

HRS and SIS Projects Status Report

HRS Project

The HR project team with the active support of BOSS consultants and campus super users was moving toward a January, 2002 implementation. Unfortunately, the recent resignation of the HR project manager who possessed unreplicated functional and technical knowledge made a January 2002 implementation date impractical.

Our current strategy is three-fold: first, to complete and document as much of the testing and data conversion processes as possible before the project manager and the consultants are gone; second, to continue the testing cycle; and third, to replace the project manager and reestablish project schedules.

By November 21st, the project manager and all but one of the consultants will be gone and the technology transfer effort will be as complete as possible. The remaining consultant will continue on the project for another 3 weeks to document processes and support testing cycles. We have received revised testing and conversion plans from the consultants and they have transferred their electronic files to us.

A revised testing plan is being created; this plan will reduce the number of cycles but will focus on complete testing of all system functions. Training has been suspended.

The campus super users have strongly expressed their desire to continue being an active part of the testing process. Their participation will result in resolving issues earlier and also reduce the need for retraining.

An announcement for the new project manager is released and newspaper advertisements will be run in late November/early December. The closing date is December 5 and interviews will be scheduled ASAP. The goal is to have the new project manager on board by early January.

Student System Project

A project team representing primary service areas and users was staffed in early September to create functional specifications for a new student system. An RFP will be released in February 2002; vendor responses are due in April with final scoring estimated to be completed by July 2002.

Contract negotiations will begin after the award with software and hardware scheduled to be delivered Fall, 2002. The implementation team will then begin the multi-year effort to install and test the system. External consultant resources will be an important part of the implementation effort.

Concerns exist including possible burnout of the project team who have a double work load since many have not been backfilled in their primary jobs.