



Oracle's PeopleSoft Campus Solutions selected as the new student information system

LEAPForward recently held the official kick-off with Oracle's project leadership team for the new Illinois State University student information system (SIS). There were more than 75 people in attendance including numerous departments across campus, the **LEAPForward** team, and University leadership. The implementation of Oracle's PeopleSoft Campus Solutions will begin in February.

Since the Initiative began in December of 2011, over 2,500 campus-wide participants, including a senior leadership steering team, logged over 35,000 hours in support of this effort. Vendor presentations were held during the summer of 2013 and an evaluation committee made the final vendor selection last fall. The SIS vendor award was approved by the state and the contracts were signed in early January.

The **LEAPForward** Initiative will impact all members of the campus community. Faculty will have better access to student information, class rosters and teaching schedules. Staff will benefit from real-time reporting of information, streamlined processes and access to student information. Students will see major improvements on the way they access information from all aspects, including admissions, registration, housing and dining, academic history and financial aid.

As the Initiative moves forward, training and workshops will be an integral part of the implementation process. Team Leads and subject matter experts from across campus will be the key to a successful integration of the SIS application.



Jess Ray
University Registrar

Jess Ray, University Registrar, has been appointed by the **LEAPForward** steering team as the Program Functional Lead. In this position, Jess will serve as a liaison to the functional members of the campus community for the implementation phases of the **LEAPForward** Initiative. Matthew Helm, Assistant Vice President of Administrative Technologies explained the importance of this position, "Jess will play a key role in ensuring that the campus community is engaged in every aspect of the **LEAPForward** Initiative. His long-standing relationships across the University make him the ideal person to be a part of the **LEAPForward** Program Leadership Team." Jess is eager to be a part of such a historical project at ISU, "I am very excited to move forward with our new systems and I look forward to the possibilities that it will provide to the University."

Knowledge



Academic Information Environment Applications

The *LEAP Forward* Initiative encompasses more than just the student information system (SIS). There are additional applications that will integrate with the SIS, forming the entire Academic Information Environment (AIE). The applications cover housing and dining, identity and access management, payment gateway, information technology service management (ITSM) and business intelligence. The status of each piece of the AIE is as follows:

- The preferred vendor for the housing and dining tool has been identified and the contract is under review by the University.
- The identity and access management tool has been selected and implementation discussions are taking place with the vendor.
- The sole source for Payment Gateway is in the final steps of approval and will be posted on the state procurement bulletin. This process can take up to 30 days.
- The evaluation team continues to work on the final scoring of vendors for the Information Technology Service Management tool.
- Business intelligence vendor award to IBM Cognos was approved by the state in mid-January. The software has been received and plans for implementation are currently being evaluated.

Analyzing Data

Master Data Transition (MDT) is the process of analyzing data that will need to be moved prior to the decommissioning of the mainframe. The evaluation process includes determining who is currently using the data or if it is being used; and if it will be moved to the new student information system or will be archived into the enterprise data warehouse for historical purposes. The MDT process is tedious and involves evaluating each data element in each application on the mainframe.

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