

Starworld: Preparing Accountants For The Future: A Case-Based Approach To Teach International Financial Reporting Standards Using ERP Software

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ABSTRACT

International Financial Reporting Standards now constitute an important part of educating young professional accountants. This paper looks at a case based process to teach International Financial Reporting Standards using integrated Enterprise Resource Planning software. The case contained within the paper can be used within a variety of courses to teach International Financial Reporting Standards within an ethical framework. This case does not require access to a live SAP ECC 6.0 server. Students desiring a real time technical experience can either use a live system or utilize the practice capability within this case. The product demonstrated uses the current version of SAP ECC 6.0.

Keywords: Enterprise Resource Planning, ERP education, IFRS education, SAP ECC 6.0 instruction, Teaching with Ethics

INTRODUCTION

In February of 2010 the SEC unanimously passed and outlined a new work plan that lays the groundwork for a major vote that would decide if and when to transition to IFRS. Currently, the SEC envisions 2015 as the earliest possible date for required use of IFRS by all US public companies. For now, extensive study and research will be completed by 2011 to determine all possible consequences of this transition. Companies and organizations such as the AICPA welcome the work plan, they want to continue to move forward with the transition to IFRS (DeFelice).

As business schools attempt to globalize their accounting curriculum, they are presented with many opportunities and many challenges. A principal opportunity is offering a richer cultural curriculum for students exposing them to potential global research platforms enhanced by state of the art technology. The major challenge presented here is to implement this enhanced technology within a developing accounting curriculum.

In this paper we present the architecture and a detailed description of the process at Saint Joseph's University and the outcomes of integrating enterprise resource planning software and international financial reporting standards. These two educational objectives were satisfied with a grant-sponsored IFRS curriculum integration supported by PricewaterhouseCoopers. International financial reporting standards are likely to be mandated for US based publically held firms by January 1, 2015. The need exists to build educational material within our textbooks to enable this transition. Being IFRS-ready is a critical need for new entrants into the accounting profession. Our model for assuring that accounting graduates will be IFRS-ready is through integrative incorporation of international standards across the curriculum rather than delivery of a single, stand-alone course offering. The second objective stresses the professions strong inclination for inclusion of integrated business processes as a part of the student experience in the accounting program. In 2002, the Saint Joseph's University

Accounting Learning framework and course design underwent a complete program reengineering to better link five courses that are the core accounting offerings for our major. The PwC grant-supported IFRS teaching package will have modules used in all five of these courses. This is a novel, a unique, and resource-efficient way to infuse IFRS during two or three years of our undergraduate students' studies. The simulation product, when fully developed, will have optional modules for use in other accounting courses. In addition, this inventive package will provide hands-on case-based ethical application using IFRS.

The core accounting curriculum—the focus for IFRS integration—is composed of the following courses:

Financial Accounting Information Systems I provides a conceptual basis and procedural framework for accounting. Here, students are introduced to business technology through the use of SAP ECC 6.0. The class strongly emphasizes knowledge of the accounting ledger and preparation of financial statements. (Equivalent to Intermediate I)

Financial Accounting Information Systems II coverage includes financial analysis and issues, of disclosure, display, and reporting. It stresses advanced conceptual topics, focusing particularly on the analysis of business problem situations. Technology is used to reinforce material learned; applications of the accounting recording/reporting model are placed in an ERP framework throughout the course. (Equivalent to Intermediate II)

Financial Accounting Information Systems III continues the systems orientation of the earlier two courses, adding topics such as business combinations, consolidation accounting, segment reporting, foreign operations, and global accounting reporting issues. There is advanced application use of SAP as students gain a greater appreciation of the enterprise-wide nature of this software product focus. (Equivalent to Advanced Accounting)

Management Accounting Information Systems I includes topics such as strategic cost management, reengineering, target costing, and managerial accounting for multinationals. Software applications, in an ERP framework, focus on responsibility accounting systems and management reporting. (Equivalent to Cost Accounting)

Management Accounting Information Systems II stresses internal and external reporting requirements, emphasizing specialized modules, such as customer relationship management, strategic enterprise management, balance scorecard and EVA analysis. All of which are placed within the enterprise resource planning structure supported by SAP. (Equivalent to Advanced Cost Accounting)

Our paper consists of a review of prior research as well as an overview of the course initiatives and learning outcomes of our development of the StarWorld practice set.

BACKGROUND AND PRIOR RESEARCH

Albrecht and Sack (2000) paint a dismal portrait of the academic accounting profession as a discipline stuck in the past and exhibiting an unwillingness to change. They observed that technological innovation has rendered the gathering and reporting of information as an inexpensive process in today's environment. Accountants must be armed, they proposed, with new skills if they are to find a role in today's environment. The pair suggested that accounting educators should embrace the unfolding internet revolution and include this experience as an integral part of the pedagogy of accounting education. There is an obvious need, in light of the scandals of 2001 to also provide ethics-based learning as well.

Accounting professionals recognize this revolutionary change, and promote the implementation of advanced technology for business processes. The AICPA (2000b) has made internet usage one of its top ten technologies for the start of the new century. When professionals were asked what skill other than financial expertise was most critical for success in the accounting discipline, the overwhelming choice was internet technology (AICPA, 2000a). Educational organizations, such as the Federation of Schools of Accountancy (1999), have offered strong recommendations for specific actions that might be taken by today's universities in an effort to improve technology education. Greater reliance on the internet is one of the cornerstones of such proposals (DePalma, 2004).

