



## CONNECTUGA BIENNIAL REPORT

BIENNIAL STATUS REPORT

JULY THROUGH DECEMBER 2016

# Accomplishments for July 1 through December 31, 2016

- **Upgrade of Banner to Version 8.10.** A major upgrade of the Banner Student System to version 8.10 was completed in November 2016. This effort involved extensive planning with all functional areas; campus-wide communication; system-wide downtime from 5:15 p.m. on Friday, November 18, and all day Saturday, November 19; and thorough testing by EITS and all functional areas throughout the weekend. The upgrade provided system-wide improvements to campus. Improvements included enhancements to storing and processing test scores, improvements for tracking enrollment for Financial Aid reporting, and enhancements to GeorgiaBEST modules, such as Learning Support and D2L Integration.
- **Legacy Student Data Migration.** Functional areas continued to support data conversion efforts by reviewing and adjusting curriculum rules as needed and validating data to ensure that all historical student data currently stored in IMS can be migrated into the Banner environment. The final conversion is scheduled for February 2017, after which Banner will be the authoritative source for all student data, including historical student information.
- **Slate Implementation.** Undergraduate Admissions has implemented a new customer relationship management (CRM) system called Slate. This required integration with Banner and the document storage system Nolij Web. The new system allows Undergraduate Admissions to communicate more effectively with applicants, track prospective students, and manage student application materials. To date, 16,500 applications have been submitted to Slate and have been pushed into Banner. Other business processes, such as admissions events and reading admissions files, will also be completed in Slate.
- **DegreeWorks Planner.** DegreeWorks Student Educational Planner is now available. This was achieved through a major upgrade of the DegreeWorks system that required extensive technical work and functional testing. This new tool gives students and advisors the ability to create academic plans for degree completion. A small pilot of the planner template was initiated that incorporates the use of four-year degree plans.
- **Class Rosters Available in Athena.** Faculty, instructors, and teaching assistants can now download their class rolls from Athena. Class rolls can be downloaded as PDF or CSV files and emailed to instructors' UGAMail email addresses.
- **Emergency Contact Verification.** All current students are now required to verify their emergency contact information twice a year in Athena so that the Registrar's Office and other campus services have more accurate information for whom to contact on a student's behalf in emergency situations.
- **Accounts Receivable Reports.** The Accounts Receivable (AR) team developed and tested several crucial reports necessary for preparing year-end entries for Accounting and the University's Annual Financial Report, as well as for providing accurate documentation for UGA's state audit. AR also made improvements to Tuition Assistance Program reports used by the Registrar's Office and Payroll.

- **Early Free Application for Federal Student Aid Processing.** The Office of Student Financial Aid completed technical development in Banner to process Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) applications four months earlier than in previous years. This was required by The Early FAFSA provision stipulated to begin with the 2017-18 processing cycle. To date, 20,285 FAFSAs have been received and nearly 8,700 have been pushed into Banner for applicants with a UGA ID.
- **Automated SAP Calculations.** Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) is calculated at the end of each term to determine if a student is eligible for financial aid for the next term. Functionality in Banner does not allow for SAP to be calculated across multiple student levels, so students with term credit in multiple levels, such as graduate and undergraduate courses, are not being calculated properly. Previously, staff members in the Office of Student Financial Aid (OSFA) were required to complete these calculations manually. A technical solution has been implemented to automate these calculations, allowing UGA to remain in compliance with SAP regulations and reduce the risk of human error.
- **College-Level Security on Reports.** Processes to separate Argos reports by college were finalized and implemented for numerous reports, including tuition and waiver reports developed by Accounts Receivable. This has eliminated the need for functional areas to run reports on behalf of colleges, allows colleges to view only their specific students when running reports, and adheres to FERPA requirements.
- **Curriculum Change Application.** Enhancements to the Curriculum Change Application were implemented to allow colleges and departments to view additional information and approve admission to high-demand programs that are offered in more than one school or college and/or on multiple campuses.