

CSU-Pueblo is embarking on the transition of its financial systems from AIS to the Kuali Financial System (KFS), an integrated set of financial services designed by higher education for higher education. Over the next few months, we will send campus-wide updates on the benefits of this system as well as applicable training and implementation information.

The Kuali system will reduce paper processes, enable faster turnaround, and allow for decisions to be made based on up-to-date information. Kuali also will provide built-in checks and balances, thereby giving more control and flexibility to documents and creating audit trails. The decision to transition to Kuali was based in part on these major benefits:

- **Reduced implementation costs:** No vendor or licensing fees. The goal of the Kuali Foundation is to lower the total cost of ownership of such software for higher education. KFS is much less expensive to implement and maintain than a commercial product.
- **Consistent look and feel of integrated modules:** All KFS modules have the same look and feel, and information is readily available across the system.
- **Electronic security and workflow:** KFS provides for electronic routing of all financial transaction and maintenance documents with attachments and notes. Monitoring document status is simplified through e-mail notification and action lists.
- **Streamlined processes and data entry:** KFS reduces paper processes, enables copy functionality for routine transactions, and facilitates uploading transactions from Excel spreadsheets.
- **Robust query and reporting functionality:** KFS allows drill down from the highest level to detailed transactions and source documents. Results can be downloaded into Excel.
- **Increased business office and end user control:** Streamlined processes and data entry, electronic security and workflow, and simple query and reporting functionality enhances faster turnaround and decision making by business financial services and department staff.

Indiana University developed the foundation of the Kuali system, which allows higher education institutions to implement only those functional elements they need based on their size and campus structure from complex, multi-campus, research-intensive institutions to smaller private, liberal arts, or community colleges. CSU-Pueblo joins a growing list of universities who have similar processing and reporting needs. Coordinating our financial software with other universities ensures that we are not alone in our transition and expands the resources available for maintenance and new module development.

Budget, accounting, and procurement staff will be involved in Kuali training March 4-6 to be followed by designated departmental staff in May and early June. The conversion of existing financial data to Kuali will occur in late June with a complete transition to the new system on July 1.

Stay tuned for monthly updates about the progress of Kuali implementation and how this system will function relative to your department's financial reporting and success.