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## University Community Newsletter - July 2007



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

Welcome to the July University Community Newsletter. The goal of this newsletter is to provide the university community with project updates and information of interest regarding the SIS project. If you have questions about the project and/or are interested in receiving information about a particular topic, we want to hear from you! Please send your inquiries to: [sis@osu.edu](mailto:sis@osu.edu).

#### 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 now as the system is being developed, what it is like to work in one environment.

During the Fit/Gap Phase, we began working as integrated entities as we looked at the functionality of PeopleSoft 8.9 and how these features will affect 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 representatives gathered to discuss PeopleSoft functionality and compare these with current business processes. 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 may 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.

### SIS WAVE IMPLEMENTATION

In mid-June, the SIS project began the Development phase and is currently working on the software modifications for each business area. Implementation of the system will be in waves and will follow the life cycle of an Ohio State student, beginning with admission to the university and ending with commencement.

For more detailed information about the system functionality included in each wave, visit the SIS web site at : <http://oaa.osu.edu/sis/timeline.html>



Martha Garland

#### CHECK US OUT

[SIS Project Team Website](#)

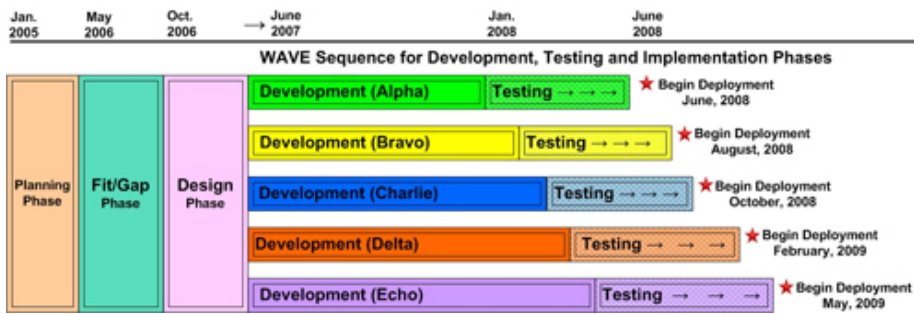
[SIS Public Website](#)

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#### CONTACT INFO

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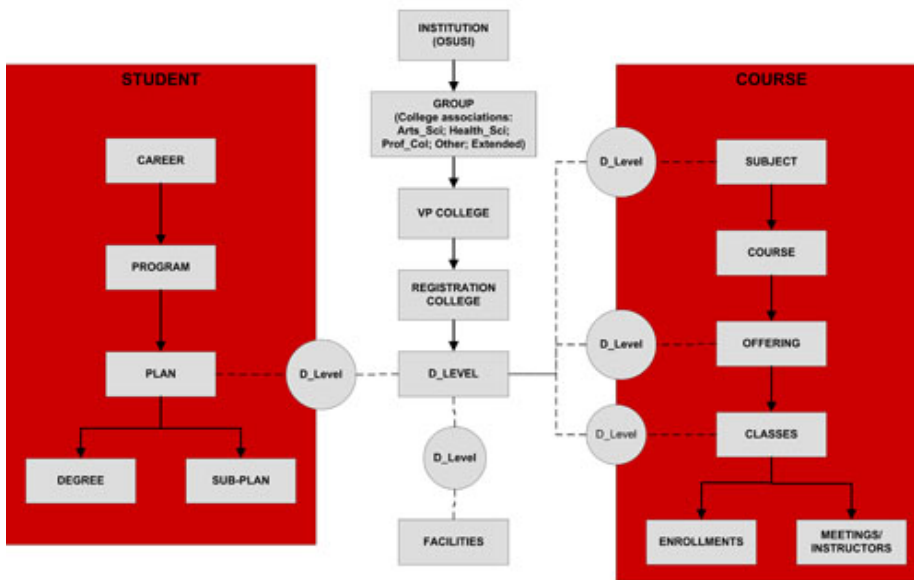


## UNDERSTANDING PEOPLESOFT CONCEPTS

Getting your arms around the new concepts of the SIS can be overwhelming! Listed below are some key PeopleSoft concepts that demonstrate how the integrated systems will work together.

