



# BITS AND BYTES

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A Newsletter from the UCHC Information Technology Department

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## Raising the Bar with Jenzabar

Self service access to a host of support services will soon be a reality for students. By accessing a new web portal, students will be able to view course registration, pay bills and fees online, access financial aid information and request official transcripts. Not only will these self service features improve the student experience, they will reduce phone calls and save time for the administrative support staff.



All of this and much more will be possible with the upcoming major new release of the Jenzabar Student Information System. The IT Vendor Systems Support Team and Cliff Sargis, Director of Enrollment Services, are collaborating on this project to replace/upgrade application modules, add the web portal front end and streamline existing administration support processes. The new and improved Jenzabar system is targeted to go live in June 2010, just in time for the next academic school year.



Cliff Sargis, Dave Sowalsky, John Bucci

If you are interested in learning more about this effort, contact Dave Sowalsky at x6236 or John Bucci at x7582.

## HuskyBuy Delivers Streamlined Purchasing Process

Five Research departments are the lucky first users of HuskyBuy, a slick new online purchasing system. With connections to three key vendors (Fisher Scientific, Suburban, Sigma), users need only select a vendor, click on a product from the index, and browse through the item descriptions/pictures provided to make a selection for their online shopping cart. It's easy, it's fast, and it significantly streamlines the purchasing process, improving timing and providing real-time access to product availability.

HuskyBuy is a standalone pilot version of the SciQuest Purchasing System, which will be fully implemented in conjunction with the go-live of the new Banner Finance System in 2011. At that time, it will be fully integrated with Banner, allowing budget checking during the online purchasing process. Feedback from departments participating in the pilot has been quite positive. Purchasing staff look forward to adding new vendors and rolling out the standalone system to additional departments.

To learn more, please contact Ed Philopena at x8110.



## Online Microsoft Office (2003 and 2007) Training Available

The IT Department has obtained unlimited access to Microsoft Office online training for UCHC employees. This is an excellent opportunity to brush up on or learn new Office 2003 or 2007 skills. There are roughly 90 classes offered through this program and all are self-paced.

The duration of these courses varies, depending on topic, with most core and advanced courses averaging about 5 hours. The "Getting Started" and "What's New" classes typically take about 1 hour to review. There are a number of specialized topics for each Office product and each of these courses are also about an hour long. Please note that not all browsers are compatible with this Microsoft website: the training has been verified to work best with Internet Explorer.



It is recommended that you review your training plans with your supervisor in advance of taking classes during working hours.

You can print a .pdf file for visual step-by-step of the directions below at this link: <http://itweb2.uchc.edu/ECS/UserGuides/MS-Online-Training.htm>

For more information, please contact Donna Mineo at x4609.

## Chemotherapy Action Team: Mission Accomplished!

The 'Chemotherapy Orders' action team, in collaboration with IT's Application Development department, have developed the Chemotherapy Order System (COS) to facilitate the creation of chemotherapy and supportive care orders for JDH Infusion patients, and eventually the Oncology Unit on the 6<sup>th</sup> floor. This sophisticated application allows for the chemotherapy agents within an order set to be pre-defined and associated to a disease or tumor site to ease the selection process for the ordering providers. It also allows physicians to individualize the order set.

Once the orders are written by the clinician, the system will lock the order from future changes, allowing for a historical record of orders by patient, provider, and disease. The use of the COS application will facilitate the communication of the orders, as those involved with the chemotherapy process can access the application from any UCHC network location. In addition to the Pre-Meds, Chemotherapy Medications, and Hydrations, the order sets will include key items that should be monitored for that specific treatment, and lab tests that should be performed in association with the treatment, regimen cycle, and dates.



This application is currently in production pilot mode and is an interim solution leading to a chemotherapy orders module that will be integrated with the pharmacy system and an electronic medical record.

***"The chemotherapy ordering physicians at John Dempsey Hospital believe that this system will improve patient safety. Orders will be clear and a patient history of treatment is automatically created so past treatments can be easily reviewed. It is a good first step in automating orders at our facility."***

***~ Susan Tannenbaum, MD, Medical Director of the Clinical and Translational Breast Program***

## SCRUM Spells Success for Research Finance



*Julie Schwager (Product Owner), Donna Napomoceno, Wendy Feer, Andrew Warren (Scrum Master), Alan Wong, Erik Barrows, Jeff Jorczak, Clifford Scott (contributing business member), Dave Larkin (contributing business member), Sky Marcinczyk,, Dave Melinosky*

Recently UCHC piloted an alternative software development approach called SCRUM to deliver a new **Effort Reporting System** for the Research Community. This system became fully production operational on October 19<sup>th</sup> and our customers are extremely pleased with the result.

SCRUM is an iterative time boxed approach to delivering complex project work which focuses on value delivery and adaptability. This approach differs significantly from the more traditional "Waterfall" Software Development Life Cycle (SDLC) methodology.

A "Waterfall" approach requires a rigorous definition of all user requirements up front before any code development occurs.

Customers are required to sign off on design requirements and are then much less

engaged until the solution is built and ready to be tested. SCRUM requires a high level of dedicated customer involvement throughout the build and delivery process. In the case of the new Effort Reporting System Julie Schwager fulfilled the Product Owner role. In Julie's words, "with SCRUM, the customer is a member of the team from start to finish. SCRUM allows for the incorporation of the creative talents of every team member. SCRUM is great minds working together."

Having constant and meaningful communication with the product owner during a SCRUM project allows the team to focus on delivering true business value. Change is something that is typically detrimental to an IT project, but not so with SCRUM. Indeed this was clearly driven home during the ERS development effort. The team embraced change and worked through the difficulties inherent in change to produce exactly what the business customer needed. As Julie puts it "the end result was a creative and slick system that brought the best technology to the forefront to solve our true business problems".

## Library Open House

More than 500 people attended the Library's Open house on October 22<sup>nd</sup> where they learned new research tricks, ate some treats, and won great prizes!



## ABOUT BITS AND BYTES

**BITS AND BYTES** is distributed periodically by the Information Technology Department. Submit suggestions to the email address below.

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