

# University of Virginia Completes PeopleSoft Campus Solutions Implementation On Time and Under Budget

## Client Overview

The University of Virginia (UVA) is distinctive among institutions of higher education. Founded by Thomas Jefferson in 1819, UVA sustains the ideal of developing leaders who are well-prepared to help shape the future of the nation and the world. The UVA is a selective public institution. The students who come here have been chosen because they show the exceptional promise Jefferson envisioned. The University of Virginia is made up of eleven schools in Charlottesville, plus the College at Wise in southwest Virginia. UVA offers 56 bachelor's degrees in 53 fields, 79 master's degrees in 63 fields, five educational specialist degrees, two first-professional degrees (law and medicine), and 54 doctoral degrees in 52 fields.

## Challenges

UVA needed to replace a "homegrown" legacy student system that had been heavily customized over the past 20 plus years. The scope of the University's Student System Project (SSP) included a number of other initiatives to achieve a state-of-the-art student system. These included a transition to a paperless admissions application and evaluation process, updating the accounting system, moving from a "homegrown" instructor grade book to Sakai, and the creation of interfaces to enable Campus Solutions to communicate with Oracle E-Business systems.

## Project Summary

Sierra-Cedar worked with the team to create a comprehensive work plan to resolve competing timelines and schedules, identify key milestones, anticipate stress points that could affect the attainment of these milestones, and assign the exact resources needed to keep the implementation on schedule.

SSP implemented an extensive governance structure and formalized system of communications which included executive leadership, leadership from the schools and leadership from central offices. Local experts from schools and administrative departments came to SSP and worked alongside project team members for brief, but critical, periods during the project. These key users helped the team determine the best choices for configuration of the system, identify common processes and data definitions, and clearly distinguish the meaningful differences that needed to be codified.

## Results

The University of Virginia completed this highly complex implementation project on schedule and under budget. The collaboration across the University fostered by this project has led to agreements on data definitions and new business processes across the various schools. The local expert model helped promote critical buy-in with their home schools and departments. Local experts, who also helped facilitate end user training and served as a first line of help for users during the phased go lives, continue to advise on the maintenance of the Student Information System. While still a complex system for a complex environment, UVA has achieved its objective: "To provide the University community with an efficient and effective student information system that supports the University's mission, integrates with existing systems, and adapts to growth and change.

## Institution Overview

**INDUSTRY:** Higher Education  
**LOCATION:** Charlottesville, VA  
**STUDENTS:** 22,000  
**FACULTY & STAFF:** 16,000

## Services

PeopleSoft Campus Solutions and Portal Implementation:

- Project Management
- Functional Consulting
- Technical Consulting
- Custom Development
- Training
- Quality Assurance

## Products

PeopleSoft Campus Solutions 9.0:

- Campus Community
- Recruitment and Admissions
- SEVIS
- Student Records
- Financial Aid
- Student Financials
- Academic Advising
- Student and Faculty Self Service
- Enterprise Portal

