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Cardinal Stritch University

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UPDATE FROM THE INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY STEERING COMMITTEE

Over the past few weeks, Interim President Kent Bergemann announced the five main priorities of Cardinal Stritch University: information and technology; enrollment; student life/experience; mission and identity; and communications.

As part of the continued effort to improve systems at Stritch, and address these priorities, the University developed an Information Technology Steering Committee. Members of the committee include Tom VanHimbergen, Linda Cabot, Tammy Howard, David Wegener, Sue Ingles, Kent Bergemann (guest), and Peter Jonas (serving as representative for Anthea Bojar).

The main goals of this committee are to further develop the strategic direction of technology services at the University and to prioritize major technology projects.

Here are the projects on which the committee is working.

1. HR module/payroll integration into Jenzabar: The University is researching the possibility of purchasing a new Web-based system which will be integrated into Jenzabar in order to streamline human relations services and the payroll system for all employees, e.g., helping with electronic time card. Cost and feasibility studies are being conducted.

2. Online Purchasing Requisitions: The University has asked Jenzabar to revise its current module to a Web-based purchase order request and tracking system. This revision is needed because the current Jenzabar module does not accommodate Web-based online purchase requests from Stritch's various departments and programs. This new system would streamline the current paper process.

3. CashNet/Atuhorize.net: Because the University has a multiplicity of departments and programs that have nontraditional billing and invoicing systems, a single integrated solution to consistently address financial business processes and compliancy requirements is being developed. The implementation will begin in May with a deadline for completion of July 1, 2010.

4. Higher Education Opportunity Act: Many of you may have received the communiqué from Dr. Anthea Bojar (acting provost) regarding the Higher Educational Act (HEA) of 1965, as amended by the Higher Education Opportunity Act (HEOA) of 2008. It includes many disclosure and reporting requirements that MUST be implemented by July 1, 2010. This is a federal mandate and the University is moving to utilize electronic resources to ensure adherence to HEOA. For example, the University is working to implement a direct connection from the University's main Web site to the Follett Bookstore Web site to list the required textbooks for students by July 1. HEOA also requires a detailed plan to effectively combat unauthorized distribution of copyrighted material. The University must also upgrade the servers and financial aid software to adhere to new federal regulations regarding student loans and all financial aid processes. The government requires these upgrades to be completed by July 1, 2010.

5. AdAstra: This stand-alone software is designed to provide one master, electronic scheduling application for the University that will be used to coordinate all academic events (i.e., classes, room schedules) and resource scheduling into one system. Astra Schedule will be integrated into the current technology systems at Stritch, e.g., Jenzabar and My Stritch. The tentative timeline is a start of Oct. 25, 2010 with implementation beginning in January 2011. Course data entry and full implementation is anticipated by June 2011.

6. My Stritch Master Calendar: The new My Stritch master calendar is currently up and running and will have a direct link to the main Web site by summer 2010. This master calendar is different from AdAstra because it is designed to be a public events schedule where each department/office will post general activities.

7. Electronic Course Evaluations: The committee is gathering data to select a software that would allow departments to collect and summarize their end-of-course evaluations online. In addition, it is the hope that the software selected will also assist faculty and staff as they develop their own electronic surveys for department use and research. The target date for implementation is fall 2010.

8. Non-term Conversion Project: This is a major initiative currently in progress, with a scheduled "go live" implementation date of June 2010. This conversion will streamline the ways students interact with the Financial Aid Office and make the system simpler and more understandable. Watch for an

upcoming Troubadour story for full details on the timelines for this project.

A full report of the initiatives detailed above can be found in the full IT committee report document on My Stritch. After logging in, click on "Employee Info" at the top of the screen and then "Information Technology" on the left side on the screen.

The Office of Information Technology is not only attempting to maintain its current, daily operating functions but also needs to develop and implement a variety of new initiatives to improve the flow of information and provide more effective service at

Stritch. The work of the Technology Steering Committee and IT is critical for the University but is also very taxing in terms of time, talent, and energy.

The Information Technology Steering Committee will work to keep the Stritch community informed of its action plans and progress, but as a member of the University you can help with the process by working with IT in a partnership as these major initiatives are implemented. All of these activities are designed to improve the service we provide to each other and to our students.

Capital budget to fund enhancements of student experience

Last July, the Board of Trustees approved a capital expenditure budget which included two significant campus enhancements for the benefit of the student experience. They are the student Information Commons in our Library and the rehabilitation of the Athletic department area, including the locker rooms and the addition of office facilities.

