



TECHNOLOGY  
CONSOLIDATION IN HIGHER  
EDUCATION

Darin King, Vice Chancellor of IT, North  
Dakota University System

# North Dakota University System



# NDUS Governance

- **North Dakota State Board of Higher Education**
  - Appointed
  - Policy, Procedure and Strategic Direction
  
- **System Chancellor**
  - Vice Chancellors (Finance, Academics, Strategy, IT)
  - Operational

# NDUS Core Technology Services

- Created to deliver the requirements of North Dakota Century Code
- 130 Staff
  - Infrastructure, Operations, Peoplesoft, Enterprise Solutions, Administrative Services
- Hybrid Cloud Data Center in Grand Forks, ND

# North Dakota Century Code

- **N.D.C.C. 15-10-44**

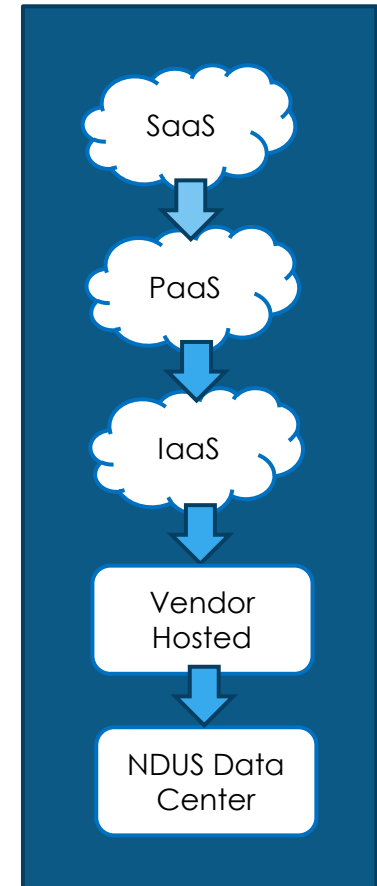
- Directs the SBHE to manage and regulate IT
- Policies, procedures, standards
- Strategic planning and reporting

- **N.D.C.C 15-10-44.1**

- Identifies required services
- Goal to create operational and fiscal efficiencies, and improved quality of service

# Consolidation Strategy

- Effectively manage and enhance existing consolidated services
- Identify new services that create efficiencies or improved service
- Respond to institutional needs
- Cloud?



