

University of Arkansas at Monticello

PeopleSoft Campus Solutions, Financials and HCM in 12 Months

A Rapid Transformation Through Technology Case Study

The University of Arkansas at Monticello (UAM), a member of the University of Arkansas System, is an open-door institution with three campuses in Southeast Arkansas. It was founded in 1909.

Synch-Solutions' Campus Accelerator

Campus Accelerator is designed to meet the needs of small to midsize Higher Education institutions*. In **only 12 months**, it brings the powerful Oracle/PeopleSoft Enterprise software solutions to campuses with:

- ▶ a modest budget
- ▶ limited resources
- ▶ the desire to have an efficient and competitive operating advantage in the marketplace

Campus Accelerator, the power of Tier-1 software and implementation at Tier-2 pricing.

*Synch-Solutions also provides Accelerated Implementations for large colleges and universities.

The Challenge

UAM had been keeping its Human Resources, Financial and Student records on legacy systems that had been in place for more than 28 years. The business case for the new system was simple. The legacy systems were not integrated, and the technology platform was outdated. The result was inconsistent student and employee records across the systems that were difficult to reconcile and difficult to maintain.

After receiving a dedicated source of funding for IT improvements, UAM had an opportunity to address the concern with data management and improve the efficiency of its ERP systems. The university wanted to replace the systems with state-of-the-art technology that used a relational database and web access. The new system needed to provide more user empowerment, less IT dependence, and easier data extraction and reporting. UAM evaluated several Tier-1 and Tier-2 ERP systems, and the selection committee chose Oracle's Tier-1 PeopleSoft Enterprise suites based on its features, look and feel, self-service design, and implementation costs that were competitive with a Tier-2 solution.

Like many small to midsize learning institutions, UAM had limited financial and project resources. The challenge would be to implement the full PeopleSoft integration solution for Campus Solutions (CS), Human Capital Management (HCM), and Financials – within a relatively tight budget, and without disrupting IT resource activities – in order to get off of the legacy system as quickly as possible.

"We had a strong working relationship with Synch-Solutions. Common trust was very important. Synch's presence resulted in a good team atmosphere and good follow-through on commitments."

Jay Jones
Vice Chancellor for Finance and Administration

Earlier ROI

Synch-Solutions and Oracle help clients achieve early value realization with Accelerated PeopleSoft Implementations and Upgrades. There is no longer a justification for pouring more budget into outdated legacy systems.

Synch-Solutions and Oracle, partnering with campuses across America, bring together Tier-1 level

- ▶ Experience,
- ▶ Tools, and
- ▶ Methodology,

for the power today to build a better tomorrow.

The Solution

UAM began a selection process for a Systems Integrator to implement all three suites. Synch-Solutions was selected as UAM's integration partner. Synch's accelerated PeopleSoft implementation solution set would help UAM bring the full implementation to completion within its budgetary, time and resource constraints. The Synch-Solutions team created a governance document that provided project guidelines and painted a good picture of what UAM could expect with the project. The compressed timeline was designed to shorten UAM's time-to-value. Results were needed quickly!

UAM set its own priorities for the project. While Synch's timeline enabled implementation of the CS, HCM and Financials suites all within 12 months, UAM opted to stagger the start of the HCM component by 6 months and stretch the overall timeframe to 18 months. Project resources at UAM were tight and members of the project team still had their regular jobs to do. Stretching the project to 18 months provided breathing room. As the implementation of Financials was the most urgent need, UAM chose to make HCM the second rollout.

The Result

Synch-Solutions' accelerated project timeline drove the successful implementation of all 3 suites in 18 months, from startup to production. The project began in July 2009, and the team successfully completed implementation of Campus Solutions and Financials by July 2010. HCM went live 6 months later, on December 31, 2010. UAM is now positioned for a future that provides a solid foundation for its institutional pursuit of academic excellence.

Learn More

To find out how Synch-Solutions can help your institution elevate the value it brings to stakeholder communities, call 312-252-3700 or visit www.synch-solutions.com.



ABOUT SYNCH-SOLUTIONS

Synch-Solutions is a leading management consulting and technology services firm committed to delivering business transformation solutions that elevate the value an organization brings to its entire community. We are headquartered in Chicago, Illinois.

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