



June 7, 2007

Dear Faculty, Staff, and Students,

An exciting and necessary change is on the way at Murray State that will dramatically improve the way the University serves its students, faculty, staff, the region, the Commonwealth and beyond. That change will be the implementation of a new Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) system.

The University's ERP Selection Committee includes members from many campus departments and constituencies. This group was charged with the task of finding the best product to transition Murray State University from our current multiple information systems to one single secure e-solution to handle our information needs in an integrated way. I also hope the move to an ERP system will help us to dramatically reduce organizational "silos" across the campus.

Over the last 10 months the committee assessed current MSU needs, examined where the University wants to be in four to five years, and has recommended a product and a vendor to the University Administration. The committee's plan was approved and contract negotiations with the selected vendor have begun.

A long implementation period is ahead for everyone on campus. The Core Implementation Team will ask individual departments to assess current business practices and the need for historical data, to assist with prioritization of the many modules in the new system.

While it will take years to fully implement, the ERP will bring great convenience to the entire MSU community:

- Students will have secure access to e-functions including online registration, actual and hypothetical degree audits, and online grades.
- Faculty members will be able to enter grades online, track course assignments, and advise students online, all from a single secure point of entry.
- Staff members will have access to single point data files that are dynamically updated from all units on campus.
- Silos of information will no longer exist as data will be shared and tracked through secure login.
- All users will have access to accurate, current information to support informed decision-making.

Thank you for your support of this campus-wide project.

Sincerely,

Dr. Randy J. Dunn
President