The purpose of this focus group was to review development concepts for the next release of Campus Management (4.71) and to begin gathering requirements for future functionality that will be available in releases after CM 4.71.

24 June 2002

Equivalency Determination - SAP presented development prototypes on Equivalency Determination that will be available with CM 4.71. They will deliver functionality to support the establishment of Equivalency Agreements. The structure for these agreements is noted below:

- Institutional Agreement (i.e. between UM and NWCC)
- Regulation 1 (A single rule that represents an equivalency)

  Course equivalency (1-1, n-1, 1-n, m-n)

- Regulation 2
  V
  V
  V

SAP will not deliver with CM 4.71 the functionality to interface with SPEEDE nor the self-learning capability of building up these agreements as we receive transcripts on a student by student basis.

The ‘note’ functionality of Equivalency Determination is built upon standard note functionality within CM, but will not be integrated into the ‘Note Tab’ on the student file within CM.

Confer Qualification - Conferring a qualification means associating a student with a particular degree. With CM 4.71, SAP will deliver the ability to accomplish this in a manual fashion. There is ‘note’ functionality within this process built on the standard note functionality within CM, but these notes will not be integrated into the ‘Note Tab’ on the student file within CM. SAP was asked about the relationship of this ‘confer qualification’ functionality and the future development of Degree Audit and Graduation Processing and they were unable to provide an answer regarding any future relationships in these areas.

Anticipated Graduation Date - SAP has developed functionality to support the capture and update of Anticipated Graduation Date. UM needs this information to support Federal financial aid processing and reporting for our membership in the National Student Clearinghouse. This data will appear somewhere in the student file area of CM and will be updateable either manually, through the admissions process, or via the Web during booking.
Correspondence - SAP is developing complete correspondence functionality including generation and tracking. Their functionality appears to be able to support all types of communication (phone, email, mail, contact, etc.). Additionally, we should be able to identify any type of correspondence needed. This functionality is being developed on the FI-CA PrintWorkbench foundation.

25 June 2002

Admission - SAP presented additional concepts and development in the area of automated admissions. The foundation of this admission automation will require full workflow capabilities. They have also developed a manual admission screen to help with data migration from legacy systems. The major drawback of this manual screen is there will not be any capability to use this screen to process ‘applications in process’ that have to be migrated from the legacy system. SAP is not planning on providing the ability to manipulate ‘admission status’ manually utilizing the University’s definition of admission status. SAP is delivering 3 statuses that cannot be modified or added to (applied, admitted, cancelled). Additionally, this manual admission screen bypasses all workflow capabilities.

Recruitment - During this period, the five institutions represented, presented their recruitment needs and capabilities. The point to be made here is that although we may all be a little different in how we perform recruitment processes, all of the process requirements are the same for all of the institutions. We all need correspondence, contact tracking, document tracking, ad-hoc reporting, statistical reporting, etc.

CRM - The second day ended with a presentation from the CRM group on the benefits of CRM and how CRM will meet the University’s recruiting needs. There are many interesting and powerful features contained in the CRM module. However it is still unclear if and how CRM will interface and integrate with CM. CRM will be based on the Business Partner concept and the relationship to the timing of when prospects are created and the many processes that can create prospects combined with the tight integration requirements with CM make this process very complex. It was quite clear that any CRM functionality to support recruitment will be several releases away. Jill and I both have reservations regarding the duplication of data required to deliver this functionality through a module that is outside CM proper. This is based on our current experiences with Student Accounting processes being delivered with FI-CA and with the Event Planning processes being delivered with functionality based on HR-TEM.

26 June 2002

Degree Audit - The degree audit session was solely based on follow-up to previous questions and the presentation of development concepts for meeting the
needs of degree audit. We were required to sign non-disclosure agreements for this topic. SAP seems to have a core understanding of the requirements in this area. They presented new terminology called the rule catalog, rule catalog version, requirement set, requirement, and requirement scheme. These concepts were suspiciously similar to VSR concepts of rule containers, rule modules, and rule elements. However, when questioned on the similarity of their concepts to VSR, the response was ‘not the VSR as we know it today’. We will have to wait and see how the degree audit functionality matures to further evaluate how the functionality will meet our needs.

Academic History - We believe that the academic history concepts presented will meet our requirements in this area. SAP definitely has a good understanding of the needs and requirements. They additionally presented concepts on how to migrate legacy data into the academic history structure. They are focusing on non-duplication of data and performance as primary areas. They are developing screens (we saw mock-ups) for academic history maintenance that will be used by the Registrar’s office. They introduce concepts for coded notes and free format notes to be used for transcript purposes. An outstanding issue in this area is the relationship of changes in the academic history information and the respective impact of these changes on progression.

27 June 2002

Reporting Overview - The reporting overview was a presentation of the concepts that Kathy spent the week gaining hands on experience and knowledge. See Kathy’s report.

Technical outlook and other developments - Karin Busch, the CM Project Manager for SAP, made a presentation on the future technical outlook, and other developments within the CM product. The technical outlook was a presentation on the upgrade of core R/3 to the Enterprise release scheduled for 2003. She then spoke about future development within CM, particularly enhanced audit trail capability, enhancements to progression functionality, mass deregistration (what we call enrollment status updating, the process of deactivating students who did not attend), ability to delete student records, the US financial aid interface, time conflict overrides (a big deal because in January they said they could not and would not do this and we about had a stroke), the automation of setting and releasing financial holds within CM triggered by Student Accounting (FI-CA), and the process to initialize progress classification and academic standing through the admission process. Her last topic was a short discussion about the release cycle for CM, with 4.71 being available April 2002 and mentioning that there will be a release 8 with no tentative date for release 8.

Housing - There was a presentation by SAP Product Managers responsible for Real Estate. This presentation and demo was arranged because SAP
believes that the Real Estate module could meet the Pilot University’s needs in the housing area.

Go live project status - The focus group ended with presentations by several of the Universities on the status of their go live projects. Currently, University of Basel in Switzerland, Montevideo in Uruguay, and Ole Miss are in the middle of go live projects. Capetown, Newcastle, and Leuven, have go live dates beginning the 1st quarter of 2003. All presenters noted the risks associated with their go live projects and the role of legacy systems in their processes.