# Consolidated Services

- **Finance, HR, Student, Document Imaging**

- Peoplesoft
- Perceptive Content

- **Learning Management**

- Blackboard

- **Communications & Collaboration**

- Microsoft Office 365

**\*\* Prior to 2013**

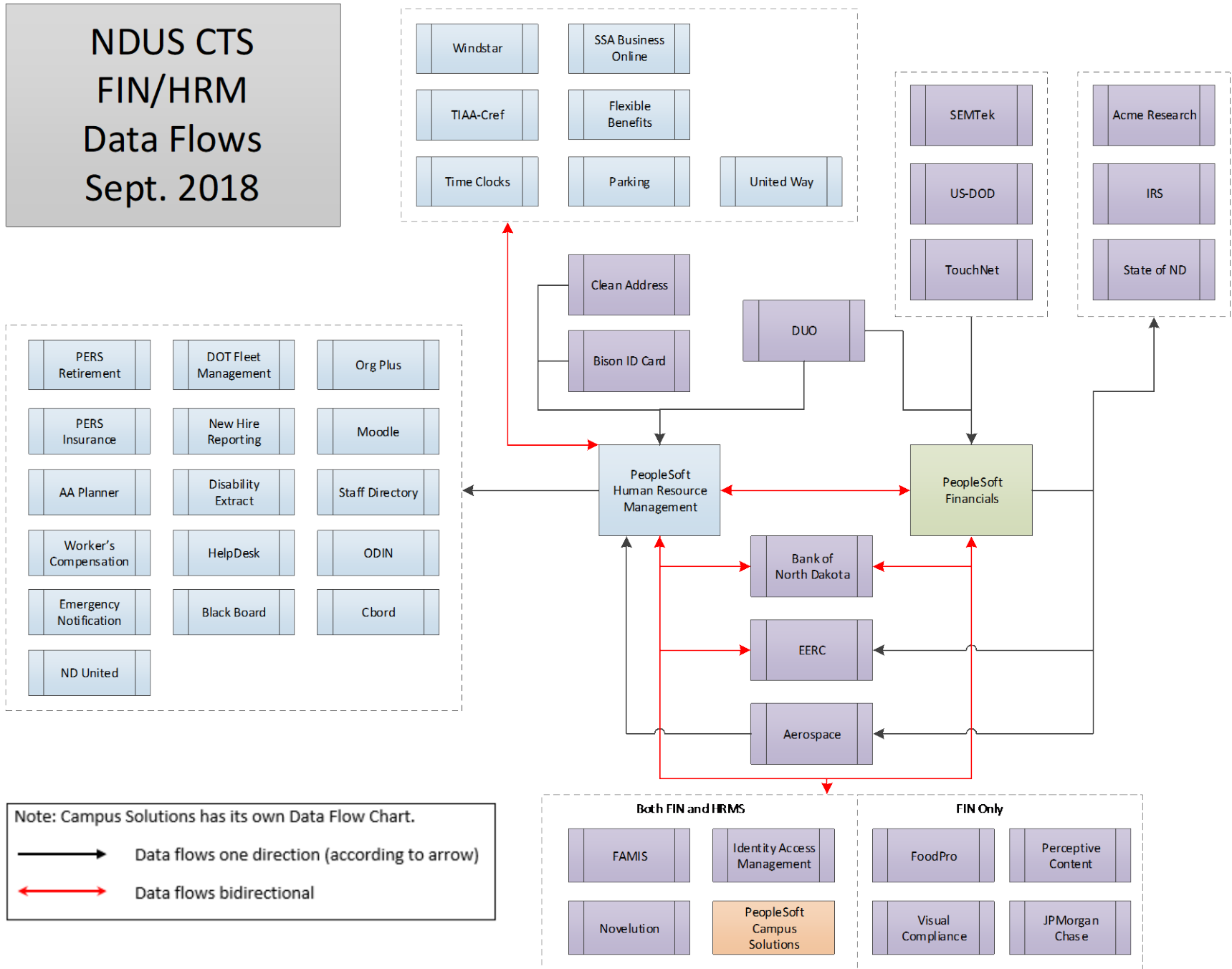
- **Information Security**

- Intrusion detection / prevention
- IAM
- Endpoint
- DLP
- MFA
- Security Ops Center

