



Welcome to the Future!

Welcome to the first PeopleSoft Financials V8, or PSFIN V8, Upgrade Project newsletter. The purpose of this newsletter is to keep you updated in a friendly, knowledgeable way of the project progress. The newsletters will be distributed on a bimonthly basis and we hope you find them useful and informative. In this first issue, we would like to give you an overview of the project scope, goals, and objectives.

Core Team



Back, from L to R: Sharon Logan (team leader), Donna Wooddell, Alice Bray, Carol Benton, and Lori Fernandez
Front, from L to R: Toni Lyons, Deidre Crawford, Daphene Blackmon, Denise Fulton, and Karen Dykstra
Not in picture: Michael Barnwell, Tim Sykes, and Larry Williams

Project Scope

The project scope stresses maintaining current functionality, which includes the PeopleSoft core modules of Accounts Payable, Asset Management, General Ledger/Budgets, and Purchasing, and the BOR custom Budget Prep module. New functionality includes the Expenses and eProcurement modules.

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Project Objective and Goals

The objective of the PeopleSoft Financials V8 Upgrade project is to provide a fully tested, well-documented, and vendor-supported production release of PeopleSoft's web-based Financials application.

This project will be completed in phases. In Phase I, we will implement the upgrade of the current functionality on an 18 month schedule, as shown on the **Project Timeline**. Key Dates for the remainder of 2006 are shown below.

Key Dates - 2006

09/11/06	GL Fit/Gap Analysis
09/25/06	PO Fit/Gap Analysis
10/09/06	AM Fit/Gap Analysis
10/16/06	AP Fit/Gap Analysis
11/16/06	Design starts
12/27/06	Development starts



As part of the initial phase of this upgrade, we will also implement two new PeopleSoft modules - Expenses and eProcurement - to provide additional functionality.

Phase I implementation will be completed prior to the FY 2008 year-end closing.

Phase II of the project, which will begin in January 2008, will target the delivery of a grants management solution and a budgeting solution, and will also include HRMS Commitment Accounting.

Be sure to attend the PeopleSoft Financials V8 Upgrade session at the 2006 Georgia SUMMIT on either September 20 or 22.

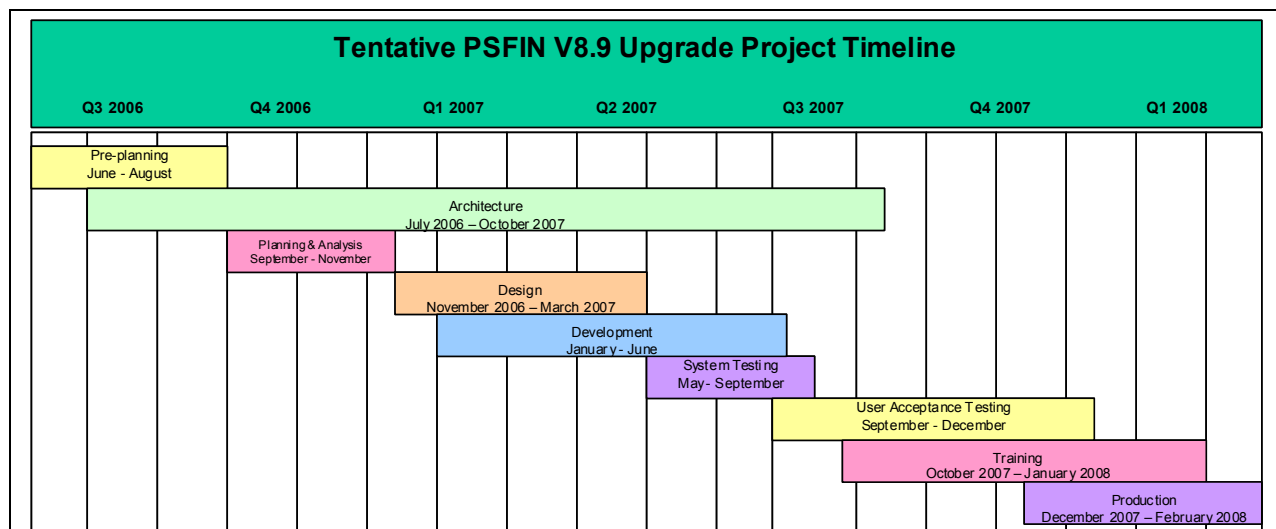
Campus Coordinators

Campus Coordinators will be the central point for all communications from the project team to the appropriate parties on each campus, as well as all communications from the campus to the project team.

This role is vital and has a direct impact on the project success. We look forward to working with each Campus Coordinator during the PSFIN V8 Upgrade project.

Project Timeline

The tentative timeline for the PSFIN V8 Upgrade project is shown below. The dates shown are estimated, and will be confirmed at the end of the Planning & Analysis phase.



Business Process Steering Committee

A key committee in the project is the Business Process Steering Committee, comprised of Chief Accounting Officers and Financials users from each type of GeorgiaFIRST institution.

Recommendations regarding existing and new system-wide business processes and other related issues made during the Fit/Gap sessions will be escalated to this committee, which will evaluate and make decisions based upon them. If a decision cannot be reached, they will be forwarded on to the Project Sponsor.

The committee will meet throughout the life of the project, and includes: Debbie Lasher (chair), Wanda Aldridge, Carla Asbell, Vera Boyll, Susan Dalton, Sharon Ellis, Jan Fackler, George Horn, Sharon Logan, Traycee Martin, Marc Mascolo, and Angela Pretteit.

Benefits

USG institutions will benefit from the upgrade to PeopleSoft Financials version 8.9 with continued vendor support and easier access to financial information using a familiar browser-based, Internet accessible interface. Lower costs and effort for desktop support are forecasted with the elimination of the requirement for local PeopleSoft code, and the need for only a web browser to access data. Internet-based functionality will improve security as well.

Other benefits include the new functionality of eProcurement, which will enable you to distribute purchasing power throughout your campus, and Expenses, which will automate the management of travel and expenses.

Look for these and more beneficial changes for all Financials users in 2008. Future editions of this newsletter will highlight more of these changes, so stay tuned!

Stay in the Know

Here are some of the ways we'll be communicating with you throughout the PSFIN V8 Upgrade:

1. Campus Coordinators: Find yours at: <http://www.usg.edu/gafirst/fin/project/>
2. GeorgiaFIRST Financials web site: <http://www.usg.edu/gafirst/fin/>
3. Listservs: GeorgiaFirst-FS-Reps@listserv.uga.edu: includes all V8 Campus Coordinators
GeorgiaFirst-FS-Techs@listserv.uga.edu: includes all V8 Technical Representatives
first-lf@listserv.uga.edu: includes all Financials users
first-lb@listserv.uga.edu: includes all Budgets users

NOTE: If you are not currently subscribed to any of these listservs, you can contact the **OIIT HELPDESK** at: http://www.usg.edu/customer_services (self-service ticket submission) or email helpdesk@usg.edu.