Prior research has shown that the convergence of US and international financial standards is imminent. However, to best facilitate this convergence; it needs to start with education. The education of current professionals is certainly important, but in order for the convergence and the adoption of IFRS to truly take root, it needs to be taught in the colleges and universities across the country (Thomas, 2009). The problem, however, arises from the gap between the educators and students in favor of IFRS education and the wealth of international accounting information that is available. Bridging this gap can be best accomplished through the writing and publishing of more effective textbook material and the use of better educational materials and tools, along with a renewed focus on the importance of business ethics (Aisbitt, 2005; Brady and Larson, 2009).

There seems to be little disagreement that international accounting needs to be taught, but the issue is of how exactly IFRS should be taught in the classroom. International accounting is most effectively taught through case studies and real-life situations. Also, it is encouraged that professors should challenge their students through group cases and projects, therefore allowing the students to challenge each other as well (Karr, 2008). Studies show that this is also the best way to incorporate ethics as students can discuss within their group why might some decisions be more ethically sound than others (Quinn, 2005).

The goal of accounting education, among other things, is to prepare graduates for their careers in the professional accounting world. Schools are always looking for new ways to make the transition as smooth and as effective as possible from school to business. One way is to use ERP systems in education to study and work with certain industries to help close the gap between the skills of recent graduates and the skills demanded by the global business world today and into the future (Hawking and McCarthy, 2000). What makes ERP systems so special and so important in accounting education? ERP systems which are used extensively by the largest global firms capture the essence of business processes like nothing else can. In addition, these systems allow students to learn and apply international accounting. ERP systems allow for the following issues to be addressed: international aspects, collaborative business processes and the exploration of Business to Business (B2B) environments (Antonucci and Muehlen, 2000; Antonucci, 2000).

When incorporating ERP into education, it is more important to focus on how to implement the systems within the curriculum. To achieve the greatest benefit of a curricular ERP implementation, it must be present in more than just one course, so students would use ERP systems in several different courses, allowing them to apply various accounting aspects within one ERP system (Guthrie and Guthrie, 2000).

Surveys show that students are more willing to work with this software than are the educators. For an ERP implementation to be successful, educators must be ones who step up and take the lead in supporting and teaching with ERP systems (Becerra-Fernandez, Murphy, and Simon, 2000).

PURPOSE

The primary goal of our research is to show how a case-based approach to teaching International Financial Reporting Standards can be used in conjunction with Enterprise Resource Planning software. We are currently using ERP software and case-based questions to teach US GAAP accounting with much success. Given our extensive research, we were able to create practice sets and case-based questions focused on international accounting concepts and ethical issues. Following the development of these practice sets, we proceeded to test them for their feasibility and effectiveness. This testing allowed us to further improve the practice sets and work to build one major case-based practice set that can be used in several courses to teach numerous accounting issues especially those dealing with International Financial Reporting Standards. This case-based problem is the case that is featured within this paper. Our focus is to integrate International Financial Reporting Standards with Enterprise Resource Planning software, such as SAP, and a case-based ethics practice set.

SAP UNIVERSITY ALLIANCE

Although a live connection to SAP ECC 6.0 software is not required, it is highly recommended. Our access to SAP was made possible for us through the SAP University Alliance program. The SAP University Alliance program is a global endeavor that provides university faculty members with the tools and resources necessary to

teach students how technology can enable integrated business processes and strategic thinking – and gives students the skills to add immediate value to the marketplace. SAP University Alliance member schools gain access to the SAP Business Suite family of solutions, including SAP ERP. This comprehensive business software suite supports business, engineering, and information technology programs, enabling students to put classroom theory into practice through demonstrations, exercises and problem-solving, case studies, and research programs.

The use of this case in the classroom will greatly help in the education of three very important topics in accounting education today. They are international accounting, the use of ERP software such as SAP, and the understanding of ethical business processes.

International accounting is taught through the emphasis of key differences between US GAAP and IFRS. When teaching to students who are familiar with US GAAP, it is important to note that the majority of accounting they originally learned is staying the same. Comparing and contrasting the two sets of standards shows the different methodology between them. Being that IFRS is more principle-based, it is important to educate the students on some of those guiding principles. Once a general understanding of IFRS is taught, the key differences between US GAAP and IFRS are taught through conversion and reconciliation practice sets, where students will have to calculate balances under both US GAAP or IFRS and then make the adjusting entries to reconcile the accounts to the other standards. In addition to learning the principles of IFRS and the application of those principles, students will learn the effect that going from US GAAP to IFRS and vice versa. The benefit of seeing both systems lies in the fact that US GAAP is unlikely to go away and will most likely be used by companies that are not publically traded and firms that are not for profits. The initial edition of StarWorld allows students to examine the major differences between the two set of standards. Subsequent editions could eliminate the US GAAP applications.

The use of ERP software is vital in this case and in accounting education in general. The type of ERP software we used in this case is SAP ECC 6.0. ERP software is taught by allowing each of the students to log into an ERP system and perform a number of transactions within different business cycles. Today, ERP technology is used in one form or another by nearly all successful business both big and small. Developing a comfort level with this technology is just one of the goals of using this software in the classroom. The main goal is to show the students how ERP systems can better integrate business processes along with the flow of financial information throughout the many business cycles of a company. Additionally, the ERP software will track this flow of financial information and therefore allow the students to analyze those financials in order to make decisions on the balances and trends of the company.