- **State of North Dakota**

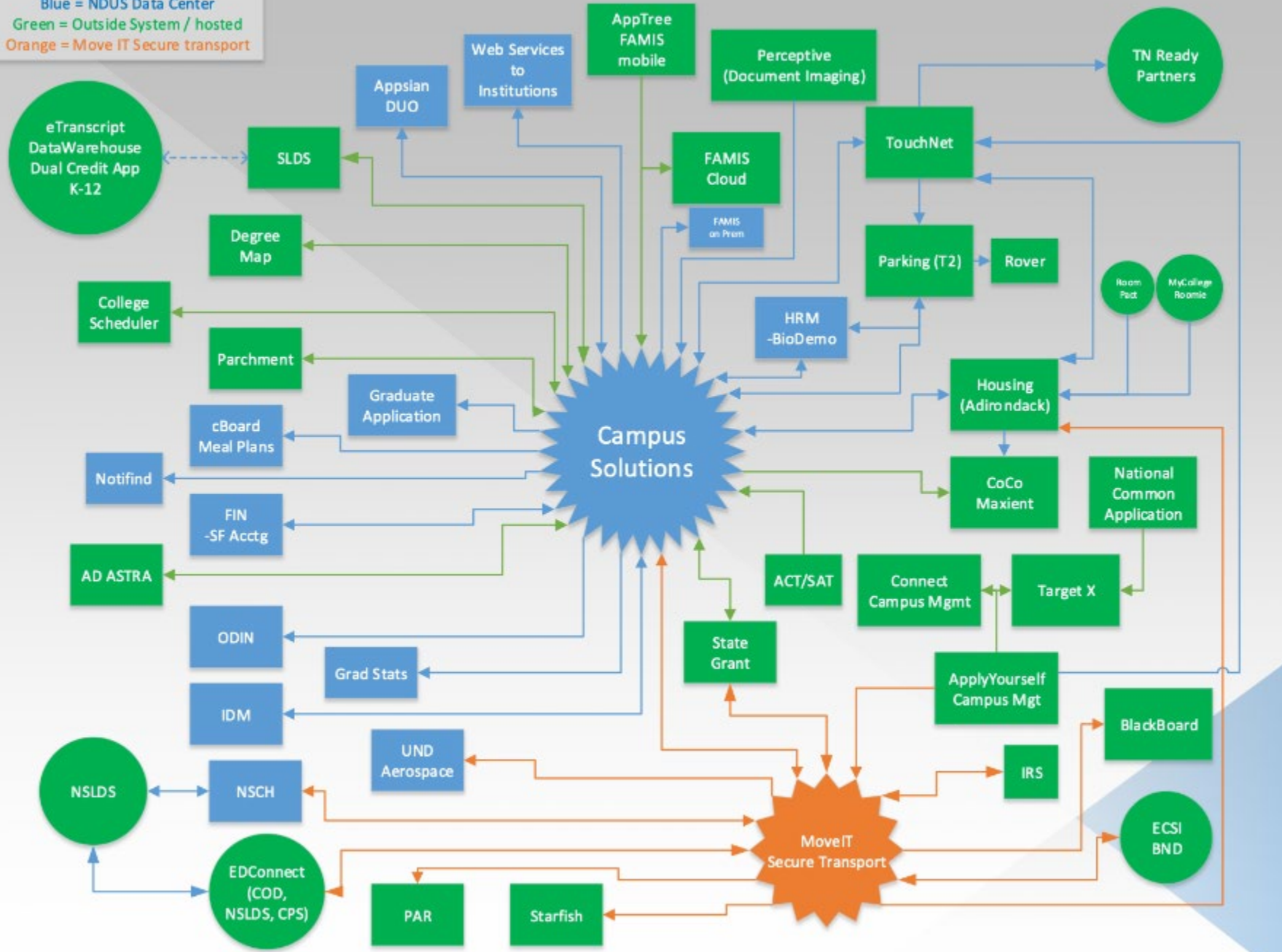
- Network
- Libraries
- Security

# NDUS CTS FIN/HRM Data Flows Sept. 2018





Blue = NDUS Data Center  
Green = Outside System / hosted  
Orange = Move IT Secure transport



# Office 365

- **Previous State (2014)**

- 13 different O365 tenants
- 4 on prem Exchange

- **Current State (2016)**

- Single Office 365 tenant
- Institutional identity retained
- Some administrative challenges

- **Efficiencies**

- ~\$250,000 year savings in licensing/hardware
- Automated account provisioning from IAM
- Enhanced integrations
- HR efficiencies
- Consistent retention

- **Lessons Learned**

- Give and take
- Patience

# Learning Management System

- **Previous State (2016)**

- 3 different LMS
- 6 different infrastructure environments
- Numerous shadow systems

- **Current State (2019)**

- Single, hosted (SaaS) LMS for all 11 campuses

- **Efficiencies**

- ~\$500,000 year savings in licensing/hardware
- Automated provisioning data
- Enhanced integrations
- HR efficiencies
- Scalability

