November - December 2012 News from the SIS Project

Two Systems

With two student information systems up and running at Tufts, you may need to stop and think about which system is the right system to use. If your work involves spring 2013 and summer 2013 information, the student data will be viewed and managed in the current SIS and SIS/HSF Online. If your work involves information collected for the fall 2013 term (and beyond), the data will be viewed and managed in the new iSIS. We hope this simple graphic will help.

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<th><strong>SPRING 2013 TERM</strong></th>
<th><strong>SUMMER 2013 TERM</strong></th>
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<td>If you’re thinking about a course offered this spring or summer, go to SIS Online.</td>
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<th><strong>FALL 2013 TERM &amp; BEYOND</strong></th>
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<td>If you’re thinking about a fall 2013 course or term, go to iSIS.</td>
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Data Warehouse – Course Catalog

Tufts’ data warehouse is being updated in tandem with the SIS Project. Two to three months after each iSIS component goes live, the data warehouse will roll out a new universe to assist with Tufts’ reporting and data analysis. (A data warehouse universe is a collection of data and business objects. Universes are used to subset groups of data by modules, such as course data, admissions data, the schedule of classes, and so on.)

Recently, as a result of the SIS Project, Tufts’ data warehouse established a Course Catalog universe. The new universe includes all course information in iSIS: titles, descriptions, campus, the school/college offering the course (“academic groups”), and academic programs or career. All courses that were converted from old SIS to the new iSIS appear in the data warehouse as well as any courses created during the development of iSIS. This new course catalog universe provides information to Tufts’ administrators that has never been accessible in the data warehouse before. Everyone who has access to the data warehouse can see the course catalog universe today.

What’s next? The SIS data warehouse team is developing an admissions universe. More to come...

A Simplified Portal Interface

When students, faculty and advisors at Tufts log into iSIS in March 2013*, they will not see traditional PeopleSoft screens. The SIS Project team will implement a simplified web interface that streamlines navigation, consolidates information, and personalizes the display of information. Students, faculty and advisors who are interested in getting a first glimpse of the new iSIS may sign up for usability testing. Testing will begin in mid-December. Contact sisproject@tufts.edu for more information.

*Schools that use Academic Advising for course registration will log into iSIS in March 2013. Course enrollment will occur later at some schools. See the SIS Project timeline at go.tufts.edu/sis.

Other Notes...

- The SIS User Experience Surveys successfully ran through the month of October. Thank you for participating.
- **Students!** If you would like to participate in an hour-long usability test (and be among the first to see the new iSIS interface), contact sisproject@tufts.edu. Time slots are available the week of December 10 on the Medford, Boston and Grafton campuses.
Learn to Use iSIS. Documentation Available on the SIS Project Website

The SIS Project website now includes documentation for all iSIS components that have gone live. The SIS Project’s Training and Documentation team has created the following types of documentation to help guide you through fundamental iSIS operations:

- **Quick Guides** are step-by-step job aids that fit on 1-2 sheets of paper. Perfect for posting by your desk.
- **Workflow Diagrams** that map system processes and help visualize the process.
- **Online Tutorials – See It! Try It! Print It!** – can be done at any time, from anywhere. Off campus users will need to first log in to the ‘Tufts’ SSL VPN.
- **iSIS Glossary**, your go-to reference for iSIS-specific terms and acronyms.

If you are just getting started, we recommend the iSIS Basics online tutorial for administrators who will use iSIS. In addition, in-class training dates are posted on the TELD website. For more information, visit go.tufts.edu/sis.

Over a three year period, from July 2011 through the summer of 2014, the SIS Project will implement the new Integrated Student Information System (iSIS) with PeopleSoft Campus Solutions as its technology core. For more information about iSIS or the SIS Project, email sisproject@tufts.edu or visit go.tufts.edu/sis.