

In the oZONE

In the oZONE is the newsletter you're reading right now. It is published periodically by the publicity team of the implementation project, and is intended to inform the university community of the progress of the largest technological undertaking in OU history.

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Project Update

While it may not be apparent for those who are not directly involved in the implementation, the team is making great progress. Many of your colleagues here at OU are spending many hours developing what will be the best possible system for everyone.

The first milestone of this three-year project was achieved on August 5 with the opening of the oZONE portal and the admissions/recruitment phase of the Sooner Student System (S³) the cube, one of the major systems that will be accessed through that portal.

The oZONE portal will eventually provide personalized, one-stop, single sign-on Web-based access to the university's student information resources. The portal will unify multiple stand-alone systems currently operating on campus in one point of access and will simplify the way everyone at the university interacts with student data and systems.

Currently log-in access on the oZONE portal is limited to staff in Admissions, Recruitment Services, Graduate College and College of Continuing Education admissions, but when fully implemented in September 2009, faculty and staff will be able to use the oZONE Portal to access course information and advise students, manage class schedules, view student information, view listings of active classes, access class information, submit grades, and utilize enhanced reporting capability and data access.

The oZONE portal is a multi-faceted project. While many of its facets may have their own nicknames, the oZONE portal is the key to the future in student information.

What is the cube?

When the project to migrate the legacy mainframe student system to a web-based system was created, we needed a name for it. At that time it was dubbed the Sooner Student System. The S³ logo was created to reflect the three-S title of the Sooner Student System project. This morphed into S cubed, which then evolved into "the cube."

Sooner Student System S³, the cube, is an integrated student information system that unifies our campus data and enables new capabilities that enhance efficiency while providing an improved quality of service for the campus community. The functions of the Cube will encompass admissions, recruitment, registration, records, financial aid and bursar. This is the foundation for much of the functionality and personalized, targeted presentation that will be provided through the oZONE portal. This new system will greatly benefit faculty, staff and students by simplifying the way the University does business.

<http://www.ou.edu/admrec/thecube>

Important Dates

Target "Go-Live" Dates

- Recruitment – Aug 5, 2008 HIT
- Admissions – Aug 5, 2008 HIT
- Financial Aid – March 2009
- Registration – Sept. 2009
- Records – Sept. 2009
- Bursar – Sept. 2009
- oZONE portal – Aug. 2008-Sept. 2009



Did You Know?

What effect will the new Sooner Student System have on access to CICS?

The Sooner Student System will replace CICS. All the records and functions currently done through the CICS student records system will be housed in the new system.

Find more answers in [Ask the Sooners](#).