ERP Team to Deliver Web Portal This Spring
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The University of Florida will soon have a Web portal for organizing online work and access to information. PeopleSoft Enterprise Portal will be used to deliver portal services to all students, faculty, and staff. This is a component of the UF Enterprise Resource Planning project (ERP).

A Web portal organizes on-line work by providing single sign-on to a collection of applications that are personalized for the person using the portal. When someone logs on to the portal, the portal determines the person's roles at the university and personalizes the portal to contain links to the work the person can do. A student might have links to ISIS, e-mail, course content, the Library, and information about student organizations. The portal uses directory information and authorization information to create appropriate links for the user as the user signs on to the portal. In this way, all the links a user needs can be found in one convenient location.

The portal will also deliver information, commonly called "content." Portal pages can contain both required content and content selected by the user. So, for example, a student might have an area on his portal home page for messages coming from the university and related to events and registration. Other areas of the page may contain content selected by the student, such as information about student groups of interest, housing, recreational opportunities, or news.

Using the PeopleSoft portal, users can create their own portal pages and select the content for each page. Students and faculty might have pages for each course they are taking or teaching. Staff can have portal pages for the projects they are working on.

Eventually many UF organizations will create portal content. Content is organized into "channels." Users select channels of interest to them. One user might select no additional channels, while another selects many. The portal provides a simple and consistent way of making content available and selecting content of interest.

The portal does not replace Web sites. Web sites are good vehicles for providing information to the public. The portal provides a good method for getting information to people who need it.

For an example of a university Web portal using the PeopleSoft Enterprise Portal, you may wish to visit the portal site of Fresno State University at http://my.csufresno.edu.
For additional information about the UF Web Portal, including a statement of direction for the portal, please see the Portal Project Web site at http://www.erp.ufl.edu/portal. For more information about UF’s ERP, please see http://www.erp.ufl.edu.

Your Comments are Welcome

We welcome your comments and suggestions on this and all UFIT documentation. Please send your comments to:

UF Information Technology

UFIT
2046 NE Waldo Rd, Suite 2100
Gainesville Florida 32609-8942
(352) 392-2061
<editor@cns.ufl.edu>