CNS /Update Newsletter Feature

SOARS Takes Off to Offer Web Access to Administrative Applications

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UF Information Technology

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Faculty and staff can now access many of their administrative resources via a single signon and Web portal. SOARS, the Site for Online Administrative ResourceS, will add administrative applications as they are identified, said Christian Conrad, UF web administrator. Conrad's role in SOARS is to help organize the look and feel of the pages, to help promote the site, and to help identify applications for inclusion in the Web site (available at http://www.soars.ufl.edu).

"The site will focus on all Web-based, self-service applications and forms that are used by non-students to conduct business or transfer information," Conrad said.

Faculty and staff accessing applications via the new site will only have to log in once using their GatorLink userid and password. Then they can switch between administrative applications without having to log in and out several times.

UF CIO Earl Robbins explained at IT Day, "Once SOARS is fully implemented, you will sign on once and what we call a 'state engine' will keep track of what you have access to through a common authority. But it won't prevent you from accessing those applications in other ways."

Eventually faculty and staff can use the site to fill out travel reimbursement forms, payroll, budget transfers, allocations, etc.

"SOARS is a work in progress and it'll be like that for quite a while. The focus will be on the applications that we'll be linking into SOARS," Conrad said. The Office of the CIO is conducting a survey to identify all Web-based applications in use by UF units. To participate in the survey, administrators who are responsible for the applications should send a URL and a short description to Conrad at cconrad@ufl.edu. To submit input into ongoing efforts to integrate these applications using EAGLE and GatorLink authentications, please contact Database Administrator John Banko at jbanko@ufl.edu [mailto:jbanko@ufl.edu] (about EAGLE) and NERDC Project Development Manager Allan Pither at pither@ufl.edu [mailto:pither@ufl.edu] (about GatorLink).

Your Comments are Welcome

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

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