

October 20, 2009

New Strategic Partner: Fisher Scientific

Upon conclusion of a rigorous RFP (Request for Proposal) process, we're pleased to announce our newest strategic partners. Fisher Scientific and VWR have been named the University's primary and secondary suppliers, respectively, for laboratory supplies and equipment. While both vendors have long relationships with CU, these new partnerships provide exceptional value since they assure significant cost savings, a streamlined internet ordering process, new lab start-up programs, and a managed contract program.

Fisher was also designated as the exclusive reseller of products from two specialty suppliers, Becton Dickinson & Co., and Corning Inc. Fisher will provide these products at substantial savings off the specialty suppliers' list prices and will coordinate shipping and customer service activity.

What are strategic partners?

Traditionally, the University has purchased lab supplies and equipment using State Pricing Agreements. However, the PSC determined that independent strategic relationships with our principle lab suppliers would provide increased support to the university research community and increased value to the University at large.

Learn More at a PSC Forum

If you already work with Fisher Scientific, you'll find the transition to strategic partner seamless. But you'll want to learn more about the new value opportunities – and for this, you should attend a PSC Campus Forum next month (see article, next column). All campus department personnel who order lab supplies and equipment are encouraged to attend a forum event.

Learn More about Strategic Partners

Fisher and VWR join a growing number of University partners – CCI, FedEx, and Staples – established through the Strategic Sourcing program. Other strategic efforts are currently in progress.

Questions? Contact Duane.Tucker@cu.edu at 303.315.2150.

Expense System Review: Where are we now?

Implementation of the University's new system for travel authorizations, employee reimbursements, and procurement card processing continues at a steady pace:

- The entire Colorado Springs campus is now (as of end September) using the Expense System.
- The Schools of Pharmacy and Dental Medicine at Anschutz Medical Campus, UC Denver, went live October 7.
- Boulder Campus Chancellor's Office, Vice Chancellors' Offices, Accounting & Business Support (ABS), Bursar, Bookstore, and a number of other units made the transition last week.
- Boulder Engineering and the Arts & Sciences Financial Service Centers (FSCs) take the plunge this week.

An [implementation schedule](#) is available online.

Stay Up to Date: Come to a Campus Forum

During the month of November, PSC and OUC (Office of University Controller) staff will visit each campus to share information and updates on a variety of subjects. Representatives from Fisher Scientific will join us in the second hour of each forum to review details of the new primary scientific supplier contract. Join us – and learn about the following (and more):

- New PSC Procedural Statement (PPS) on Procurement Contract Management
- Official Functions...and Tax
- Expense System Implementation
- Policy Updates
- Reporting System Updates
- Strategic Sourcing Advances
- PSC Website Redesign
- PSC Organizational Changes

Forum Schedule & Registration

UCCS – Mon., Nov. 2, University Center Rm. 116 (Forum 9:30-10:45 a.m.; Fisher Scientific 11:00 a.m.-12 noon)

UCD Downtown – Tues., Nov. 10, UC Denver Bldg. (1250 14th St.) Rm. 470 (Forum 1:30-2:45 p.m.; Fisher Scientific 3:00-4:00 p.m.)

UCD Anschutz – Tues., Nov. 17, Education 2 North Rm. P28-2303 (Forum 1:30-2:45 p.m.; Fisher Scientific 3:00-4:00 p.m.)

UCB – Wed., Nov. 18, Wolf Law Building, Wittmyer Court, Main Floor (Forum 1:30-2:45 p.m.; Fisher Scientific 3:00-4:00 p.m.)

So that we can assure adequate space, we ask that you [register for the forum of your choice](#).

Expense System News: Approvers Can Now Attach Receipts

Approvers can now attach additional documentation to an expense report before they approve it. The approver will use the same functionality as the employee or delegate – attaching materials in exactly the same way through the Attach Receipts function.

This enhancement saves considerable time in that it is no longer necessary to send a report back to the employee merely to have additional documentation attached. Note, however, that only the employee submitting the reimbursement – or the cardholder submitting the procurement card report – can actually delete receipts. So – approvers can attach additional documentation...but cannot remove existing materials. Instructions for attaching receipts can be found on the [learning resources page](#).

Questions? Contact the [FinPro Help Desk](#) at 303.837.2161.