

OIM Highlights: September 22, 2008

Key UW Strategic Roadmap initiatives underway in the Office of Information Management in partnership with schools, colleges, and central business units.

<http://www.washington.edu/provost/oim/>

Prioritize and Make Decisions

- **A \$3 Million Allocation for UW Information Management and Administrative Systems Projects** was approved by the Regents in June as part of the 2008-2009 budget. The funds will support work on key Strategic Roadmap initiatives and be allocated based upon priorities established by the Information Management Advisory Committee with input from the Roadmap Working Team.
- **Improving Business Application and Decision Support Input:** A new project focusing on groups that advise and set priorities for UW business systems and decision support maintenance projects is looking for ways to make the input process more cohesive and effective. The project is gathering feedback from key stakeholders and will make recommendations for review by the Roadmap Working Team later this fall.
- **Project Develops Comprehensive View of UW Administrative Systems Applications:** This project is creating a comprehensive catalog of administrative systems applications in use by departments and units throughout the UW. The project, first initiated by the IS Futures Task Force, has identified 100 administrative applications so far and will continue to gather information through Fall Quarter. The catalog will serve as a resource for UW information management staff; identify large systems in key business domains that support many people; and be used to assess risks, identify service gaps, and address needs.

Information for Decision Making

- **UW Web Services Effort Develops Governance Model:** UW academic and business units, OIM, and UW Technology are collaborating to develop a three-part governance structure for a Resource Oriented Architecture. This architecture will enable wider access to student data and other information in the central UW systems and also improve the exchange of data between

Information for Decision Making cont...

- non-central units. The governance structure will ensure cohesive and coordinated development and use of Web services across the UW. See: https://sig.washington.edu/itsigs/WS_Governance
- **Web Grades Submission Project Moves Forward:** This multipart project by UW Technology, OIM, and the Registrar to enable faculty to submit final course grades electronically is making great progress. The first step, the Catalyst GradeBook, was released in September. The GradeBook allows faculty to securely manage grades online and students to track their progress throughout the quarter. Up next, and available by Winter Quarter, are the Web services and features that enable final electronic grade submission.
- **Top-5 Student Reports Widely Available Through Secure, Robust UW Reporting Environment:** New student reports are now available that give units quick access to their most needed student data. These reports were developed as part of the Top-5 project to provide access to data that deans and chancellors identified as being most critical. Other information management improvements include adopting the UW data security standards that make it possible to authorize users and provide wide access to data in the Enterprise Data Warehouse, rapid deployment of enterprise analytics so reports can be widely and quickly distributed, and the ability for OIM and UW units to work collaboratively to develop additional reports for specific units or the entire UW.
- **Microsoft Reporting Services Training:** Over 60 UW employees have attended OIM funded training on these widely adopted Business Intelligence (BI) tools. Classes on BI tools that enable dashboards, scorecards, and more now are offered by UW Computer Training, and informal training is available through the Reporting Services SIG: is-dw@u.washington.edu

Replace the Base

- **Financial System Needs Assessment Moving Forward:** This needs assessment phase focuses on identifying requirements for a new financial system and is a key first step in preparing for an eventual system replacement. The project is recruiting staff in preparation for a project kickoff this fall.
- **UW Moves Forward With Kuali Student Partnership:** The UW is working closely with the Kuali Foundation to become a founding partner of the Kuali Student project and is seeking the necessary approvals from the Board of Regents and the state. Kuali Student is a consortium of higher education institutions working together to develop a next-generation student system. Joining this project was named as a top, near-term Roadmap priority by I-MAC in May. See: <http://www.kuali.org>

Redesign Processes

- **Process Redesign Framework Under Development:** A framework that will provide the decision making structure needed to identify and support the redesign of key UW business processes is being developed as part of the Financial System Needs Assessment project. Process redesign is critical to the success of any major systems replacement effort. The framework will ensure user involvement and will support all "replace the base" projects.

Enhance and Renew Systems

- **Salary Revision Worksheets Go Electronic:** A new process to distribute annual salary revision worksheets electronically has replaced the previous cumbersome, manual process. It has eliminated the need for college staff to walk to the Budget Office to pick up worksheets, saved paper, and made life easier for college administrators. The process was developed by OIM and the Budget Office in cooperation with fiscal administrators.