

Date: Thu, 18 May 2006 12:44:08 -0700
From: Nina Omelchenko <nina.omelchenko@apollogrp.edu>
Subject: RE: Open Source Student Services System Study
To: Jim Farmer <jxf@georgetown.edu>

Jim,

My sincerest apologies for a very delayed response. I circulated your email to a few colleagues and failed to place a follow up tickler. Since a significant amount of time has passed, I wanted to see if you received a response on behalf of University of Phoenix from another source. If not, please advise and I will make it a priority to provide you our opinion.

Regards,

Nina Omelchenko, Sr. Vice President of University Services
University of Phoenix

-----Original Message-----

From: Jim Farmer [mailto:jxf@georgetown.edu]
Sent: Friday, April 21, 2006 12:11 PM
To: Nina Omelchenko
Subject: Open Source Student Services System Study

Indiana University CIO Brad Wheeler is principal investigator for an Open Source Student Services study sponsored by a planning grant from the Mellon Foundation (student.osnext.org/). At a recent meeting we were discussing innovative learning and business processes; there were frequent examples from the University of Phoenix.

The study, due in June, may suggest that a project be initiated to develop an open source student system. If so, we expect it would be designed to support new learning, research and administrative processes reflecting the changes in higher education. We thought the University of Phoenix may be interested in the project. I thought it may be useful to describe the current study to someone at the University of Phoenix and see whether there is further interest in the work. I thought you may be able to provide me with the name of someone who is interested in this area.

Several years ago, while working with Rio Salado College, I met several times with John Spurling to discuss the research we had done on the British Open University and hear his opinions about college administration (and the acquisition of Western International). I also attended several of Todd Nelson's briefings while working for the Arizona legislature. I have been impressed by the University's effective learning programs. I found that others on the study also have high regard for the University and its administration. We thought our study would benefit from any comments the University of Phoenix might have and would be pleased to have a UoP colleague as the work continues.

jim farmer
Coordinator, Interoperability Center

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