CNS /Update Newsletter Feature

New Reporting Tools and Data Warehouse To Be Introduced This Summer

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UF Bridges will be introducing new reporting tools and a new data warehouse this summer. Reporting tools from Cognos (www.cognos.com) will be used to access a new data warehouse.

The data warehouse will contain data from existing legacy systems, including human resource data, financial data and student data. Authorized users will be able to use Cognos tools to produce pre-packaged reports as well as to define new ones.

Cognos Impromptu Web Reports is a Web-based reporting tool. Using a standard Web browser, users will be able to select reports and make PDF files which can then be stored for future use, downloaded, and/or printed. Users can customize their reports to get the data they need.

Cognos PowerPlay is a Web-based analytic tool for viewing and summarizing data. Using PowerPlay, users will be able to "slice and dice" data, creating summaries, graphics and reports.

Impromptu Web Reports and Cognos PowerPlay will be available through myUFL (http://my.ufl.edu), the new university Web portal, which debuted on March 31. Once logged in using GatorLink, authorized users will be able to select Cognos Tools and use Impromptu Web Reports and Cognos PowerPlay from the portal.

Training on these new tools and the data warehouse will be available in July and the tools and warehouse will be available in August.

Cognos is part of an overall reporting strategy. The strategy is described in a white paper available at the UF Bridges Web site (see below). Using the warehouse and the new tools, many more people can get access to the data they need to make decisions and manage their resources.

Other tools in the reporting strategy include PeopleSoft's Enterprise Performance Management (EPM) product. EPM provides many summaries of PeopleSoft transactional data in the financial, human resource and student systems. As these systems are brought on-line in 2004 and beyond, EPM will be used in addition to Cognos to generate reports. As with Cognos, EPM will be accessed through the portal following logon with a GatorLink username and password. Authorization can be done by role, eliminating many of the current procedures for making specific requests to access specific data. Users can be pre-authorized by role to access appropriate subsets and summaries of data.

An Advisory User Council has been created to develop recommendations for UF Bridges regarding these tools and the data warehouse. You can learn more about the work of this group by visiting the UF Bridges Web site at www.bridges.ufl.edu/auc-epm [http://www.bridges.ufl.edu/auc-epm].

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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