



NEWS RELEASE

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NU, State Colleges recommend Oracle and CedarCrestone to provide new Student Information System

Lincoln, Nebr. -- Pending approval from the University of Nebraska Board of Regents at its meeting on September 5, Oracle USA has been recommended as the provider of a new \$29.8 million student information system that will serve students at the four campuses of the university and the three state colleges, Chadron, Peru and Wayne State. The Nebraska State College System Board of Trustees previously authorized Chancellor Stan Carpenter to approve the selection on behalf of the NSCS.

The Oracle PeopleSoft Enterprise Campus Solutions application will be the basis of the system. CedarCrestone Consultants has been selected to work with the university and the NSCS on implementation.

The recommendation to use PeopleSoft comes after more than two years of study, review and negotiations. A steering committee, chaired by David Crouse, associate vice chancellor for academic affairs at the University of Nebraska Medical Center, and involving representatives of all seven campuses, was charged with recommending two suitable alternatives with whom negotiations would be held. The committee issued a request for proposals in February 2008. Proposals were evaluated by teams from both the university and the NSCS based on a number of aspects including implementation, flexibility, functionality, decision support, and cost effectiveness. A separate negotiating team was appointed, headed by David Lechner, NU vice president-business and finance. Negotiations were held with three finalists.

Linda Pratt, executive vice president and provost of the University of Nebraska, was appointed as the executive sponsor of the SIS selection process. Pratt said, "The new system will manage the complete student experience, including such key processes as recruitment, admissions, financial aid, registration, housing and tuition. We believe the new system will be very adaptable in meeting the needs of our students for many years to come."

Carpenter added, "We believe that Oracle offers the best combination of functionality, support and cost-effectiveness, and we are confident that the Campus Solutions system will provide

excellent accountability and reliable records management. The collaborative project between NU and the NSCS has been a good partnership and resulted in the best choice for a student information system. I look forward to continuing this partnership.”

The total three-year cost of the system is estimated at \$29.8 million, including \$3 million in hardware, with ongoing costs estimated at \$2.5 million annually. In January 2008, a joint request was made to Gov. Heineman by NU President James B. Milliken and Chancellor Carpenter for \$22,153,000 to cover first-year costs associated with the purchase of a common student information system and costs to migrate the NSCS to the university’s SAP financial management system. In the 2008 Legislative session, the Legislature passed LB 959, which provided a deficit appropriation of \$20,000,000, with \$14,444,000 to the university toward the SIS system and \$5,556,000 to NSCS for SIS and the migration to SAP.

The university and the NSCS were advised in 2007 that their current student information systems would not be supported after December 31, 2011. The new system is expected to be in place by August 2010.