This is all accomplished by our featured case study called StarWorld. StarWorld is then further broken down into five modules and each module focuses on a different aspect of accounting. StarWorld assigns each student an individual company code so that all their transactions are be recorded in their own general ledger. Module I will cover basic transactions by having the students read a scenario and record transactions as they are described in the scenario. Following this, students will then enter the transactions into SAP. The ethical framework of reporting, as published by the AICPA, is reviewed with the students at this point. Module II will cover the purchasing cycle by using the purchase order along with required master files within SAP. Ethical issues and internal controls inherent in purchasing are then reviewed. Module III will deal with the sales cycle by working with the sales order and the other requisite master files within SAP associated with the sales cycle. Ethical issues and internal controls inherent in sales are then reviewed. Module IV will allow the students to utilize the reporting capabilities of SAP by looking at their company code's financial statements after the completion of Modules I through III. The financial statements compiled by SAP can then be exported to Excel for further analysis. Finally, Module V will then focus on the impact of switching to International Financial Reporting Standards from US GAAP. SAP's ability to communicate with and process several different accounting standards makes SAP incredibly useful for teaching the impact of IFRS along with the necessary reconciliations of conversion. A special focus here will be on the ethical framework established within International Financial Reporting Standards. This will include a discussion of principles-based versus rules-based accounting, as well as inherent issues of transparency in international reporting.

STAR SCHOLARS

A unique feature of the course pedagogy is the utilization of STAR Scholars to assist in the development and delivery of various SAP scenarios. These scholars are chosen through a highly selective process and are specially trained to deal with these application scenarios. To date, there are some sixteen STAR Scholars comprised mostly of juniors and senior undergraduate majors. These students are compensated for the work done in class and are provided with enrichment activities, such as field visits and special speakers, helping them to understand the essentiality of the implementation of state of the art software. They often participate in research-based projects designed and developed by faculty. In addition, STAR Scholars involve themselves in a series of special activities under the direction of a Faculty mentor. Developing scenarios of various computer applications involving Enterprise Resource Planning software and SAP are included. In addition, seminars with entrepreneurs and technology leaders to provide opportunities to interact on a personal and informal level are held with business leaders. Sponsored participation in special events with alumni working in technology and consulting fields is also a component. These students assist in classroom delivery and continue to service the course by maintaining a helpdesk for students.

PRACTICE CASE

The practice set that we used was developed at Cal State Chico by Dr. James Mensching. Dr. Mensching is a leading developer in accounting information systems material. This material is readily transferable to the classroom and is an excellent platform from which to use SAP ECC 6.0.

MODULE I – LEDGER PHASE

Scenarios are written in the form of scripts and tested by the STAR Scholars prior to their use in class. Students follow the script to complete the process. A good way to create interest for the students is to use the email function within the SAP system. This is done by emailing a question from our hypothetical employee, such as a CEO, CFO, etc., asking a question pertaining to the scenario to be performed in class. After the scenario is performed the students respond to the question which forces them to explain the task they performed and how it affected the business. Each student's response will contain an attached report, which will give the instructor enough information to give the student credit for the assignment. This also allows observations of ethical applications and reasoning within the email.

It is essential for students to understand the relationship between the concept coverage within the text and the applications within SAP. A very simple overview of SAP navigation is completed in this process. The students leave with a scavenger hunt assignment using SAP navigation. Students are also introduced to the faculty website and the blackboard location for course documents and assignments. Using SAP ECC 6.0, students can now begin a walkthrough of the topics in the first accounting course. These topics primarily include financial statement reporting and assets. As each topic is reviewed, assignments are handed out for completion by the students, and subsequently graded upon the students' submission.

MODULE II – PURCHASING

In this module, students will follow the script to complete a simulation of the purchasing cycle, which begins with the creation of a purchase requisition to permit the procuring of the materials. The purchase requisition aids in the creation of a formal purchase order. Once completed, the system will send the purchase order to the vendor triggering the vendor's system to send the desired materials back to the student's company. Students will then create a goods receipt to verify the delivery of the materials. In addition to the materials, an invoice is sent and must be paid by the student for the purchase. Once the invoice is completed and cash is paid, the purchasing cycle is complete. Students will be able to verify the above cycle by periodically checking the ledgers of inventory and cash to observe how each account changes throughout the process.

MODULE III – SALES

After completion of Module II, students will now have inventory that they are able to sell. Module III is a simulation of the sales cycle. Students will complete this the same way as the previous modules by following a script. The process will begin by the student receiving and recording a sales order inquiry, recording information about the potential customer, such as name, address and desired product and quantity. From the inquiry, students will then create a formal sales order. Following completion of the sales order, students must prepare the materials for shipping and then finally ship the goods. This is done by completing a transfer order and a picking document for the goods, which will trigger the employees of the warehouse to release the goods, prepare them, and deliver them to the shipping point. At this time, the student will make the transaction by posting the goods issued. Immediately, the student will create an invoice to be sent to the customer for the order, thus creating a receivable for the company. To complete the sales cycle, the student will collect cash from the customer and ultimately confirm the sales order process. To review the process, students will then view a copy of the document flow showing the flow from sales inquiry to sales order all the way down to invoice and collection of cash and the status of each step, either open and not completed or cleared and completed.

MODULE IV – FINANCIAL STATEMENT ANALYSIS

In this module, students will view the updated financial statements reflecting the recent activity and current financial position of the student's company in the system. There are in fact two separate companies. The 8000 ledger (called company code within SAP) deals with US GAAP. In addition, the students have prepared the same entries in the 9000 ledger, which is in fact done according to International Financial Reporting Standards. Each ledger will produce its own set of statements. Upon viewing the statements in the system, SAP allows the students to export the financials to a spreadsheet such as Microsoft Excel. Once in Excel, the students are able to perform certain analytical procedures on the statements such as vertical and horizontal analysis. In addition, the students will be asked to compute various financial ratios and make conclusions on the company based on those ratios and analysis. They quickly determine that different methods of GAAP produce interesting results. These observations become the basis for further classroom discussion.

