



The BearBuy Project

Purchasing is one of the main sources of significant potential time and dollar savings to campus departments. The goal of implementing BearBuy, a campus-wide e-procurement system, across UC Berkeley and UCSF is to streamline processes, increase efficiencies, and realize significant long-term cost savings at both campuses.

Summary

Currently, buyers spend a lot of time and effort procuring goods and services through inefficient procurement systems with substantial spending occurring outside the system through non-preferred vendors and/or at higher-than-negotiated pricing which requires significant central resources to either support these inefficient systems or circumvent their limitations.

The BearBuy Project will provide both UC Berkeley and UCSF with the infrastructure needed to help realize the benefits of strategic sourcing efforts. BearBuy comprises a new campus-wide e-procurement system built on the proven SciQuest full-suite procurement platform and will integrate into the campus's existing PeopleSoft (BFS9) Financial system. BearBuy will integrate and streamline requisition, approval, ordering, and settlement processes through a single, easy-to-use online system.

While helping channel purchases to strategic vendors to realize department savings, BearBuy will also offer choices. The bottom line will be a new purchasing system that's streamlined, more efficient, and significantly reduces the risk of non-compliance.

The project is being implemented simultaneously with UCSF, with joint program management and project teams. The BearBuy project will provide IT and process infrastructure that will help enable the broader UC Berkeley/UCSF Collaborative Procurement Center of Excellence.

Delivering the Vision

The BearBuy Project will help achieve the vision of Operational Excellence by centralizing information and processes, increasing efficiencies, and supporting a culture of continuous improvement. In concert with the Commodity and the joint UCSF/UC Berkeley Procurement Center of Excellence programs, the estimated \$4.3 million investment in BearBuy will contribute to annual UC Berkeley savings of \$5 - \$12 million per year.

Timeline

The project commenced with planning in November 2010 with a loan from the University of California Office of the President. Additional Operational Excellence funding was approved in June of 2011 and development is underway with plans for pilots and a phased campus-wide implementation in fiscal year 2012. The OE Executive Committee approved this proposal in March 2011.

Leadership

Sponsor: Ron Coley, Associate Vice Chancellor, Business and Administrative Services

Sponsor: Dennis Levi, Dean, School of Optometry

Initiative Manager: Heidi Hoffman, Director of Operations and Administration, Molecular Cell Biology

Initiative Manager: Jim Hine, Executive Director of Campus Procurement, UC Berkeley and UCSF

For More Information

Complete copies of the Procurement Business Case as well as the Request for Resources and the proposed budget for The BearBuy Project can be viewed online at the OE web site at <http://oe.berkeley.edu>

Questions and comments about this proposal for the initiative team: oeprocurement@berkeley.edu

Questions about Operational Excellence: oe@berkeley.edu