

Online Graduate Appointment (OGA)

An overview of OGA integrations

What is OGA?

- OGA is an online application that allow colleges and departments to create and approve graduate appointments for eligible students.
- OGA integrates with Ohio University's two major ERP systems Oracle EBiz and PeopleSoft SIS through DB-Links, Web Services, and flat file load.

What is OGA Appointment?

- An OGA appointment contains one or more awards.
- An award is associate with one or more accounts.
- There are many different type of awards, each with its own business rule. Some of these business rules can be maintained by the OGA Business Admin. Some are hard-coded in the applications.
- Business rules change EVERY YEAR!

Who uses OGA?

An end-to-end business process usually involves these actors:

- Creator (department administrators)
- Approver (school chairs, Deans)
- Final Approver (OGA Business Admin - Graduate College)
- Payroll Admin
- Student Financial Aid Production Control
- Student

How does it flow?

Generally...

1. Appointment is created and submitted by the Creator
2. Appointment is pending and shows up on Approver's worklist
3. Appointment is approved by all the departmental Approvers.
4. Appointment is Final Approved by Graduate College
5. Appointment is processed into Student Financial Aid
6. Appointment is processed into Payroll

Integration Points - EBiz

- User Role information
 - OGA depends on a set of shared custom user/role tables for authorization management.
 - *DB-Link*
- Student I-9 and W-4 information
 - *DB-Link*
- GL Account lookup and validation
 - *DB-Link*

Integration Points - EBiz II

- Payroll Processing
 - Only the stipend awards
 - Payroll admin log into OGA every month to batch-process the appointments
 - Write to EBiz custom staging table
 - Invoke Oracle Payroll API to create pay element into Oracle
 - Update OGA custom tables on CS side
 - *DB-Link*

Integration Points - EBiz III

- Database Logging
 - OGA writes to a couple of shared custom logging tables on the EBiz side:
 - ougen.webapps_access_log
 - ougen.webapps_error_log
 - Additional *datasource* in Tomcat

Integration Points - PeopleSoft

- Update EGT
 - Upon final approval, if the last term of the appointment is greater than the student's EGT. Update the student's EGT in PeopleSoft to the appointment's last term.
 - *Web-Service: egt-service*

Integration Points - PeopleSoft II

- Enroll to payment plan
 - Students can login to OGA Student Portal and choose to enroll into a Student Financial payment plan.
 - *Web-Service: payment-plan-ws*

Integration Points - PeopleSoft III

- Processing into PeopleSoft
 - Twice a week(Monday and Wednesday) OGA runs a cron job to extract the OGA award data (all the non-stipend awards) and produce two (or four, depends on the time of the year) CSV files:
 - oga_award_load.csv
 - oga_fellowship_load.csv
 - Files are put into the sis-ftp folder
 - Every Tuesday and Thursday morning, FA Production Control staff will process the OGA files into PeopleSoft using External File Load.

Demo

- Approval hierarchy
- Role management
- Worklist
- Appointment creation
- Payroll processing screen

Pain Points and Possible Solutions

- Depending on the two data sources that requires two different VPNs is a nightmare!
 - Try eliminate the dependency on the eBiz data source. If we need data, get it from db-link.
- Writing across DB-Links are not ideal
 - Web-Services?

Pain Points and Possible Solutions II

- No way to know if the extracted awards do post successfully to PeopleSoft
 - BI reports
 - Develop real-time integration solution
- Payroll batch processing takes a long time to complete
 - Develop real-time integration solution