MODULE V – CONVERSION TO IFRS

This is the summary module in that it brings all of the material together. From an Excel spreadsheet, which they downloaded from SAP ECC 6.0, the students will do a series of adjustments to bring the U.S. GAAP financial statements to International Financial Reporting Standards. The paper reflects only five of the most significant ethical issues around which accountants must intervene in financial reporting. The students are asked to analyze the finance ratios again identified in Module IV to see the effects on going from U.S. GAAP to International GAAP (iGAAP). Through discussion, students are asked to identify key ethical issues that would also be apparent in the financial conversions. Moving from rules based to principles based is always a highlight of discussion. In addition, students like to talk about financial transparency and the need for preventive controls to enable fairness in financial reporting.

COMPETENCY OUTCOMES

The rubric below is used to assign a grade for the judgments made by students as they tackle various aspects of this case.

In addition to this rubric, each module is submitted for grading and assessment within the SAP Business Workplace. Business Workplace provides an email system where students can submit their analysis and any Excel / Word attachments. A survey was provided to students during the last week of class. Appendix B provides a summary of survey results. It is interesting to note that some 94% of the students agree or strongly agree that the StarWorld case supplemented their understanding of systems concepts in Management Accounting Information Systems (chart 2). A similar number believe it should be continued to be used (chart 6). Some 96% agree or strongly agree that the amount of work done on the case material was justified based on the learning derived. This is based on responses by 50 out of 88 students (56.8%) in the class participating in this project.

Competency Description	Strategy	Assessment Methods
<p>The student will be able to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> list the ethical issues associated with the use of computer technology in our global society and identify possible solutions to these problems given your knowledge of the financial accounting ledger identify the factors affecting security in information systems and the techniques involved in disaster planning and recovery; prepare business process blueprint for purchasing identify the financial accounting and control issues associated with sales order systems; prepare business process blueprint for sales identify and discuss issues in financial reporting and analysis and determine what the ratios are really trying to tell us; Is U.S. GAAP really good GAAP? identify the major differences between U.S. GAAP and iGAAP and show their effects on financial statements 	<p>Together, the students and the professor will:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> examine the problems associated with advanced in computer technology and discuss, in detail, possible solutions to these problems; gain awareness of financial ledger within ERP systems use critical thinking skills to debate their various points of view regarding each control issue covered in this unit; become aware of the purchasing process within SAP ECC 6.0 investigate the moral, legal and ethical applications of SAP technology within the sales and distribution process listen to guest speakers discuss their points of view related to the framework of U.S. GAAP; Does that framework really provide transparency? Does it provide fairness? conduct independent research on the evolving International Financial Reporting Standards 	<p>The student will:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> answer questions regarding the professional, moral, legal, and ethical uses of computers and information technology; complete at least sixty transactions within an SAP ECC 6.0 ledger and evaluate fairness of reporting prepare succinct written analyses using SAP Business Workplace (email) of critical issues related to the control challenges of computer technology; develop master file structure and complete a series of purchasing transactions prepare succinct written analyses using SAP Business Workplace of critical issues related to the control challenges of computer technology; develop master file structure and complete a series of sales transactions complete financial statement analysis that evaluates the impact transactions have had on the financial reports; prepare a succinct written analysis using SAP Business Workplace which evaluates the performance of the simulation company prepare a comparative analysis of the effects on ratios of going from U.S. GAAP to iGAAP; prepare a succinct analysis using SAP Business Workplace discussing ethical issues of using a principles based approach to financial reporting

SUMMARY AND CONCLUSION

In this paper, we describe and examine a unique approach to teaching international accounting standards and ethics through enterprise process integration and reporting. Benefits derive from the fact that students have multiple exposures to a single company, allowing them to become familiar with its products, manufacturing processes and its industry. Each student has the opportunity to examine the company at different functional perspectives while remaining cognizant of the corporation as a whole. This cross-functional approach provides insight into other disciplines, allowing students to gain a real appreciation of business decision-making using integrative technology and learning the functionality of SAP ECC 6.0.

This project was tested within a group of typical, accounting information systems courses offered at an American university. The simulation involved rolling out enterprise resource planning within these classes to see what impact it would have on the learning efficacy of the students. Students were graded on project completion and a follow-up survey was conducted to determine assessment of learning and attitudes developed by students about the case, technology and material (see Appendix B). Saint Joseph’s University requires all students to have laptops. A typical class consists of 30 students and is taught over a fourteen week semester.

A major objective of the project was to provide an integrative experience in which students gained a better understanding of core business processes and the ethical applications within them. Overall, this objective appeared to be achieved at a satisfactory level as evidenced by the survey results found in Appendix B. The reporting activity (see Appendix A) forced students to look at dollar impact and financial results of transitioning from U.S. GAAP to iGAAP. Students saw the ratios improving given the adjusting entries provided in the case situation. They also found that changing accounting framework also changed the ethical context in which decisions were made. While all the students appeared to grasp the integrative elements of the ERP System, not all students felt the project taught

them the necessary process steps to effectively navigate SAP on their own. Functional specialization (stove piping) did creep into team activities. Team members were allowed to focus too narrowly on their own functional departments and tended not to become very proficient with the parts of the ERP System that lay outside their boundaries. We plan to pursue this issue in subsequent academic papers.

