

# CSUBuy P2P System Implementation

A review of successes and speed bumps



RESEARCH ADMINISTRATION

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# PeopleSoft Challenges

## Familiar isn't always Good

### UI and User Experience Flaws

- Lack of built-in approval workflow
- Varying practices between groups
- Clunky interface
- Manual processing for Buyer
- Opaque status view

**Add/Update Requisitions**

Maintain Requisitions  
**Requisition**

Business Unit: SMURS  
Requisition ID: 000002363  
Requisition Name: Transact Campus Inc.

Status: Open ☒ ☐  
Budget Status: Not Ch'd ☒ ☐  
☐ Hold From Further Processing

**Header**

\*Requester: 68100263754 Cox, Justin  
\*Requisition Date: 11/14/2024  
Origin: ONL  
\*Currency Code: USD  
Accounting Date: 11/14/2024

Requester Info: Online  
Amount Summary: Total Amount: 5,500.00 USD

Requisition Defaults: Requisition Activities, Document Status, Edit Comments

**Add Items From**

Purchasing Kit: Item Search  
Catalog: Requirer Items

**Select Lines To Display**

Search for Lines: Line To Retrieve

**Line**

Details	Ship To/Due Date	Status	Supplier Information	Item Information	Attributes	Contract	Sourcing Controls	IP
Line	Item	Description	Quantity	*UOM	Category	Price	Merchandise Amount	Status
1		Custom Services -	1.0000	LOT	96200	2,750.00000	2,750.00	Open
2		Custom Services -	1.0000	LOT	96200	2,750.00000	2,750.00	Open

# PeopleSoft Challenges

## Sponsored Projects Perspective

### CFS Requisition Approval Process

- Analysts were not notified when a new req was created.
- Required to manually go into CFS every day and complete 7 steps just to check if a new req was submitted.
- If a new requisition showed up, an additional 36 steps (for a total of 42 steps) were required in order get all the required documentation from CFS.
- From there, the analyst had to manually combine multiple PDF files, then send the file via email for signature, then email send the signed file to Bus Ops to create the PO in CFS.
- Takeaway: WAY too many steps, no system routing, no system notifications, extremely difficult to teach new employees the process.

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#### PeopleSoft Quick-Guide:

##### Checking for suppliers (vendors)

1. Log into CFS
2. Navigation: Navigator>Suppliers>Supplier 360
3. \*SetID: "SMCMMP"
4. Contains for "Name"
5. Enter search info, like a first name or company name
6. \*Search"
7. List should provide "Supplier ID;" if not listed, it may not be in the system.

##### Checking requisition status for submissions

This function serves solely to summarize order information for when project administrators submit requisitions. You cannot pull into the actual requisition from this screen.

1. Navigation: Main menu>Purchasing>Purchase Orders>CSU Buyer Assignment
2. Change "Selection Criteria" to "All"
3. Click "View all" in top right corner of the list
4. Check the check box next to the new requisitions
5. Assign CSUSIS Corporation buyer under "Buyer" (copy paste from the req's above)
6. Click save
7. Notate the requisition numbers so you can check for backup documentation

##### Printing backup for requisitions

1. Navigation: Main menu>Purchasing>Requisitions>Add/Update Requisitions
2. Click the "Find an existing value" tab
3. Business Unit (F): "SMURS"
4. Requisition ID: choose "contains"
5. Requisition ID: "9999"
6. Click "Search"
7. Click "Edit Comments"
8. If buttons indicate "View," there is back up documentation attached. If it indicates "Attach," there is no additional documentation.
9. Click "View"
10. Print backup

##### Printing Purchase Orders

1. Main Menu>Purchasing>Purchase Orders>Dispatch POs
2. Click the "Find an existing value" tab
3. Click "Search"
4. Business Unit: "SMURS"
5. To: "SMURS"
6. Enter PO number, including zeroes (there are usually 6)
7. Under Miscellaneous options group, check boxes next to "Print PO Item Description" and "Print duplicate"
8. Click "Run"
9. Check box next to "PO Dispatch/Print"
10. Specify "Type as Web"
11. Specify "Format as PDF"
12. Click "OK"
13. Click Process Monitor

