



State University System Efficiencies

Universities were asked to describe three monetary or non-monetary operational efficiency efforts made, currently underway, or planned at their university within the past year that seeks to enhance the quality, effectiveness, and efficiency of processes that affect the students on campus.

The following are a few examples of the efficiencies administered throughout the system:

- Entered into a \$12.24 million energy savings contract of with Siemens Industry, Inc. to institute the following measures: significantly improve reliability of the campus heating, ventilating, and air conditioning (HVAC) systems; improve temperature control and comfort for building occupants; replace aging and obsolete HVAC equipment; improve opportunities for preventive maintenance; and promote the University's sustainability efforts. This ongoing project will produce a cost reduction of more than \$383,000 annually - FAMU;
- Implementation of new Document Management System - automation of financial aid and admissions processes over the next several years to speed up the handling of financial aid verification and paper transcript processing - FAU;
- Information Technology reorganization under a Chief Information Officer, streamlining response times and encouraging best and consistent practices while maintaining effective technological security - FGCU;
- Continuation of projects to migrate critical technology infrastructure to public cloud services and unify the Facilities and Division of Information Technology's communications systems for preparedness and recovery efforts during an emergency situation. These projects not only achieve monetary savings, but also assure uninterrupted critical operational functions, offer operational efficiencies of the radio system by increasing capacity, and enhance communications between workgroups during emergencies - FIU;

- Launched the Workday Student implementation in collaboration with Finance and Administration and Academic Affairs; began utilizing a new university ticketing and work management system – Florida Poly;
- Implemented Take 15, a university-wide campaign designed to encourage students to take a full course load of 15 credit hours or more each semester. The effort involved thorough research, marketing, and an advising campaign that significantly helped students improve their academic performance, graduate earlier, and save money on the cost of their degree. By more efficiently progressing students through the university, the estimated savings for the University for 2016-17 is \$5.5 million. This savings carries forward into 2017-18 with an additional savings of \$1.9 million. Project administrators estimate the overall savings to FSU students and Florida taxpayers will total nearly \$86 million, since ‘Take 15’ launched in 2015 – FSU;
- Implemented a direct deposit process system for employee accounts payable payments and student refunds by the New College Business Office. This course of action resulted in savings of reduced stop payment bank charges and reduced staff time in negotiating return check payments – NCF;
- As reported in previous years, UCF’s successful energy efficiency and conservation efforts and upgrades, including on-site generation of electricity by our combined heat and power plant, are avoiding millions of dollars in cost and 5,300 metric tons of CO2 in the atmosphere. New efforts in this area generating savings upwards of \$300K include the creation of the first phase of a web-enabled open energy dashboard to allow energy data and analytics to optimize the performance of UCF’s buildings, and the purchase of two highly-efficient heat exchangers for the new district energy plant resulting in a rebate for the higher kW/ton efficiency– UCF;
- The ONE.UF (one.uf.edu) portal was upgraded in summer 2017. In addition to the portal’s revamped search engine, the enhancements created numerous efficiencies for students because many services are now accessible from their mobile devices through a single app: a) the self-service functions now include registering for classes, checking final grades, and viewing degree audits. Instead of requesting an unofficial transcript or waiting in line at their advising office for a degree audit, students can perform these tasks within the ONE.UF portal. As of December, 2017, students had self-conducted 222,708 Unofficial Transcripts views and 116,093 Degree Audits; b) the new student

workspace in ONE.UF displays only the services available to them, based on their university student affiliation. Previously, students had to scroll through a list of every service available to faculty, students, and staff. Now they simply view a list (in the form of tile cards) showing only what is relevant to them; and c) as of January 16, 2018, students also have a more personalized experience in their ONE.UF portal. This is via the customized “To-Do’s” and “Academic Programs” tile cards they can click on to see what academic or administrative dates affect them – UF;

- Utility expenditures for power, water and gas have historically consumed about a third of Physical Facilities’ operation and maintenance budget. Given this significant budget impact, Plant has focused on initiatives to meet its goal of reducing utility expenditures including: retro-commissioning of building mechanical systems, LED lighting retrofits, integration of temperature controls with the university calendar, and most recently, the deployment of a Fault Detection and Diagnostics (FDD) system. FDD runs in the background of the energy management system and is constantly analyzing the operation of the building mechanical systems. A work order is automatically generated when an anomaly is detected for maintenance staff to investigate. This not only avoids the cost from equipment operating improperly but has the side benefit of increasing occupant comfort through reduced temperature complaints as the department moves from reactive to predictive maintenance. Annual E&G utility expenditures for FY18 are down approximately \$250k from FY17 – UNF;
- USF-Tampa is reducing heating and cooling energy consumption in laboratory exhaust hoods by making the hoods respond to the occupancy. The exhaust hoods are being modified to automatically close the sashes when the user moves away, thereby reducing the amount of air being exhausted, and reducing the amount of air being introduced into space after heating and cooling through HVAC units. The energy savings is in excess of 85% – USF;
- FLVC (Florida Virtual Campus) incorporates centralized licensing of shared electronic library resources. This central licensing system platform serves 1.3 million students, faculty, and staff throughout Florida. This allows Florida’s universities and colleges to avoid over \$14 million in licensing and staffing expenses annually – UWF.

For detailed reports by institution, please contact the Board of Governors General Office.