

***2007-2008 Mid-Year Report on Campus Initiatives
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign***

University Web Portal

Summary of Activities to Date

Project goals: The Portal Project is intended to develop an attractive, easy to use, highly flexible web interface to promote efficient access to our campus and its academic and co-curricular resources, particularly for students.

Key activities to date: A Portal Steering Team with representation from across campus has been meeting for the past 10 months to provide guidance for the look, feel and functionality of the initial phases of the Portal implementation. The Steering Team has reviewed previous portal recommendations, reviewed portal implementations at peer institutions and collected user data from students through surveys and focus groups. At the same time, CITES has assembled a team of technical experts, including an Executive Project Manager and Technical Lead, to develop the necessary technical infrastructure. This team has created a proof-of-concept portal, and test environment for development and is in the process of finalizing the content and functionality for the initial launch of the portal.

Next Steps

- ∞ Launch the first phase of the portal, limited to undergraduate applicants who have accepted their offer of admission, in February.
- ∞ Charge a student implementation committee to focus on the development of additional content of interest to all students.
- ∞ Make the portal available to all students at the beginning of the Fall term 2008.
- ∞ Charge a faculty/staff committee to focus on the development of content and applications of interest to faculty and staff on campus.

Timeline for Completion

Full implementation of the Portal will likely take 3-5 years. The initial efforts this year and next will be focused on developing rich and robust content for students. Once the student portal has been firmly established, some effort will be diverted to developing content and functionality for faculty and staff with hopes of making the portal available to them by Fall 2009.