

CORCL IT UPDATE - OCTOBER 20, 2011

Academic Units and IT Consolidation

- School IT staff will stay organizationally in schools but will participate in shared IT service planning and implementation. Monthly School IT Director / OIT meetings are an important forum for coordinating this and for general collaboration and information exchange.
- OIT will work with schools to prioritize service integration and cost-saving opportunities identified by the workgroup; as manpower allows, we will establish school/OIT project teams to explore trade-offs and draft implementation plans.
- Jason Valdry, Arts IT Director, has been identified to play the role of "IT Director Chair" (as outlined in the workgroup report, minus dotted-line reporting). He will provide additional academic unit IT shared service leadership and facilitate strong two-way ties with OIT.
- Dwayne Pack, Humanities IT Director, is serving as Vice-Chair. Bill Cohen, Computer Sciences IT Director, is serving as applications development liaison.
- Opportunities for increasing efficiencies include outsourced email and collaboration services, increased use of open-source, common administrative applications, optional standard desktop platforms, server hosting, instructional computing lab support.

Administrative Application Projects - Significant Activity Ahead

- UCI financial systems replacement with Kuali Financial System (KFS) - target 2013
- UC payroll/human-resources system replacement: UC contract signed with Oracle for hosted PeopleSoft - project starting now, UCI not in first wave, target 2014?
- UCI Student Information Systems replacement - in pre-project planning stage; goal to determine strategy by Spring 2012; implementation time-frame currently unknown
- UCI Time Reporting System (TRS) in production with final union-related rule development almost complete; UCI TRS will also be used at UCLA and UC Davis
- Continuing to make progress: AP faculty merit/promotion review, UC-wide AP faculty recruitment, Kuali Coeus research administration

Other IT Notes

- With encouragement from VC Hemminger, OIT will bring together a faculty group to review campus support for research computing. Open for input on faculty to serve from schools.
- UC Vice Chancellor for Research / Chief Information Officer summit on research computing scheduled for November 7th - review UC's vision/support for research computing
- UC Shared Research Computing Services (ShaRCS) compute cluster pilot - a proposal for funding it as a production service being considered by VCRs and EVCs
- Dusting off campus network upgrade plans - something that CORCL may want to review. Off-campus connectivity being upgraded to add a redundant border router and higher-capacity firewall/intrusion-detection; adding 3 1 gigabit links to existing 5.
- Embracing the cloud: making Gmail the default system for students and optionally available for faculty/staff; looking at Microsoft 365 hosted exchange/file-sharing; Proposal to replace end-of-life Oracle calendar system with cloud-based Microsoft Exchange. Open discussion sessions: October 21, 1pm, CS432; October 26, 2pm, Humanities Gateway 1030
- Student Educational Technology Fee to start Winter 2012; \$4/unit of undergraduate lecture classes; will be used to fund existing central technology services, provide equipment refresh money, and support high-priority technology initiatives. Educational Technology Initiative Advisory Committee, comprising students, faculty, and staff - will help interpret input collected and provide guidance.
- Established sites.uci.edu, an easy to use web site and blogs system based on Wordpress