##### Using Process Monitor

1. If you've run a report, sent a PO to dispatch, or printed a requisition, the request will be logged in the Process Monitor.
2. Navigation: Navigator>PeopleTools>Process Scheduler>Process Monitor
3. The top entry will be your requested action
4. Click "Refresh" until the field "Run Status" reads "Success" and the "Distribution Status" reads "Posted"
5. For most requests, to access the report/document that you ran, click "Details"
  - a. If printing a PO (from initial dispatch), click "PODISP" instead of "Details"
  - b. Click "PODISP00X Success"
6. Click "View Log/Trace"
7. Click the link suffixed with ".pdf"

##### Print backup for PO's

1. Navigation: Main menu>Purchasing>Purchase Orders>Add/Update PO's
2. Search for PO (remember to change "begins with" to "contains")
3. Enter PO number
4. Click Search
5. Click "Edit Comments" under "Header"
6. Click "View"

# P2P Improvements

## New! Shiny!

### Improved Experience for Everyone

- Built-in Approval Workflow
- Greatly Improved UI
- Improved communication
- Increased Automation = Speed
- Greatly Improved Buyer Experience

~300%

Improvement in average turnaround  
time once Reqs are submitted

# P2P Improvements

## Sponsored Projects Perspective

**DRAMATICALLY Improved Experience for Sponsored Projects Team**

- **Automated Workflow & Routing**

- Automatic routing and approvals streamline the requisition-to-PO process.
- Removes the need for manual collection of forms/signatures (e.g., IC Agreements, ITRs).

- **Improved Visibility**

- Users can see where a requisition is in the approval process.
- Consolidated view of requisitions, POs, and invoices in one system.
- Notifications for requisitions ready for review, comments, or changes.

# P2P Improvements

## Sponsored Projects Perspective

### **DRAMATICALLY Improved Experience for Sponsored Projects Team**

#### **•Enhanced Communication & Collaboration**

- Ability to add/view comments, track comment history, and communicate with multiple stakeholders without separate emails.
- Email notifications for updates, reminders, and comments after OSP approval.

#### **Flexibility for Requesters and Approvers**

Approvers can correct account codes.

Requesters can make changes without restarting the process.

Immediate visibility of project information when a requisition exists.

# P2P Improvements

## Sponsored Projects Perspective

### DRAMATICALLY Improved Experience for Sponsored Projects Team

- Centralized Documentation:** All attachments saved in CSU Buy for easier tracking and reference.
- Efficiency and Simplicity**
  - If everything looks good, simply click “approve.”
  - Took a 42-step process (req approval in CFS) and reduced it down to 2 steps.

# P2P Challenges

## Not all that glitters

### Standardization Trade-offs

- Supplier Setup
- Rigid Approval Flows
- Built for Stateside

#### Request New Supplier

Supplier request form

CSU New Supplier Request

Supplier name ★

Submit





# P2P Challenges

## Sponsored Projects Perspective

- **Vendor Setup**

- Vendors are required to set themselves up in the system before they can be paid.
- Process is perceived by some vendors as time consuming and confusing.

- **Voucher Process**

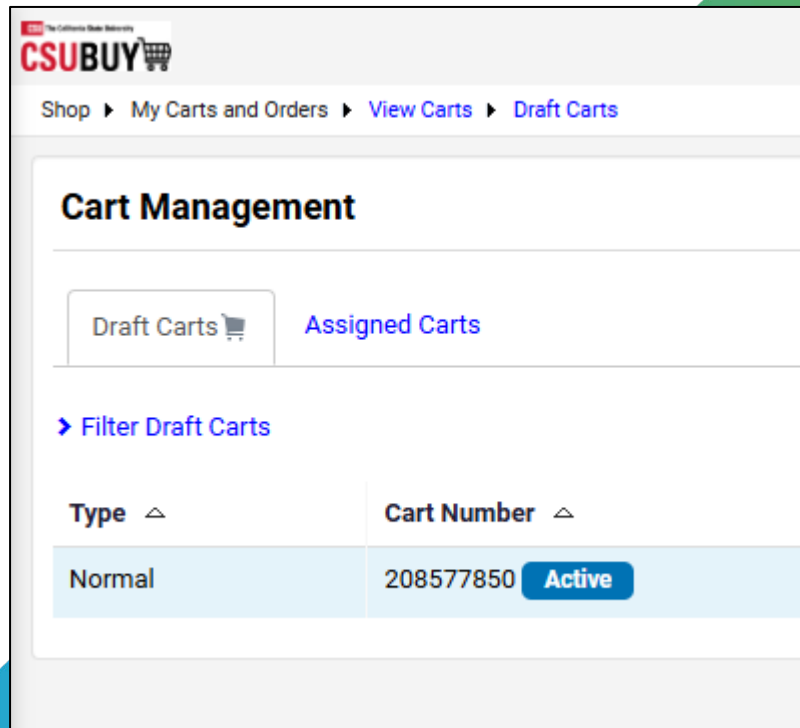
- Project staff not aware they must login and approve voucher indicating receipt of goods/services before payment is processed.
- Potential to bypass PI/OSP approvals on subaward invoices if invoices sent directly to AP, and the voucher is approved by the staff member that created the req.

