

STUDENT INFORMATION SYSTEM

Dates of interest:

Monthly SIS IPT Status Meetings

Held the 2nd Tuesday of every month. The next meeting is scheduled for July 13.

The June meeting was moved to June 9 to align with the ATO meeting. As the Executive Conference Room at DAU has a very limited maximum capacity, participants are asked to attend via GoTo Meeting.

Special points of interest:

The following status updates are related to Student Information System progress:

• **Investment Review Board**

The Defense Business System Management Committee officially approved DAU's Student Information System for funds obligation June 3.

• **Contracting**

SIS Core Team is working with GSA to finalize the RFP prior to release.

• **Integrated Project Team**

IPT is working on process flows and preparing to define business processes and rules.

• **Source Selection Training** will begin for the Technical Evaluation Team

LEARNING FROM A LARGER COMMUNITY OF SIS USERS

Shared experiences, workflows, solutions and lessons learned. One could generate an endless list of takeaways from Student Information System (SIS) user groups.

This Spring several members of the SIS Core Team attended user conferences to collaborate with experienced personnel who previously endured the procurement process at their institutions of higher education. The interactions proved to be well worth the journey.

"It wasn't hard to find someone who was willing to talk about implementation or Registration work flow best practices," said SIS Functional Leader Kim Lockett.

The team from DAU had plenty of questions to ask their colleagues. While the SIS team has done extensive research of numerous commercial off-the-shelf (COTS) vendors, they shared that it is impossible to ask for what they don't know exists.

The thousand of users in



Thousands of student information system users attend a vendor conference to collaborate with each other and learn from SIS experts.

attendance helped to solve that problem. Some schools implemented their systems decades ago and attend the annual conferences to research and get help with upgrades and improvements.

SIS Sponsor Mark Whiteside said, "I thought [user groups] would only provide the technology benefits of a

COTS product, but found out that we will benefit greatly from being part of a larger community."

The annual conferences for vendors' customers included pre-conference seminars, training workshops, class sessions and plenty of opportunities to network and exchange ideas.

PRE-PROPOSAL CONFERENCE COMING

The entire lot of vendors interested in submitting bids for DAU's Student Information System will soon be able to view the well anticipated Request for Proposal (RFP).

To prepare vendors for the bid, DAU's SIS contracting arm, the U.S. General Services Association (GSA) National Capital Region, will host a Pre-proposal Conference/Industry

Day tentatively scheduled for Thursday, June 24. The conference will provide a look at vendor interest and the contracting process in action. Participation is encouraged.

The agenda includes an introduction by GSA, followed by a synopsis of DAU's requirements by members of the SIS Core Team. GSA or the SIS team will then take questions from vendors.

In the weeks following the meeting, vendors will submit formal questions to GSA and the SIS team in order to prepare their proposals. The groups plan to award a contract to the chosen vendor in early September.

The Industry Day is presently scheduled to take place at GSA NCR, located at 31 7th Street, SW, Washington, DC, from 10 a.m. to noon.

“It wasn’t hard to find someone who was willing to talk about implementation or Registration work flow best practices.”



No turning back now. Vendor selection for the Student Information System is mere months away.

LESSONS FROM THE BRIDGE

Signs posted along San Francisco’s Golden Gate Bridge provide an unexpected and humorous take on student information system procurement.