AUTHOR INFORMATION

Joseph M. Ragan is Professor and Chair for the Department of Accounting at St. Joseph's University. He is the author of several books and articles dealing with the implementation of SAP solutions within business systems. He is also the founder of the Philadelphia Consulting Group and has served as a Systems Consultant to Fortune 500 companies. He is an educational thought leader for SAP America and currently teaches in the accounting information systems field.

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Jonathan C. Hosler, Jonathan is an accounting and business intelligence major at Saint Joseph's University. He has been working with SAP as a STAR Scholar since 2008. JC is a SAP certified solutions consultant. During his freshman year at Saint Joseph's University he was accepted as a STAR Scholar where his involvement with SAP began. In addition to his life as a student, Jonathan is a co-founder of Authentic Lacrosse, an online shopping store for lacrosse equipment.

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APPENDIX A – FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND RATIOS

INCOME STATEMENT	GAAP 2010	Adjustments:		IFRS 2010	
		Debit	Credit		
Sales					
Resale Merchandise Sales	171,340			171,340	
Event Merchandise Sales	168,760			168,760	
Gross Sales	340,100			340,100	
Less: Cash Discount	1,000			1,000	
Net Sales	339,100			339,100	
Cost of Goods Sold - Resale Merchandise	105,144		21,750	83,394	(A)
Cost of Goods Sold - Event Merchandise	105,262		22,100	83,162	(A)
Total: Cost of Goods Sold	210,406			166,556	
Gross Profit	128,694			172,544	
Expenses					
Advertising Expenses	600			600	
Depreciation and Amortization Expense	900	1,400		2,300	(C2)
Insurance Expense	400			400	
Interest Expense	705			705	
Office Supplies Expense	514			514	
Litigation Expense	5,000	2,500		7,500	(D)
Salaries/Wages Expense	42,600			42,600	
Shipping Expenses	2,899			2,899	
Utilities Expense	2,663			2,663	
Bad Debt Expense	1,297			1,297	
Total Operating Expenses	57,578			61,478	
Operating Income	71,116			111,066	
Other Revenue	-		40,000	40,000	(E)
Net Income Before Tax	71,116			151,066	
Tax Expense	12,000	6,400		18,400	(E)
Net Income After Tax, Before Extraordinary Items	59,116			132,666	
Extraordinary Gain - Condemnation Settlement (40,000 less tax of 6,400)	33,600	33,600		-	(E)
Net Income After Tax & Extraordinary Items	92,716			132,666	
RETAINED EARNINGS					
Beginning Retained Earnings, 2010	290,200			290,200	
Add: Net Income	92,716			111,066	
Ending Retained Earnings, 2010	382,916			401,266	

Adjustment References:

- A) Adjustment from LIFO Inventory Valuation to FIFO Inventory Valuation (IAS 2)
- B) Fixed assets adjusted to benchmark treatment (IAS 16)
- C) Intangible assets - adjustment for development (IAS 38)
- D) Loss contingencies - adjustment for estimate (IAS 37) Range of loss 80,000 to 100,000
- E) Extraordinary gain - Condemnation Settlement (IAS 1)

BALANCE SHEET	US GAAP 2010	Adjustments:		IFRS 2010	
		Debit	Credit		
Current Assets					
Cash (Bank of America checking account)	161,954			161,954	
Allowance for doubtful accounts	(3,118)			(3,118)	
Resale Merchandise Inventory	162,677	21,750		184,427	(A)
Event Merchandise Inventory	144,860	22,100		166,960	(A)
Office Supplies	450			450	
Prepaid Insurance	4,400			4,400	
Prepaid Rent	5,000			5,000	
Prepaid Advertising	12,600			12,600	
Deferred Tax	21,600			-	
Total Current Assets	510,423			532,673	
Property Plant and Equipment					
Warehouse and Office Equipment	189,260	10,000		199,260.00	(B)
Accumulated Depreciation - Equipment	22,500			22,500	
Net Property Plant and Equipment	166,760				
Intangibles					
Brand Value		14,000	1,400	12,600	(C1, C2)
Total Assets	677,183			722,033	
Liabilities & Shareholders' Equity					
Current Liabilities					
Accrued Wages Payable	21,600			21,600	
Accrued Sales Tax Payable	348			348	
Current Maturities of Long-Term Debt	11,308			11,308	
Other Accrual for Litigation	2,663		2,500	5,163	(D)
Total Current Liabilities	35,919			38,419	
Long Term Liabilities					
Notes Payables	58,348			58,348	
Total Long Term Liabilities	58,348			58,348	
Shareholders' Equity					
Common Stock - (no par)	200,000			200,000	
Retained Earnings	382,916			401,266	
Other Comprehensive Income (revaluation of bldg.)			10,000	10,000	(B)
Brand value capitalized			14,000	14,000	(C1)
Total Shareholders' Equity	582,916			625,266	
Total Liabilities & Stockholders' Equity	677,183			722,033	
Weighted Average Shares O/S	25,000			25,000	

Adjustment References:

- A) Adjustment from LIFO Inventory Valuation to FIFO Inventory Valuation (IAS 2)
- B) Fixed assets adjusted to benchmark treatment (IAS 16)
- C) Intangible assets - adjustment for development (IAS 38)
- D) Loss contingencies - adjustment for estimate (IAS 37) Range of loss 80,000 to 100,000
- E) Extraordinary gain - Condemnation Settlement (IAS 1)

SELECTED FINANCIAL RATIOS

	GAAP	IFRS
Current Ratio	14.21	13.86
Quick Ratio	5.65	4.72
Gross Profit Margin	37.84%	50.73%
BV per Share	\$23.32	\$25.01
EPS, Basic	\$3.71	\$5.31
Return on Common Equity	8.16%	21.76%
Return on Assets	14.04%	18.85%
Total Asset Turnover	0.52x	0.48x
Inventory Turnover	0.70x	0.49x

SELECTED FINANCIALS

Stockholders' Equity	553,770	594,003
Total Assets	643,324	685,931
Total Inventory	292,160	333,818

APPENDIX B - STARWORLD SURVEY REPORT

Unless noted, results refer to the number of students. 50 out of 88 students (56.8%) in the class participated in this survey.

