

## CASE STUDY

# Purdue University Leverages Planview PPM Pro Data Insights to Proactively Inform Stakeholders

## About Purdue University

Founded in 1869, Purdue University is a top public research institution located in West Lafayette, Indiana with nearly 17,000 faculty and staff support approximately 41,000 graduate, undergraduate and professional students. The university's project management office (PMO) was created in 2015 to bring structure and organization to IT project management. It consists of 14 full-time project managers and three staff members who support portfolio management and reporting.

## Challenge: Gain Visibility into Accurate Data to Inform Business Decisions

The PMO at Purdue University regularly supports between 400 and 500 projects at any given time. The tools used to manage these projects varied widely with no integration, therefore no real visibility into project statuses, costs, dates, or resource capacity. Without reliable reporting, business leaders had little to work with when it came to making and validating key business decisions.

A priority was set to find a solution that would improve data quality, ensure consistency and enforce adherence to specific governance policies. The end-goal was to get reliable, timely data into the hands of decision-makers, leaders, and project stakeholders via regular, consistent status reporting.

## Solution: Planview PPM Pro to Connect Various Data Points into A Single Source of Truth

Purdue has utilized Planview® PPM Pro for project management and relies on the various reports in its dashboard to inform most IT decisions. "Planview PPM Pro fills the gap between the dispersed data and the people who need it," says Michelle Bates, director of the PMO at Purdue. About Purdue University

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## Overview

### Customer:

Purdue University

### Industry:

Higher Education

### Employees:

Approximately 17,000

### Geographies:

Indiana

Planview PPM Pro was readily adopted by Purdue as the single source of record for projects, giving business leaders accurate and relevant data to inform decisions and consistently improve efficiencies.

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Planview PPM Pro serves as Purdue's single source of record, providing project data that stakeholders, from project managers up to the executives, need to monitor projects and glean insights helping them understand and better prioritize the work that will drive the university's goals and initiatives. Depending on the user, reports can be customized to display exactly what each user cares most about, eliminating the practice of generating irrelevant reports no one uses.

The first step Purdue took before deploying Planview PPM Pro was to talk to business leaders and users of reports to find out what they each wanted. "We didn't just want to dump a bunch of data out there," Bates says. "It was important for us to deliver the right information to the right people."

The Planview PPM Pro reports and dashboard provides Purdue with decision-driving data and information that increase data quality and provides drill-down details, such as the project status reports that roll-up critical project information such as milestones, hours and costs, status detail, and all issues and risks associated with each project. "In the project status report is the executive-level summary as well as the breakdown of detailed information," explains Bates. "Viewers get the data they need at the level of detail that's helpful to them."

A key report to the business is the "executive level report", a collection of top projects based on visibility, funding, high

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risk or strategic effort. The cost performance and scheduled performance indexes give senior leadership the ability to see which projects due dates will be missed so they can ask the questions to get to the bottom of the "why."

With Planview PPM Pro, the PMO can also track time to support compliance, resource management, and gain a comprehensive view of costs around maintenance, unplanned, and strategic projects. "If we, as a PMO, want to be effective and efficient, we must track our time based on our IT spend," says Bates. "What types of hours are we spending on what types of efforts?"

Planview PPM Pro has been a valuable asset for the PMO at Purdue University supporting their efforts to continually improve their decision-making process for many years. They now review historical data in the system in order to predict what may happen this year and the years to come. Data within Planview PPM Pro is also calculated to determine when they believe a project will complete based on its current pace. These types of predictive analytics give Bates and her team a different way to present data so leadership has information that spurs conversations.

As far as adoption, Bates says Planview PPM Pro was an easy choice. "People know that this data is being used to make decisions in the organization, so they want the data to be accurate in their projects," she says. "It was a huge win for us in every way."

## Results: Targeted Reports that Answer the Right Questions

Planview PPM Pro has given Purdue:

- A consolidated view of data across the IT organization
- Multiple reports and dashboards with customizable levels of detail
- Highly-relevant reports that can be easily shared with users and non-users of Planview PPM Pro
- Data-backed insights that stakeholders can trust to make decisions

For more information, visit [Planview.com](https://www.planview.com)