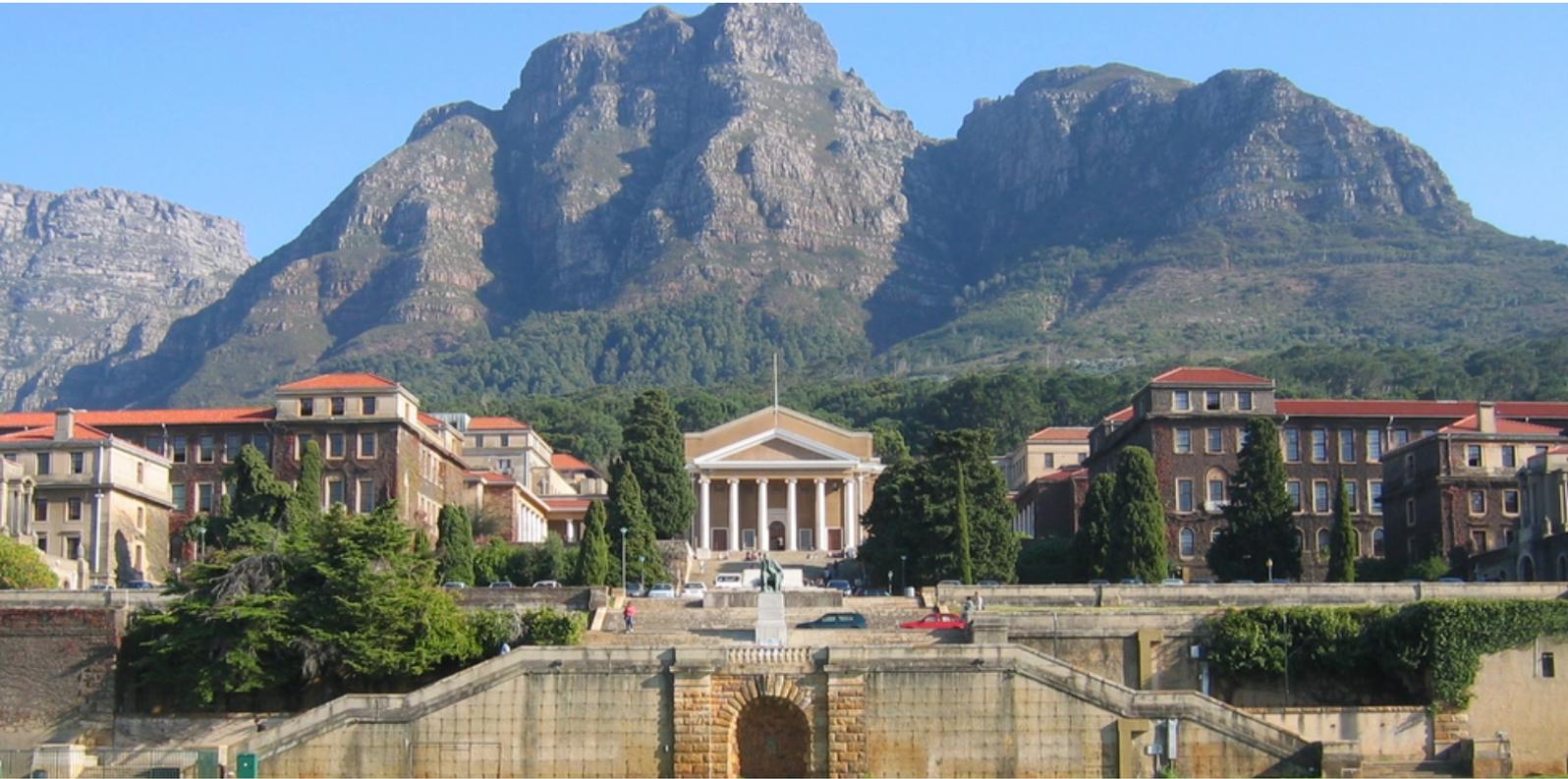


UNIVERSITY OF CAPE TOWN (UCT)

Fast and easy access to data and analytics allows the finance team to be more strategic.



BUSINESS CHALLENGE

Before implementing IDU in January 2019, UCT used the SAP Controlling (CO) module for budgeting and planning.

According to Ashley Francis the Executive Director of Finance at the university “The old system was spreadsheet and paper-intensive, long-winded and it was difficult to be nimble with data analytics – basically the system was archaic.”

“Although effective in achieving the desired end result, systems and processes were cumbersome, hugely labour intensive, time-consuming, inefficient and required a large amount of manual resource interface, as well as dependence on various spreadsheets and off-system files.”

“It was also difficult to revise budgets quickly to respond to changes and scenarios, and so lacked the appropriate agility in our operational and strategic context.”

ABOUT UCT

The University of Cape Town (UCT) is a public research university located in Cape Town in the Western Cape province of South Africa. UCT was founded in 1829 as the South African College making it the oldest higher education institute in South Africa.

In 2018 UCT was home to 28 600 students (17 552 undergraduates, 11 048 postgraduates) and 4 544 staff (1 208 academic and 3 336 professional, administrative support and service staff).



REQUIREMENTS

The project team responsible for implementing a new solution were tasked with finding a budgeting and reporting tool with data analytics capabilities that would dramatically reduce budget turn around times, be less paper intensive and reduce the reliance on spreadsheets.

The new system needed to automate the tedious systems and processes, which in the past necessitated manual input, in turn freeing up and empowering the finance team to be more strategic.

THE SOLUTION: IDU-CONCEPT

The UCT Finance Team began implementing idu-Concept in January 2019, training took place at the end of June 2019, and it was rolled out for user access at the beginning of July 2019.

“The implementation exceeded my expectations. The IDU team was extremely responsive, very knowledgeable and highly professional, and I believe this new budgeting tool will revolutionise the work we are doing.” Francis said

idu-Concept is a user friendly, web-based system. Users are able to access it across any mobile device making access to information faster and easier.

Deans and Executive Directors have lauded the new system, saying that data access and analytics is now fast and easy. Francis added that the responses from finance managers have also “only been positive.”

With IDU the budgeting process is streamlined, efficient and time-saving, freeing the finance team up to “analyse results and be more strategic instead of collating a multitude of spreadsheets to get a final view of the numbers”.

“The idu-Concept system has allowed finance managers to be more strategic. The data analytics afforded by IDU was a big driver for us moving to it.”

“It also goes a step further in providing the users with a point-and-click capability to interrogate actual data against budget or last-year comparative information and the ability to capture variance analysis comments.”

“This is a great time saver and makes input and access to data simpler and easier.”

ABOUT IDU

IDU delivers top of class packaged budgeting, forecasting, performance management and reporting tools to simplify financial management. Our flagship product, idu-Concept, provides easy, effective budgeting and financial reporting for medium-sized to large businesses. idu-Concept integrates easily with ERP software, but unlike more cumbersome offerings, idu-Concept can be implemented quickly, requires little or no ongoing consulting fees and reduces budgeting cycles from months to weeks.