

EDUCAUSE Quarterly Contribution of the Year Award

"Whose System is it, Anyway? Partnering with Faculty in Administrative System Projects" *EDUCAUSE Quarterly*, Volume 28, Number 2, 2005.

Lea Pennock

University Secretary and Director of the Si! Project University of Saskatchewan

Rick Bunt

Associate Vice-President, Information and Communications Technology University of Saskatchewan

Drawing on lessons learned in an earlier software implementation, IT staff at the University of Saskatchewan approached the replacement of an aging student information system with careful attention to developing partnerships with campus colleagues. Their project management approach accommodated the unique, collegial business model offered by a university, particularly the "faculty factor." Along the way, they demonstrated that involving the faculty in planning and implementing an administrative system can foster campus-wide engagement and support. The award selection committee said, "This clearly written and compelling article deals skillfully with the big-picture aspects of a major technology project, explicating the essential lesson that it's not really the technology that matters but managing the changes that a new technology brings."

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