Stritch has completed an extensive request for proposal process in selecting an architectural firm, Groth Design of Cedarburg. Upon receiving their completed drawings, four firms were solicited for their construction activity bids.

Interim president Kent Bergemann and others reviewed the process and the submitted bids on April 14, and J.P. Cullen, the firm that build the Bonaventure Hall expansion, was selected. The total investment for both projects is projected at $800,000. The final amount is within the approved budget, including contingency funds.

Information Commons
The new Information Commons on the first floor of the Library will provide a space designed for individual and group work, inspiration and socializing, research and relaxation. The flexible space, open to all students, will feature comfortable furniture and round tables and chairs for small meetings and discussions.

Wireless Internet access will be available throughout. Dry-erase boards will be available for use, as well as projectors and other media technology. The Commons will also feature a small café with coffee and light snacks. Plans include a garden patio, a new entrance to

the west of the current one, and an information desk area. A central check-out and reference area will also be built.

To create room for this new space design, the stacks on the first floor of the Library will be relocated. Construction on the Information Commons will begin in May and will take about three months to complete.

Athletics area
The significant changes in the Athletic department include locker room renovations and the addition of new office space for coaches and staff members. Inside both the men's and women's locker rooms, all existing lockers will be torn out and replaced with new lockers. The new locker configuration will provide a much larger "chalk talk" area for teams to meet in before, during and after games.

Additionally, the restrooms in each locker room will be renovated, and all current fixtures (sinks, water closets, urinals) will be replaced. The renovation will also expand and add a new water closet to each restroom. Seven individual shower stalls will be built in each locker room to replace the existing group showers. Paint, flooring and lighting will also be upgraded throughout.

In total, eight new offices will be built and one office will be expanded. Two new offices will be constructed on the second floor landing just outside the exercise room. An additional office will be constructed in the empty space beneath the stair tower in the first floor lobby. The remaining five offices will be built in the alcoves behind the pillars on the south side of the Great Hall.

The addition of these new offices will require the entrance to the gym from the Great Hall to be moved further to the east. The existing glass doors into the gym will be permanently removed. In addition to these new offices, the athletic director's office will be expanded and a new security/reception desk in the lobby will be installed.

Planning has begun, with completion of both the Information Commons and the Athletics area scheduled for early- to mid-August, shortly before the fall semester resumes.

Those with questions may contact Tom VanHimbergen, executive vice president for administration and chief financial officer, at twvanhimbergen@stritch.edu or Jack Glynn, director of facilities, at jbglynn@stritch.edu.

Employee tuition benefit application deadline extended to May 15

The deadline for submitting an application form for the employee tuition discount benefit has been extended to May 15. This extension is being granted because the 2010-2011 budget is still being developed, and the reason for having the deadline in the policy is to ensure appropriate budgeting for the upcoming fiscal year. If you have any questions, please contact Melissa Stauber at ext. 4057 or mstauber@stritch.edu.

Summer hours begin May 17

The University will observe summer hours beginning Monday, May 17 and continuing through Friday, Aug. 13. Summer hours are 8 a.m. – 4:30 p.m., with 30 minutes for lunch.

Food Services hours during this period are as follows:

The Union: 5-8 p.m., Monday-Thursday
Serra Hall cafeteria: 11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m., Monday-Friday
The Bean: 7:30 a.m.-8 p.m., Monday-Thursday, 7:30 a.m.-noon on Friday

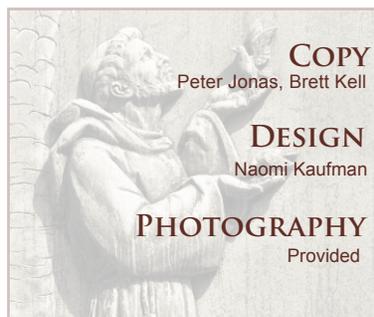# Updated City Center map reflects road construction

Due to road construction near the City Center, an updated map that directs visitors around the construction and to the parking structure has been created. It is below, and can be found online at www.stritch.edu/maps.

The Troubadour

Looking for back issues of The Troubadour?

Back issues of The Troubadour can be found in MyStritch. After logging in, click the "Employee Info" tab and select "Troubadour" in the left-hand column. Issues are posted in descending order by date and have brief descriptions of content. Click on the link you wish to access.