



Strategic IT Committee

March 21, 2017

Eccles Broadcast Center, Dumke room

Agenda

1. Service request: Low-code ELA for app development
2. CIS portal redesign
3. PeopleSoft Financial 9.2 upgrade
4. Campuswide electricity usage monitoring
5. Overview of student computing fee requests
6. Open floor
7. Adjourn

1. Service request: Low-code ELA for app development

Ian Harvey has completed an Add Service request. He will present his request to SITC with the goal of securing approval to submit a full-length Business Case for future consideration. SITC is asked to consider whether Harvey's idea warrants devoting University resources to exploring the total cost of ownership, potential security or systems integration concerns, and possible funding avenues.

Submitter: Ian Harvey, Research Associate Professor, College of Engineering.
ian.harvey@utah.edu, or 801-585-6162

Suggested service to add: Low-code ELA for new app (web, mobile) development: Mendix or Outsystems

How would this service benefit campus users?: Provides the ability to quickly and easily create new apps for systems and workflow automation. Asset tracking, scheduling and billing of tools in recharge centers, linking with other campus resources such as PeopleSoft for recharge center financial transactions and verification. Added safety function in labs by interfacing with security cameras and card-swipe entry systems. Interfacing with databases to produce better stakeholder reports in a more automated fashion on a regular timeframe. ARUP implementation of such a system demonstrated that the cost of developing new applications drops by a factor of 10X. Some legacy software systems can be retired by flexible and real-time adaptable systems, making people more productive. Systems on the request list that are never "gotten to" by developers are now feasible. Students can use the system to build new apps and launch new companies without having programming expertise.

Estimated number of people who would benefit from this service: 500 or more.

Suggested priority: High

How should this service be funded?: Centrally

Would this have any effect on academic instruction?: I don't know whether it would affect academic instruction or not. It may, depending on what apps either instructors or students may want to develop. This is a new sandbox to play in. Many people may become much more productive, including in instructional capacities.

Would this require a change or addition to University policy?: No.

[Additional materials, which were submitted to the RIF committee, can be found in the SITC Box folder.](#)

2. CIS Portal redesign

Marv Hawkins, University Support Services' product manager for Financial and Auxiliary systems, will discuss upcoming changes to the Campus Information System portal.

The CIS Portal has not been redesigned since 2003. Based on anecdotal feedback and results from a number of formal and informal surveys (including the Deloitte report), the current CIS portal is dated and difficult to use. It also doesn't support mobile access. There are currently a number of redundant pagelets that display across multiple tabs and a number of pagelets with links that are rarely used. With the features that are provided through PeopleTools 8.55, we will be able to consolidate the redundancies and give the CIS Portal a modern, mobile-friendly user interface.

Over the past 9 months, we've used Google Analytics to track the usage in the current CIS Portal and are using this data in our new designs to position the most-used CIS resources so that they are easier to find. We have also presented prototypes of the new look to business leaders in our functional areas (Student, Finance, HR, etc.) to get feedback about the look and feel, address any broad concerns about the upgrade timing, and to solicit subject matter experts who are helping us as we reorganize the existing pagelets.

In terms of timing, we need to upgrade the Portal to PeopleTools 8.55 before October when the Finance system is scheduled to be upgraded. We have targeted June 10 to give campus constituents time to work with the new system during the Summer semester. This will also introduce campus users to Oracle's new UI paradigm (Fluid) in advance of upgrades to Finance, HR, and Student systems.

The committee is being asked for any input into this ongoing process.

3. PeopleSoft Financial 9.2 upgrade

Marv Hawkins, University Support Services' associate director for product management of Financial and Auxiliary systems, and Gary Carter, University Support Services' associate director of enterprise resource planning, will discuss upcoming upgrades to the PeopleSoft Financial system.

University Support Services has restarted the upgrade of our PeopleSoft Financial System to version 9.2 and PeopleTools to version 8.55. The major driver for this project is the loss of support for our current version, set for December 2017. In 2015, we initially started the upgrade project, but it was put on the shelf early as resources were redirected to the Procure 2 Pay initiative and the implementation of SciQuest (UShop). We are now at a time we must upgrade or we will be unsupported. Last fall, a number of discovery sessions were held where Oracle presented new PeopleSoft 9.2 functionality and Oracle Cloud features/functions compared side by side. After many sessions and discussions, a group of the business representatives decided to complete a technical upgrade of our PeopleSoft Financial system to 9.2 by the end of the year. Additionally, it was recommended that we continue to investigate options for potential cloud deployment and start a "culture of change" to be prepared to do something "big" in 3 to 5 years.

We have an aggressive timeline to complete this technical upgrade by October 13. Expected benefits included being on the latest Upgrade/Maintenance Platform (PUM) that enables more rapid adoption of future features/functions independently from taking all changes at one time; enhanced and simplified user interface; and improved use of resources through operational efficiencies using workflow and work centers. As noted, the upgrade enables an easier methodology to stay current with maintenance releases and take advantage of new functionality and features, but it also provides us the ability to evaluate current PeopleSoft code/functionality to rationalize and potentially reduce unnecessary customizations in our Finance applications.

The committee is being asked for any comments or questions regarding this process.

4. Campuswide electricity usage monitoring

Ken Pink will share information about the recent addition of network-connected electricity usage meters that have been installed throughout campus.

This is a discussion item.

5. Overview of Student Computing Fee requests

This will be a high-level overview of the types of requests that have been submitted to the Teaching & Learning Portfolio seeking student computing fees. This is a follow-up discussion based on the previous agenda item, in which SITC requested some categories be moved into the “possibly fund” column of the proposal guidelines. Information is still being gathered, but should be available in the Box folder before the meeting.

6. Open floor

Any issues that need to be discussed here publicly before we next meet?