SUNStudent KEEPS GREAT MOMENTUM AND PREPARES FOR PHASE 1 TRAINING SESSIONS

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We are steadily but surely getting to grips with a new way of work in a virtual world. We hear people ask... What is happening on the SUNStudent project? I wonder how COVID-19 affected the project progress and Blueprint document sign-off process? How are our teams doing despite the fact that COVID-19 brought about extra work to the already full days of our project's key team members. And how will training happen?

Over the past few months everyone had to focus on adapting to new ways of work, new ways of conducting meetings, new ways to interact with our colleagues to ensure that the deadlines for the Blueprint documents sign-off process were still met. The SUNStudent project team and key stakeholders worked exceptionally hard to keep the momentum on the project, in spite of their additional workload on top of their business-as-usual activities due to the Covid-19 pandemic. They have, however, delivered and continue to deliver excellent work while meeting tight deadlines. The people involved in the various project Phases are to be commended for their achievements. All the Blueprint documents for the Phase 1 capabilities to be implemented are 100% done, Phase 2 capabilities are 90% done and the teams are busy with Phase 3 capabilities that are scheduled to be completed by the end of August 2020.

Our next, very exciting steps on the project are the scheduling and preparation of the Phase 1 Capabilities training sessions that will commence in August 2020 and continue through to September 2020. These sessions include Conference Room Pilot (CRP) and Training sessions with users of the Phase 1 capabilities. At the CRP sessions the abstract Blueprint documents (where specific requirements were documented) will come to life in the new SUNStudent system. The long-awaited transformation from the "Black screen" to the new world of SUNStudent awaits!



Stellenbosch University, in partnership with Eiffel Corp, powered by Serosoft

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Our initial idea was to have face-to-face CRP sessions at Stias as per the beginning of the project in true big-screen movie style with popcorn again, but Covid-19 unfortunately does not allow for it to happen this way and we are going REMOTE/VIRTUAL with our training. Training will be conducted via the Teams platform with Zoom identified as a back-up where necessary. The good news is that our service providers, Serosoft and Eiffel Corp, have ample experience in remote training.

Please take some time to visit our website for updates on our project progress, information about the abovementioned training sessions and the scheduling thereof, as well as relevant terminologies and Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ"s): <u>http://www.sun.ac.za/english/SUNStudent/Pages/default.aspx</u>

You are welcome to make use of the project email should you have any questions or feedback for our project team: sunstudent@sun.ac.za

It will be great hearing from you. Stay healthy, safe and take good care of yourself and your loved ones!