

CASE STUDY

# How a University System Enhanced Performance Using PPM Express Portfolio Management





# INSTITUTION DESCRIPTION

This comprehensive higher education system serves over 50,000 students across three campuses, offering renowned programs in engineering, medicine, business, and liberal arts.

With more than 5,000 faculty and staff members, the institution has established itself as a leading research university while maintaining a strong commitment to undergraduate education excellence. Increasing competition for research funding, evolving accreditation standards, and rising student expectations created an urgent need to improve coordination, transparency, and operational efficiency across all academic and administrative functions.

## THE CHALLENGES

We face unique challenges balancing academic freedom with operational efficiency, research innovation with administrative accountability, and meeting the diverse needs of stakeholders including students, faculty, researchers, donors, and regulatory bodies.

Our institution struggled to coordinate complex initiatives across academic departments, research centers, and administrative units while maintaining the transparency and accountability required by all stakeholders.

#### PRIMARY ACADEMIC COORDINATION CHALLENGES INCLUDED



Managing the complexity of academic programs, including curriculum development, accreditation processes, and faculty coordination across multiple disciplines with varying requirements and timelines.



Addressing inefficiencies in research administration by coordinating grant applications, compliance monitoring, and collaboration management across hundreds of concurrent research projects.



Coordinating campus development efforts, such as infrastructure improvements, technology upgrades, and facility construction, while minimizing disruption to academic activities.



Optimizing student services by improving response times, service quality, and accessibility for diverse student populations and academic support units.



Balancing faculty development by managing teaching loads, research expectations, and service commitments while supporting career advancement and retention across all academic departments.

### THE SOLUTION

PPM Express transformed our approach to academic administration by creating a unified platform that connected all university operations while preserving the autonomy and academic freedom essential to our commitment to excellence. The solution integrated seamlessly with our existing student information systems, research administration platforms, and financial management tools. This integration provided comprehensive visibility into overall university performance and supported the collaborative culture that drives academic innovation.

#### **VALUE DELIVERED**

The platform's research administration capabilities transformed our grant management by automating compliance tracking, facilitating interdisciplinary collaboration, and providing real-time visibility into the performance of our research portfolio. Academic program management was streamlined through integrated curriculum development workflows that coordinated faculty input, accreditation requirements, and assessment of student learning outcomes.

The solution's campus development features enabled us to coordinate infrastructure planning in a way that minimized disruption to academic activities, optimized resource utilization, and preserved a campus environment that supports learning and research excellence.

Faculty development became more systematic through integrated workload management, research support coordination, and career planning tools that balanced individual aspirations with institutional goals.

#### CORE ACADEMIC COORDINATION CAPABILITIES

# Academic program lifecycle management

Coordinating curriculum development, accreditation processes, and assessment workflows across all academic departments and programs.

# Research portfolio optimization

Managing grant applications, compliance monitoring, and facilitating collaboration across hundreds of concurrent research projects.

# Campus development integration

Coordinating infrastructure projects, technology upgrades, and facility improvements while minimizing disruption to academic activities.

# Faculty development coordination

Balancing teaching, research, and service expectations while supporting career advancement and aligning with institutional strategic objectives.

## **RESULTS ACHIEVED**

The implementation of PPM Express brought significant improvements in both operational efficiency and academic excellence. Our research administration became much more effective, with grant success rates increasing notably thanks to better proposal coordination and compliance management. Most importantly, student success metrics improved across all academic programs as support services became more targeted and impactful.

#### DOCUMENTED ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE IMPROVEMENTS

1

43% improvement in research grant success rates was achieved through enhanced proposal coordination and systematic compliance management across all research activities.

2

Program approval time for new academic programs was reduced by 26% thanks to streamlined accreditation workflows and improved faculty coordination.

3

Campus project delivery improved by 37% through integrated planning that minimized disruption to academic activities while optimizing resource utilization.

4

Student satisfaction increased by 31%, driven by more responsive support services and enhanced academic program quality across all disciplines.

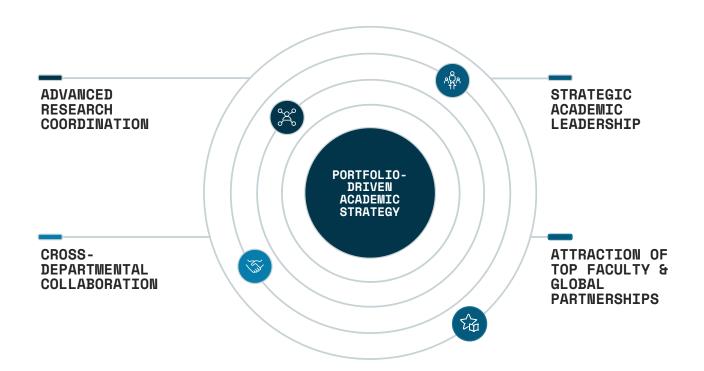
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Faculty retention improved by 24% because of better workload management and coordinated career development support.

## **EDUCATIONAL INNOVATION IMPACT**

operational improvements, Beyond the platform enabled us to pursue ambitious academic initiatives that were previously too complex to effectively. Enhanced manage research coordination supported the establishment of interdisciplinary research centers and collaboration fostered across traditional academic boundaries.

Most importantly, comprehensive portfolio visibility enabled strategic academic planning that positioned the institution as a leader in emerging fields such as artificial intelligence, sustainability science, and precision medicine. New graduate programs in these areas attracted top-tier faculty and research partnerships, boosting rankings research national and reputation.



The collaborative culture fostered by the platform transformed how academic departments approach interdisciplinary education and research. Cross-departmental partnerships now generate innovative degree programs and research initiatives that attract students and faculty globally while addressing some of society's most pressing challenges.

# **ABOUT PPM EXPRESS**

PPM Express delivers modern Project Portfolio Management solutions for utilities and energy companies, enabling unified visibility, strategic prioritization, and connected collaboration with tools like Microsoft 365, SharePoint, and more.

The platform empowers organizations to lead the clean energy transition while maintaining reliability, compliance, and stakeholder value.