- **Lessons Learned**

- SaaS
- Governance

# Information Security

- **Previous State (2013)**
  - No centralized group
  - Unquantifiable risk
  - Lacking policies, procedures, standards
- **Current State (2020)**
  - NDUS Security Team
  - Info Security Council
  - Common Toolsets
  - Policies, procedures, standards

- **Efficiencies**
  - Toolset licensing
  - Visibility
  - Operational
  - Collaboration
    - Campus
    - State
- **Lessons Learned**
  - Have a plan
  - Governance
  - Reduced risk

# Lessons Learning

- **Governance**

- User Groups
- Councils
- Enterprise Governance

- **P<sup>3</sup>M**

- Project Management
- Procurement
  - Contract Mgmt
- Planning

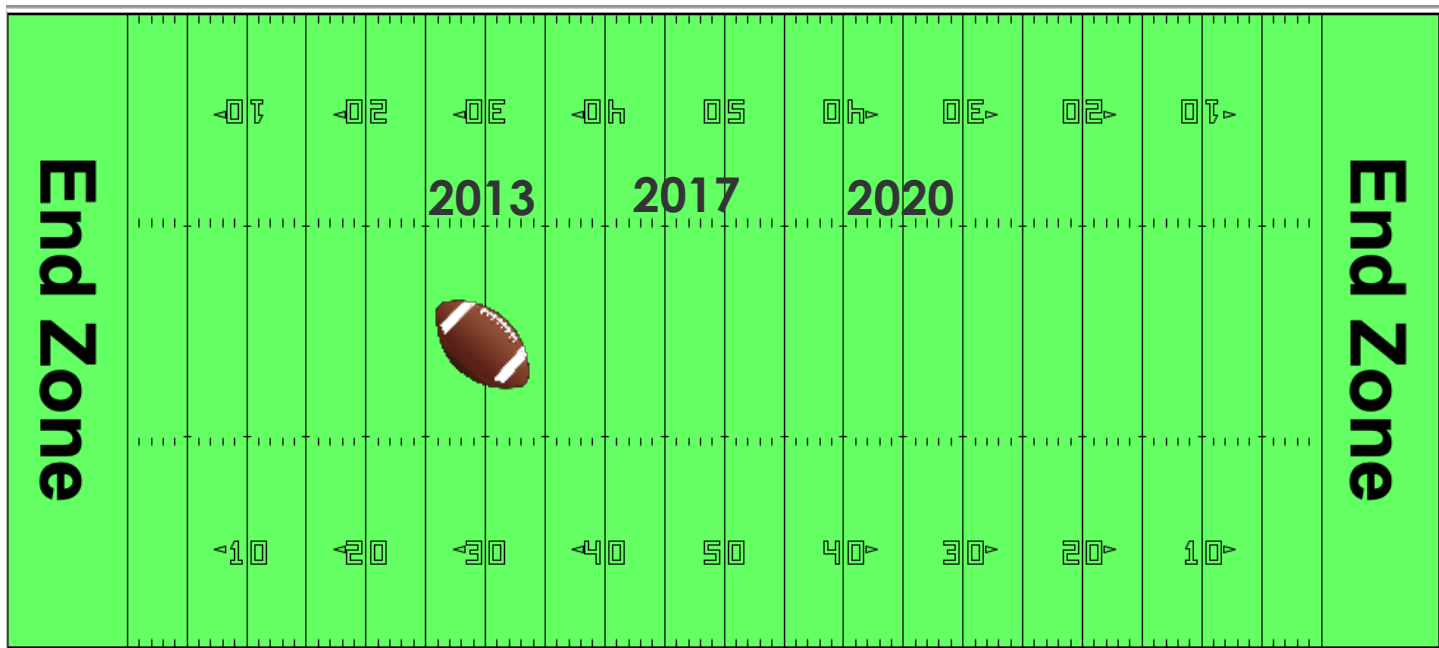
- **Collaboration**

- Service
- Trust
- History
- Shared Vision

- **Common Sense**

- Business first
- Compromise
- Negotiate

# Persistence





QUESTIONS?

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