

## July '07 update - Message from Martha

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



Martha Garland

### The SIS Project: Working within an Integrated Environment

When do we begin working in an integrated environment? Many people assume that it will begin with the first SIS implementation in June of 2008, but we are actually learning right now as the system is being developed, what it is like to work in ONE environment.

During the Fit/Gap Phase, we looked at the functionality of PeopleSoft 8.9 and how these features will impact not only our central business areas, but all of the data systems campus wide, including the HR and Financials system. In order to determine these impacts, key administrators from impacted areas gathered to discuss PeopleSoft functionality and compare these with current business processes. Total collaboration was required to develop design plans that would minimize impacts for these areas when the new SIS is implemented.

What does it mean to work in an integrated environment? It means that instead of having our business areas operate under separate umbrellas, we are now constructing a very large tent where data will be housed and shared by a wide variety of business and academic areas. Working in an integrated environment does require that we take a more global approach to identifying and solving problems. Concessions have and will continue to be made as we develop and test the new SIS functionality. While our current business systems can process requests faster because they operate independently, the new SIS will be web-based and will take slightly longer to process requests due to the large volumes of information it will store. However, the few extra seconds of wait time will result in providing us with comprehensive data, making the new SIS more efficient for staff, students and faculty.

In mid-June, the SIS project began the Development phase and is currently working on the software functionality for each business area. These implementations will be rolled-out in waves and will follow the life cycle of an OSU student, beginning with Admittance to the university and ending with Commencement.

More detailed information about each wave will be provided in the coming months.

### Sign up to receive the University Community Newsletter

In March, the first newsletter to the University Community was distributed to staff members who were identified as end users when the new SIS is implemented. The purpose of the bi-monthly newsletter is to provide updates and information of interest about the SIS project. If you would like to receive a copy of this newsletter, I encourage you to sign up below and have the newsletter delivered directly to your inbox as it becomes available.

As always, if you have questions about the SIS Project, send an email to [sis@osu.edu](mailto:sis@osu.edu).