

January '08 - Message from Martha

Message from Martha Garland, Vice Provost and Dean
Office of Enrollment Services and Undergraduate Education
SIS Project Sponsor



Martha Garland

2007 Accomplishments

People that work collaboratively to achieve a common goal are successful because they are determined to do the work that is necessary, one step at a time. The same is true when building a new integrated system. After another year of hard work, we are well on our way to developing a Student Information System that can meet the future needs of our faculty, staff and students.

In 2007, the Project Team completed the following goals:

- Designed and built the module for the Graduate/Professional and Undergraduate Admissions system implementation scheduled for the Spring/Summer of 2008. The Project Team is currently testing the system before it is rolled out.
- Completed the process of defining the impacts the new SIS will have on the job roles within our central business areas. These impacts will be communicated to colleges/units in various ways:
 - 1) Monthly SIS meetings with College Implementation Managers,
 - 2) Monthly meetings with individuals from units and extended campuses who serve as SIS Change Management Liaisons and
 - 3) Transition workshops, which will be held 3 to 4 months prior to implementation for areas that will be impacted by the new SIS.
- A Reporting Training Plan was finalized and includes: Definitions of reporting methods, job aids for commonly used queries and a matrix of information resources. The handbook can be used by university colleges and departments after training has been completed.
- Buckeye Link will be redesigned and will offer Self Service pages for the new SIS. Phase One of the revised Buckeye Link will be rolled out in the Summer of 2008.
- Impact Sessions were held for system users in November to give them a sense of the look and feel of the new student system. Over 525 staff and faculty members attended the sessions which provided a general overview of the system, as well as more detailed information regarding the Academic Structure setup, Admissions and Recruitment, Student Financials, Student Financial Aid and Student Records. Overall, attendees found the sessions helpful and provided these comments: "I think these sessions are helpful prior to the 'go live' dates as it keeps the users up to date on what is happening and some of the things to expect," and "It helps so that you aren't so overwhelmed when the training and 'go live' dates arrive."

- Plans for the OSU ID numbering scheme were finalized and will be implemented during the first phase of the SIS project in the Spring/Summer of 2008. Details about the new numbering scheme will be highlighted in the next newsletter.
- Plans were finalized for a 2-Factor Authentication security process that will be utilized by individuals whose job roles require access to sensitive or personal data. Those individuals will be assigned a BuckeyePass token and a password as an extra measure of security to gain access to the system. System security training sessions will be held in March for those who will be involved with the Graduate/Professional and Undergraduate Admissions implementation in the spring.
- Plans were finalized for creating a single database environment by merging Human Resources and OSU Medical Center databases into the combined HR/SIS system. The HR database was upgraded to PeopleSoft 8.9 in March, 2008 and is currently merged with a test version of the SIS database.
- Talisma, third-party software program, will be implemented to facilitate undergraduate recruiting.

As always, if you have any questions or comments about the SIS Project, please direct them to: sis@osu.edu.