by Associate Director John Grover.
- Academic Technologies and End-User Support, led by Associate Director John Forker.
- Communications & Network Services, led by Associate Director Jeffrey Letourneau.
- Administrative Systems Development and Support, and Project Enterprise, led by Director Cindy Mitchell.

The People Behind the Project

Peter Reid (right) wears more than one hat these days. He serves as the subject matter expert (SME) for both the Student Records and Academic Advisement IDP teams. He was the SME for the Campus Community IDP team prior to July 31, and now serves as the in-house functional expert for Campus Community.

Peter came to Project Enterprise in July 2005 from the University of Maine, where he spent ten years in the Office of Student Records: eight years as Associate Director, and the last two years as Director. An Orono native, he lives there now with his wife and sons. In his off-duty hours, Peter enjoys sports, both as an observer and as a participant.

Something people might not know about Peter Reid: he has an awesome collection of Pez dispensers.

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Eddie Meisner, Communications Coordinator
207-973-3290 or meisner@maine.edu

Your comments are welcome.

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