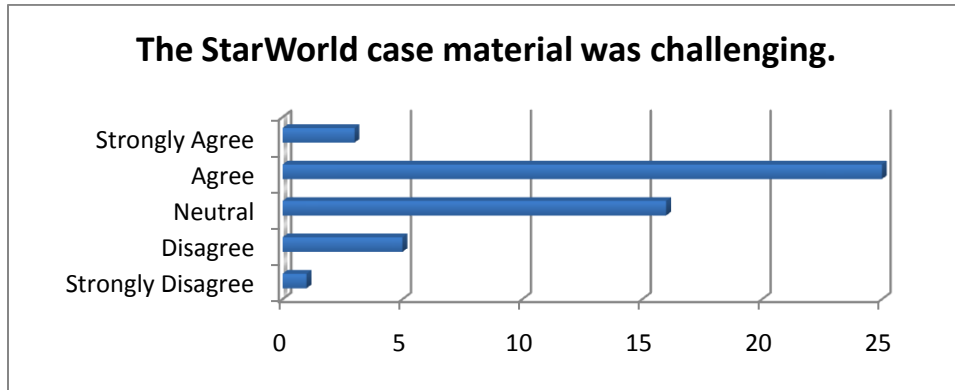


Chart 1.

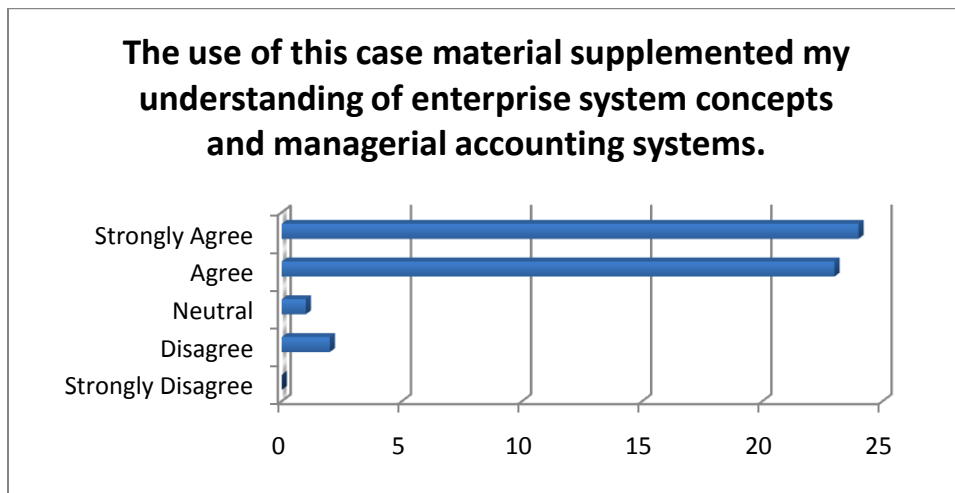


Chart 2.

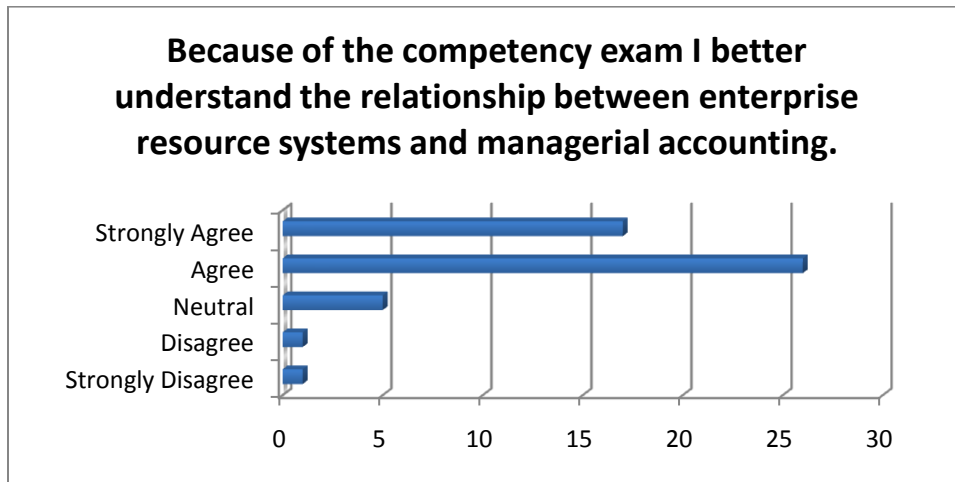


Chart 3.

