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Dawn’s Point of View
We are almost finished with our first round of co-located integration testing and are working through the identified issues. As we have heard from many of you that the co-location continues to be valuable, we will continue to incorporate this approach into our Round 2 testing and let you know when that schedule is available.

This month we are setting up production access control based on requirements received from each campus. We also expect to share plans for load testing disaster recovery, and parallel testing by the end of this month.

Thank you all for your efforts and please keep testing while back at your campuses.

Conversion

FMS
- Validation of Vendor Data in-progress by campuses in IDP; no new issues have been identified since the new data was released on 9/25. There are five open or pending issues previously reported that need to be closed and the target date is 10/7.
- The G/L Team is focused on fast approaching deadlines for their key conversion tasks. These tasks include converting and reconciling Jul, Aug and year end for 2012/2013 and making sure the data in PeopleSoft is reconciled to Define/DataTel. G/L Team members should work with their Campus PM and/or EC Members to address constraints that are preventing progress. Due dates are outlined in the project plan with year end reconciliation due to be complete by the end of October.

HCM
- The schedule for the next conversion run for HCM is being finalized. Several key changes need to be validated such as employee benefits for 2013/2014, new appointments & contracts for faculty, changes/corrections to payroll balances, etc. Integration Testing for Round 2 is dependent on validating and confirming data accuracy. The schedule for this conversion run is targeted for distribution this week.
Interfaces continue to proceed through the testing process and there are no additional updates at this time.

Integration Testing

- We are nearing the completion of the scheduled sessions for IBP Testing. Grants and Bank Statement Sessions are in-progress this week. The last two co-location sessions are next week for G/L Monthly Close and USAS.

- A key area of focus this week includes a review of Open "Stat" Tickets, Campus Testing Progress, and Pending Development. The information will be analyzed to help gauge overall testing progress for Round 1 as compared to our scheduled completion date of October 25th. Next week we plan to distribute the results of this review and summary of our overall progress, including key priorities for the next 4 weeks.

- Participation in the IBP Sessions at the ARDC has been terrific! Many who have participated in these sessions have suggested continuing the co-location sessions in Round 2 of Integration Testing. The details are still coming together, but we do expect to leverage our success with co-location sessions in Round 2.

- Overall, the testing results an improvement over previous testing phases. We still have a lot to do though so let’s stay focused on the goal and make each and every day “count”!

Hosting/Managed Services RFP

This past week we distributed an RFP for hosting, managed services, and disaster recovery for PeopleSoft environments.

While UT Arlington and our Shared Services teams continue to be great partners for supporting our PeopleSoft environments, a recommendation from our Shared Services peer review in the spring of 2011 was to regularly review and analyze the commercial market to ensure we continue to support our campuses’ business needs.

At that time we engaged in a contract for outsourced services should the need arise to expand faster or into areas that our UT Arlington SLA did not support. That contract has expired and it is time for us to solicit new responses for best practices, efficiencies, and economies of scale. Without this data, we cannot ensure that we are operating in the best interest of our institutions.

Shared Services is growing rapidly and we need to ensure we have the right infrastructure in place to support our growth. That includes a balance of insourced and outsourced services where it makes sense. We will evaluate responses to this RFP from financial and expertise perspectives to determine the right infrastructure that balances flexibility and stability to sustain us for the next few years.

We believe that issuing the RFP is an effective approach to address the needs of our UTShare cohort and plan to discuss any recommended improvements or potential outsourced service options with our UTShare Executive Committee prior to making any decisions or awards.

For additional information, please contact your Campus Project Manager.