**What is Academic Structure?** - It is the organizational hierarchy of the university's academic components that PeopleSoft uses and is the foundation of the new SIS. It defines how functional units are related and how data can be entered and stored into the system. It ties student, financial, course and facility information together, and accommodates the flow of financial resources (fees, deposits, financial aid) and information within the university.

## Academic Structure



**What is Career/Program/Plan Stack(CPP)?** - When combined, an Academic Career, Program and Plan represent a student's enrollment history or CPP. For example, if an undergraduate student is enrolled in the College of Business, that represents one CPP Stack. If that student goes on to get a masters, another CPP Stack is created. Students could have a number of CPP's throughout their enrollment at Ohio State. Listed below are the components of a CPP:

An **Academic Career** represents all course work that a student undertakes at the University, grouped in a single student record. A student may have multiple academic careers; for example, undergraduate, graduate, and Law.

An **Academic Program** is the program to which a student applies and is admitted and from which the student graduates. Programs are configured for each college offering degrees and representing the career of the program. Examples of Academic Programs include Undergraduate Business, Graduate Social and Behavioral Sciences (GSBS), Music, and Law.

An **Academic Plan** represents a student's area of study, and can be linked to either a Program or Career. Some plans are designed to culminate in a degree or certificate and some are not. Each current Major-Degree combination at Ohio State has been configured as an Academic Plan; minors have been built as Plans as well. Plans have also been created to reflect Areas of Interest for students who have not indicated a degree and for students who declare a second major.

#### **Other Peoplesoft Concepts**

**What is an OSU ID?** - One of the main business drivers of the SIS Project is the removal of SSN's as the main identifier for students. This will be accomplished by creating OSU ID numbers for both students and new employees. It's a 9 digit number that will be assigned to new students and new employees by June of 2008, then assigned to current students by Fall of 2008 to help prevent identify theft. Once assigned, all social security numbers will be masked within current data records. Since Student Records and HR data will be shared with the PeopleSoft upgrade, the new OSU ID numbering system will make it possible to follow students throughout their academic and professional careers at the university.

**What are "To-do" lists/Checklists?** - Beginning with the Admissions process, students will be able to view a display of their outstanding pre-enrollment requirements by accessing a designated self-service page. Once enrolled, students will be able to view their academic requirements and other checklists on self-services pages accessed via Buckeye Link.

### **SIS INFORMATION SESSIONS WILL BE HELD LATER THIS SUMMER**

**Want to take a closer look at the new SIS?** The SIS Project Team will be presenting sessions for the university community later this summer. The sessions will provide more detailed information regarding the new functionality for Admissions, Student Records, Financial Aid, Recruitment and the Financials modules. If you'd like to learn more about the new SIS, you won't want to miss these sessions! The date and time for the Information Sessions will be announced in OSU Today.

#### **IN THE NEXT NEWSLETTER:**

Our next newsletter will include:

-How will the new functionality for Admissions affect students, faculty and advisors when it is deployed beginning in June of 2008?

-Who is your "go to" person about the SIS project?

### **COMMUNICATING UPDATES - EMAIL YOUR TOPIC IDEAS!**

Over the coming months and years, we will be communicating project updates to you primarily through this newsletter. What topics would you like to see featured in this newsletter? Do you have a question we can address? Did you find this newsletter helpful? Not helpful? Please let us know your thoughts. We welcome your participation in helping to shape the content of this newsletter. Please send your ideas, comments and/or questions to the Change Management Team at [sis@osu.edu](mailto:sis@osu.edu).

**For a more detailed overview about the SIS Project, visit the "Frequently Asked Questions" page on the SIS web site at:**

<http://oaa.osu.edu/sis/faq.html>

**THE SIS PROJECT: MOVING FORWARD TO MEET OUR FUTURE!**