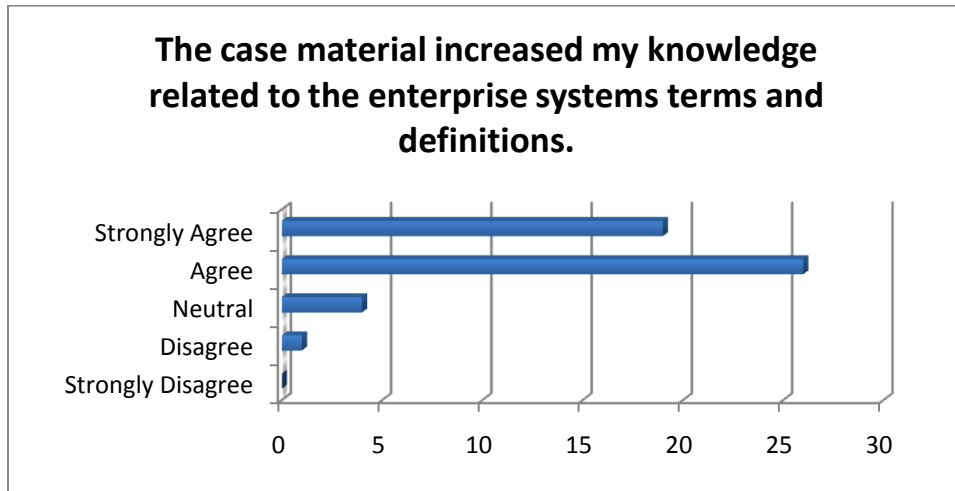


Chart 4.

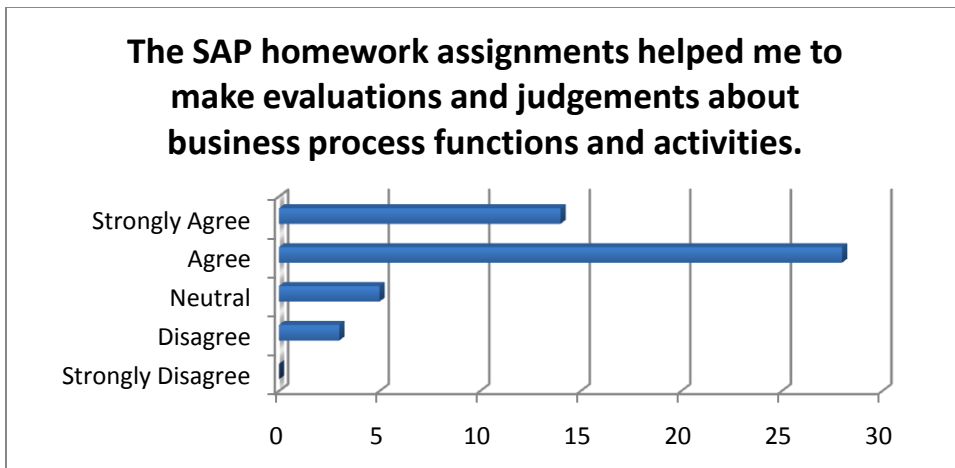


Chart 5.

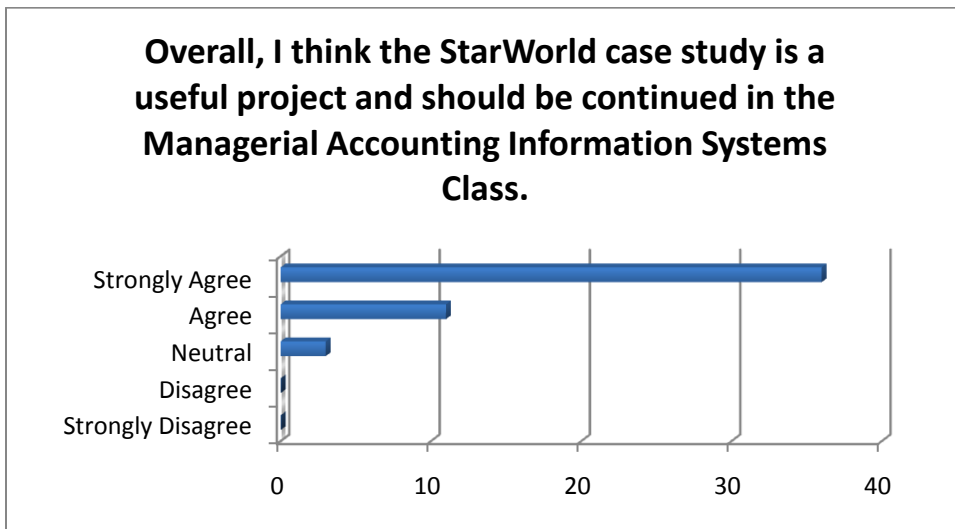


Chart 6.

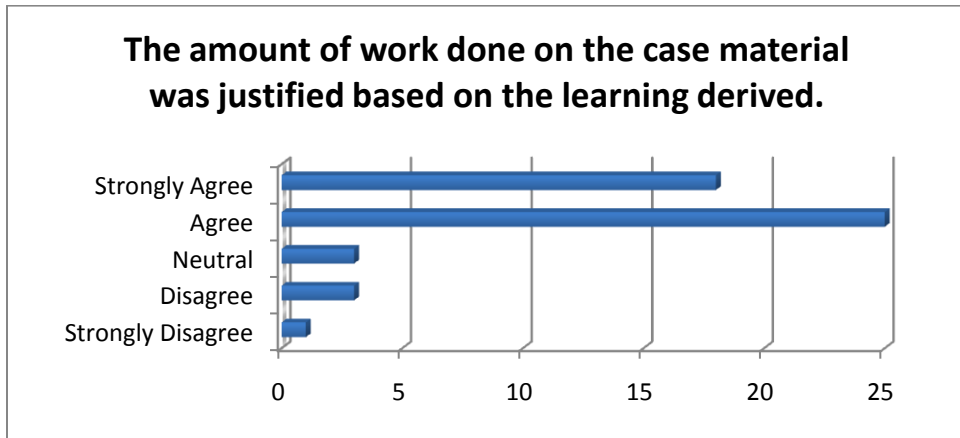


Chart 7.

