

OIM Highlights: April 28, 2008

Key efforts underway in the Office of Information Management in partnership with schools, and colleges, and central business units.

Strategic Partnerships and Governance

- **UW Strategic Roadmap reaches key milestone: Initial plan complete.**
 - A preliminary plan for the future of information management and administrative systems was presented to I-MAC, U-TAC, and the Board of Deans and Chancellors. See the PowerPoint.
 - Key findings:** Current systems will not support the UW into the future. We cannot get the information we need to support effective decision making. Aging legacy systems cannot support the UW's evolving business and information needs. We have underinvested in administrative systems and fallen behind peers.
 - Discussion now centers on how to invest in the plan and move ahead with the first set of high-value projects for 2008-2009.
- **The Roadmap recommends five initiatives** designed to support our 21st century information and business needs. The initiatives are described further throughout this issue. They are:
 - Information for decision making**
 - Replace the base**
 - Redesign processes**
 - Enhance and renew core systems**
 - Stakeholder success**
- **Stakeholder success:** Ensure we have the governance structure necessary to identify priorities, make commitments, and maximize the value of our investments.

✓ **Active engagement:** More than 170 people from across the UW community participated in developing the Roadmap.

Information Management

- **Roadmap Initiative: Information for decision making:** Three areas with multiple projects were identified to meet our need for accurate, useful information.
 - Data management:** Continue to expand the data warehouse, identify common data definitions, eliminate redundant data sources, and integrate data.
 - Tools and infrastructure:** Provide tools to enable people to easily access information via the Web, do analysis, ask questions, and generate reports. Includes development of Web portal, security, workflow, and document management.
 - Standards and training:** Provide tools, training, and best practices so people can interpret the information and provide meaningful analysis.
- **Top 5 Initiative update**
 - Phase I** identified common institutional definitions for key student/faculty and financial data, and produced new reports including one that for the first time allows staff to review budget data at an organizational level, broken down by types of funds and budgets.
 - Phase II** will continue and expand the Top 5 effort to identify common data definitions and answer critical data questions.

✓ **Broad input:** Deans' key administrators are currently testing the initial version of reports produced by the Top-5 effort and providing feedback.

Business Processes and Administrative Systems

- **Three Roadmap initiatives** are designed to fundamentally change UW business processes and administrative systems:
 - Replace the base:** Replace our core legacy mainframe Finance, Budget, Procurement, HR/Payroll, and Student Administration systems. A plan and time line developed to replace our 25-year-old systems with modern, flexible systems over the next eight years will improve operational efficiency and provide better information for decision making.
 - Enhance and renew systems:** Invest in ongoing enhancement, development, and technology renewal of all core administrative systems. This includes some high-value investments in the legacy systems, such as an initiative to improve the way employee job information is stored in the Payroll system so that appointments are meaningful and to remove limitations on the number of appointments and funding sources.
 - Redesign business processes:** Maximize the value of the new systems, streamline work, and manage change. Process improvement will go hand-in-hand with major system replacement and upgrade projects, creating a culture of change management and ongoing business process improvement.

✓ **Continuous improvement:** Collaborating with Catalyst to develop a Web-based final grade submission service.