# P2P Challenges

## Only Slightly Quirky

### Idiosyncrasies

- Cart system
- Change Orders
- Business Units (“Personas”)

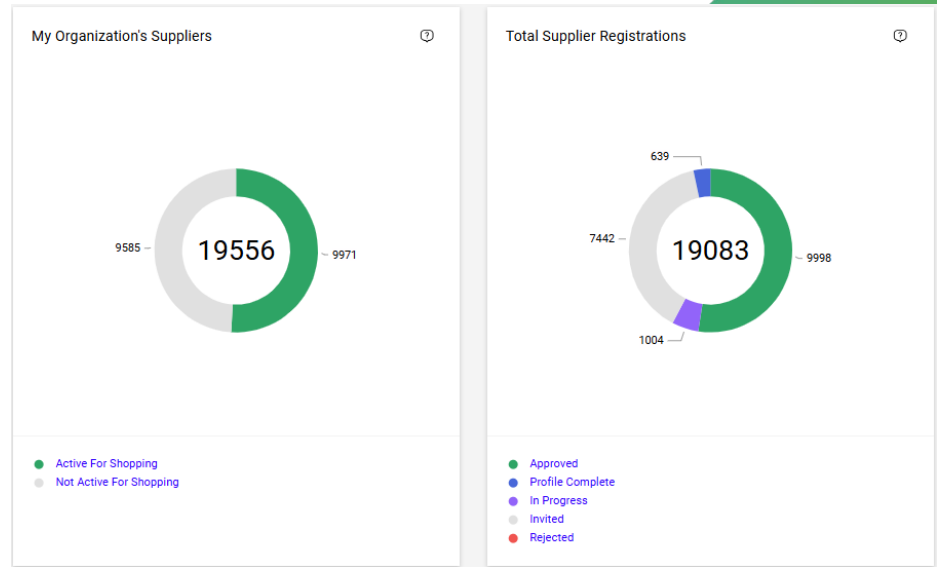


# PO Process

## Supplier Setup

### Building a Solid Foundation

- Highly-detailed Supplier Setup process, makes life easier later.
- Managed 100% by the Chancellor's Office Supplier Management Team.
- **Speed Bump**: If the Supplier struggles at this step, not much we can do.



# PO Process

## Req/PO Process

### The New School

- **Speedbump**: Always check your Persona (Business Unit)!
- Requisition starts as a Form, which collects all relevant information
- Each item (Form) in your Cart becomes a Line on the Req.
- Once you submit the Req, it flows automatically through the required approvals.
- After all approvals are complete the PO is automatically sent to the Supplier.



# PO Process

## Payment Vouchers

### Give Them Their Money

- Two ways to initiate:
  - Supplier can submit invoice through Supplier Portal
  - Supplier can send invoice to Requestor, who submits invoice to AP
- **Speedbump**: When Voucher routes for approval to pay, it will always go to the original Req Requestor.
- **Speedbump**: Pay attention to the Receiving Required checkbox when creating your Req.

# Final Thoughts

## P2P Opinions After 1 Year

### Who's Happy

- Project Admins/Support Staff
- Buyers

### Who's Not Happy

- Low-Tech-Savy Users (& Suppliers)



**The California  
State University**

# Final Thoughts

## Sponsored Projects Perspective After 1 Year

**CSUBuy has improved efficiency and transparency for our team through:**

- **Automated Workflows:** automatic routing and approvals, clear visibility into requisition status, and consolidated tracking of requisitions, POs, and invoices greatly improve transparency and efficiency.
- **Centralized Communication and Documentation:** Built-in comments, shared comment history, and timely email notifications (requisitions, comments, reminders, and approvals) reduce the need for separate emails and status follow-ups.
- **Flexible tools that reduce manual effort and rework:** Embedded forms and signatures, ability to make changes without restarting the process, account code corrections by approvers, and centralized attachment storage streamline and speed up the overall process.