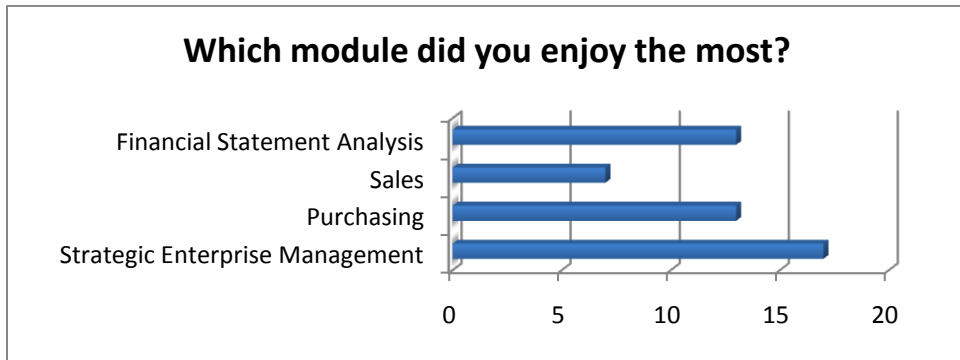


Chart 8.

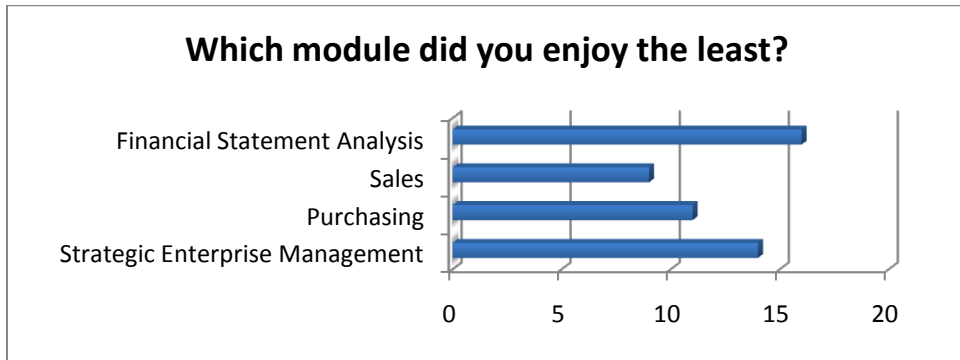


Chart 9.

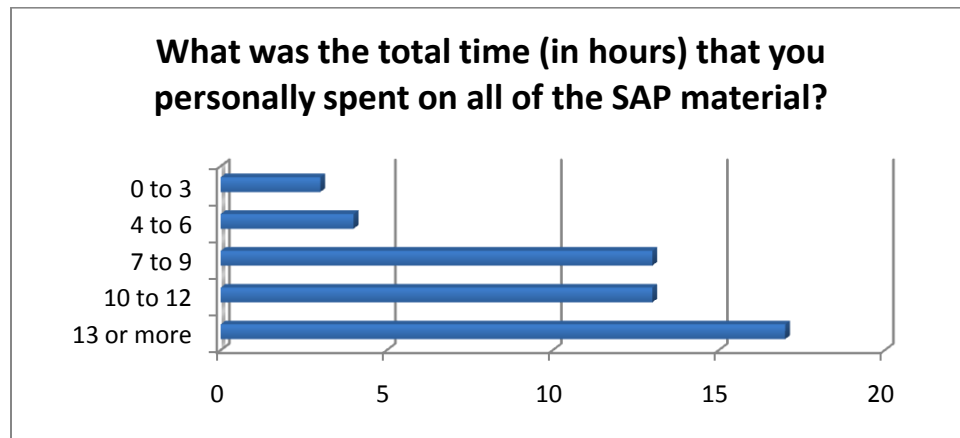


Chart 10.

Are there any additional comments you would like to submit that this survey did not cover?

“I thought Strategic Enterprise Management and the data warehouse, was by far the most interesting out of the group. I really thought it was most useful because we weren’t just going through and clicking what the packet says to. In module 5, we were told what to go into, and from there we were able to be creative and give our input on how the company looks from our perspective.”

“The supplemental videos are very helpful because I was not experienced with the business warehouse.”

“It was helpful in not only performing the motions, but understanding the reasoning behind them.”

“Keep the SAP program around; it is interesting and it is nice to not always have homework that is textbook problems.”

“I think the SAP is one of the best things to happen to the Accounting Program at Saint Joseph’s University. Not many students can leave college with a comprehensive overview of such difficult and important R/3 accounting software.”

“I think that the SAP program was essential to learning the material in a way that will be applicable in the real world. Also, I think it was important we used a hands-on approach to learning because it helped me to better understand the concepts and processes.”

“The SAP material is by far the most interesting and as far as I know will be the most useful accounting material I have studied so far here at school. I can only assume that it provides an incredible advantage when seeking a job after school. The STARS scholars and Prof. Ragan covered and explained the material extremely well, and were extremely patient with everyone. Overall, MAIS II is one of if not my favorite accounting courses.”

“SAP was a very interesting program that I felt I took a lot of information from. Great part of the class.”

“SAP was a real plus to the course”

Figure 1.

NOTES