Leading Higher Education Institutions Choose Oracle(R) Applications for Open, Adaptive Systems and Access to Critical Information

REDWOOD SHORES, Calif., Sept. 29 /PRNewswire-FirstCall/ -- Oracle (Nasdaq: ORCL) today announced that leading U.S. higher education institutions have recently selected or implemented the Oracle family of applications to help manage the full life cycle of the education environment, reduce operating costs and improve their ability to attract and retain students. Today, nine of the top 10 ranked academic universities worldwide run Oracle(R) solutions, which include the Oracle E-Business Suite and Oracle's PeopleSoft Enterprise applications.

(Logo: http://www.newscom.com/cgi-bin/prnh/20020718/ORCLLOGO)

California State University System, Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University,William Rainey Harper College and Pepperdine University are among the higher education institutions recently selecting Oracle product lines. Organizations recently implementing new software include Case Western Reserve University, Columbia University, Lansing Community College, National University, North Dakota University System, Skidmore College and the University of Missouri.

"Oracle provides solutions that help higher education institutions improve the overall student experience while eliminating redundancy and driving down administrative costs -- allowing them to focus on value-added initiatives to support learning," said Jim McGlothlin, vice president, Oracle Higher Education. "With the addition of the PeopleSoft product line, our commitment to higher education has never been stronger. Oracle's continued momentum in the higher education community is a testament to the company's ability to deliver innovation and expertise to the market."

Automating Administrative Processes

Harper College, Palatine, Ill., developed a strategic direction to provide convenience and self-service functionality to both internal and external constituencies. The college recently selected the Oracle technical tools E-Business Suite and Student System to meet its scalability and flexibility needs and enable more efficient business processes in a community college environment. This suite of software tools and applications will enable the college's 40,000 plus students to register for courses via the Web, eliminating a number of time-consuming manual processes. Faculty, advisers and counselors will be able to more securely access critical student information -- including previous course enrollment data and transcript related information -- via self-service applications (i.e. the Web), saving time and improving their effectiveness as educators.

Inclusive with the Oracle Student System, Harper College chose Oracle Financial Aid, which will help automate the entire financial aid process from initial application through reporting, and Oracle Student Recruiting, which will enable the college to fine-tune its messages to individual audiences.

"Harper College selected Oracle because its suite of technical tools, E-business suite and higher education solutions best met our needs for an open, adaptive system that will allow us to grow, provide immediate feedback, deliver self-service and meet the unique requirements of a community college," said David McShane, chief information officer and vice president of Information Technology, Harper College. "We are pleased with Oracle's direction in higher education and are confident of its ongoing commitment to the higher education community."

Delivering Convenience and Self-Service

Pepperdine University, Malibu, Calif., recently selected PeopleSoft Campus Solutions to manage the entire student administration function, including enrollment, student records and finance.

"Our mainframe-based legacy applications could no longer scale to support the on-demand needs of our students, faculty and administration," said Hilary Baker, associate vice president and chief information officer, Pepperdine University. "The PeopleSoft applications will allow us to deliver a new level of convenience and self-service to our student base. As important, they will enable the university to streamline administrative functions, helping our faculty and staff to focus on what is truly most important -- providing a quality education to our student population."

Enhancing Service Delivery

Lansing Community College in Michigan recently completed the first phase of its Oracle Student System implementation, allowing thousands of students to register for fall classes at their convenience via the Web. Lansing -- enrolling approximately 40,000 students annually and offering 200 degree and certificate programs -- continues to roll out its Oracle Student System implementation, which will enable the college to more effectively manage academic records, admissions and enrollment.

Lansing's rollout of the Oracle Student System is the college's most recent deployment of Oracle E-Business Suite applications, which have enabled it to create a single source of data that streamlines management of nearly all administrative functions and student services. Oracle's integrated applications enable greater visibility across the enterprise, giving administrators a dashboard view of critical enterprise and student data, and driving more agile and informed decision-making processes.

In addition, Lansing has streamlined communication among students, staff and faculty, and reduced messaging costs with Oracle Collaboration Suite -- which provides integrated e-mail, file sharing, voice mail and fax capabilities.

"Like many higher education institutions, Lansing Community College faces the challenge of delivering quality services more effectively to students, faculty and staff, often in the face of limited budgets," said Glenn Cerny, chief information officer, Lansing Community College. "Oracle applications and technology gave Lansing the tools needed to improve operational efficiency, enhance service delivery and provide a clear path for future growth."

Enriching the Student Experience; Improving Operational Efficiency
    National University -- the second-largest private, nonprofit
university in California, based in La Jolla -- implemented PeopleSoft
modules for student administration, human capital management, customer
relationship management and finance. The deployment replaces multiple
legacy systems with a single platform and integrated set of processes
across the university, improving operational efficiency and enabling
more accurate and rapid decision making capabilities.
    "To maintain our competitive edge, we must be able to assess the
effectiveness of our individual marketing initiatives to a diverse
population of potential students," said Eileen Heveron, associate vice
president of information technology, National University. "With
PeopleSoft Enterprise CRM for Higher Education application, we're able
to improve the accuracy of future initiatives while enriching the
experiences of students with current targeted programs."
    National University has been live on PeopleSoft applications since
March 2005, pursuing a rapid deployment with few customizations. "Our
implementation has expanded visibility of critical financial and
operational data across the enterprise, enabling faster and more
accurate decision making for our administrators," said Heveron. "For
example, we've been able to accelerate the university's monthly
financial close process by three days. We're also confident that the
solution will scale to accommodate our future growth."

    About Oracle
    Oracle is the world's largest enterprise software company. For
more information about Oracle visit our Web site at
http://www.oracle.com .

    Trademarks
    Oracle, JD Edwards, and PeopleSoft are registered trademarks of
Oracle Corporation and/or its affiliates. Other names may be trademarks
of their respective owners.

SOURCE Oracle Corporation
Web Site: http://www.oracle.com
Photo Notes: NewsCom:
http://www.newscom.com/cgi-bin/prnh/20020718/ORCLLOGO AP Archive:
http://photoarchive.ap.org PRN Photo
Desk,photodesk@prnewswire.com