



STUDENT INFORMATION SYSTEM

What is a PFS?

Persona Functional Scenarios (PFS) are the user stories for the new PORTiCO student information system. Writing a PFS involves taking on a persona (e.g., student, DACM personnel, system administrator, etc.), determining what that persona's or user's objective is and how the system will meet that need. System developers will use the PSFs to recommend the best way to configure the PORTiCO system so that it meets required functionality.

The Update

The Update is the official monthly newsletter for status updates related to the student information system (SIS) project at the Defense Acquisition University.

PORTiCO, the official name of this acquisition workforce initiative, is a commercial off-the-shelf (COTS) system that integrates critical capabilities including career training management, schedule development, DAWIA transcripts and reporting. PORTiCO is anticipated to launch in 2012, introducing an easy to use, single destination for all acquisition training and resources.

For more project updates, visit <www.dau.mil/sis> and follow the *In the Arena* blog to view team members' perspectives on the project's progress.

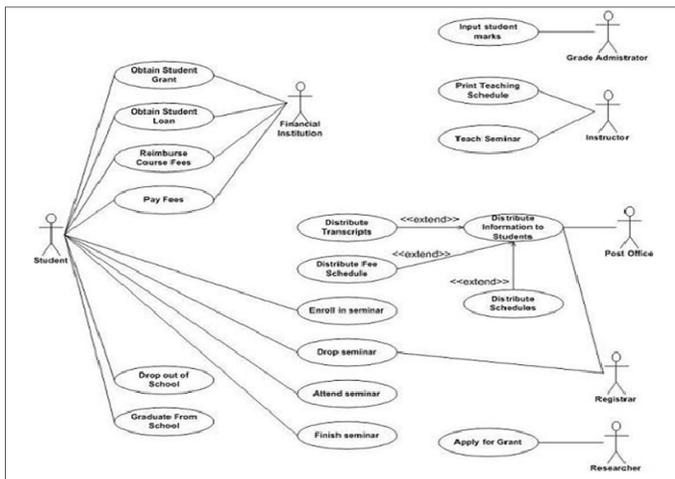
PERSONAS POWER YOUR MISSION

The team working to bring a new student information system (SIS) to the Defense Acquisition Workforce is assuming another identity. For the past month, they've morphed into - well, you!

Team members attempt to explore every potential use for the new system, PORTiCO, by developing persona functional scenarios (PFS) for high-level use cases or user stories.

A PFS defines the who (person/role), what (their need in the system), and why (the need behind it) of each use case. For example, a student might want to register for a course in order to meet a certification requirement.

These user stories are then expanded into unified modeling language (UML), a graphical representation of the PFS that also dives into the details and relationships of other elements involved (e.g., viewing the course catalog,



Unified modeling language depicts the persona functional scenarios. It will eventually provide test cases and the beginning of to-be processes.

finding out prerequisites, etc.).

UML provides the developers with the context needed to ensure the system can be configured appropriately. It will outline the ideal path envisioned to complete the tasks, as well as any alternate paths (e.g., if a student needs additional approvals), and exceptions.

Representatives from

SIS technology partner Campus Management Corporation (CMC) are writing the PFSs and creating the UML based on the requirements developed by acquisition training stakeholders. After meeting with the SIS core team daily, additional subject matter experts from the DACMs, faculty, and staff review the scenarios to ensure their needs will be met.

LAYING OUT THE PATH TO PORTiCO

The road leading to PORTiCO's launch is mapped out, and the project team is well on its way.

In the months ahead, the project team will work with Campus Management, Corp. (CMC) to draft unified modeling language diagrams for each of the persona functional scenarios. Concurrently, CMC will

work to upload features to a client test environment. PORTiCO super-users will then begin to test the features with sample data.

In the near term, CMC's product, CampusVue, is being set up and configured for the PORTiCO solution. Data will be converted and migrated onto this platform.

Early next year, the team will migrate to the new CMC product and continue configuration, data conversion, and testing.

In the meantime, the team is planning for end-user training, with the expectation that users will be trained shortly before PORTiCO's launch, anticipated in 2012.