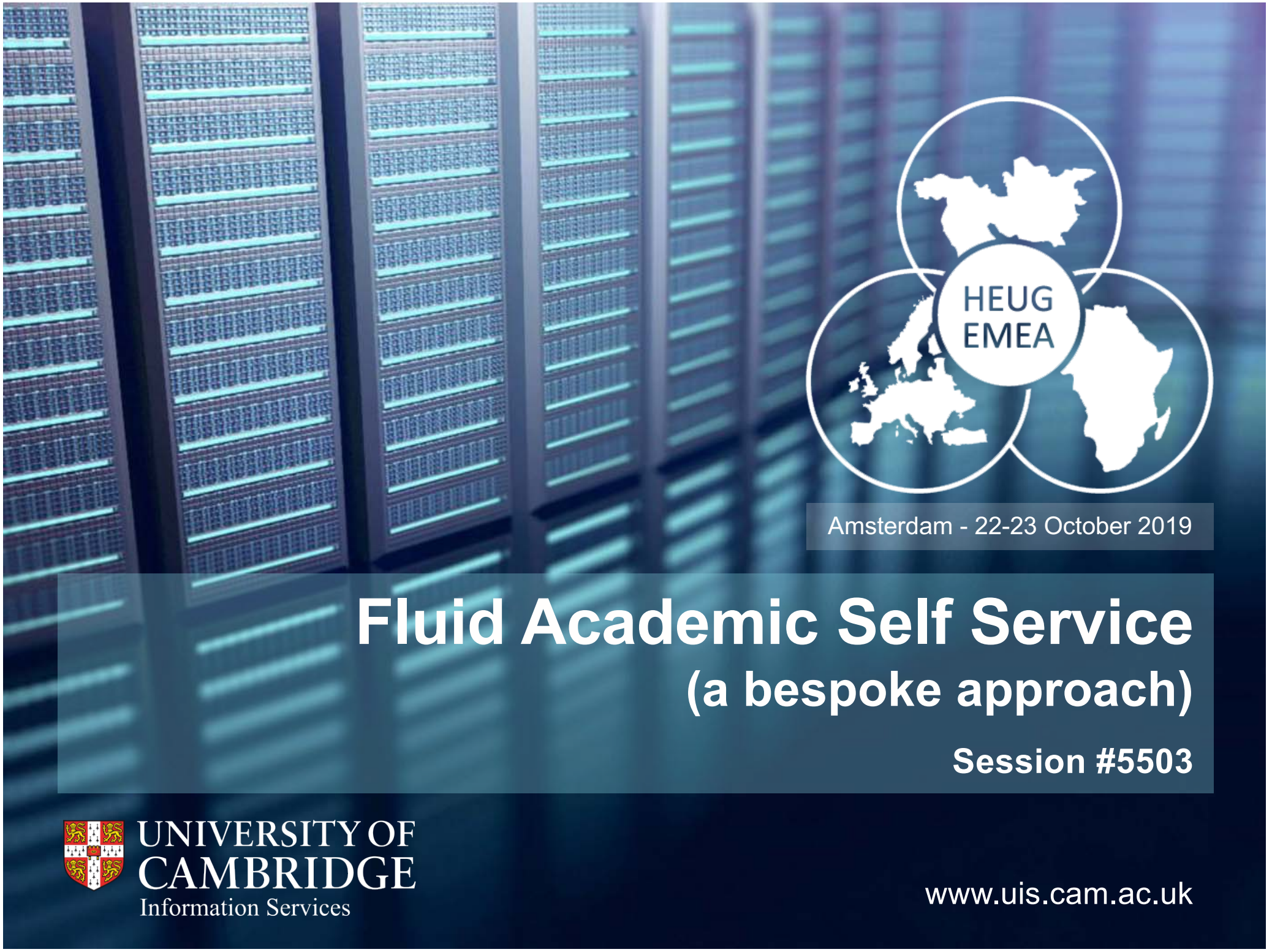


Amsterdam - 22-23 October 2019

Fluid Academic Self Service
(a bespoke approach)

Session #5503

UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE
Information Services

www.uis.cam.ac.uk

Presenters

Chris Hay - Technical Manager, Student Systems

- Over 11 years experience working with PeopleSoft Campus Solutions

- Worked in both FE and HE sector in data-management, functional and technical roles

- Keen cyclist, actor and sound designer; also owns a cat (or does the cat own him?)

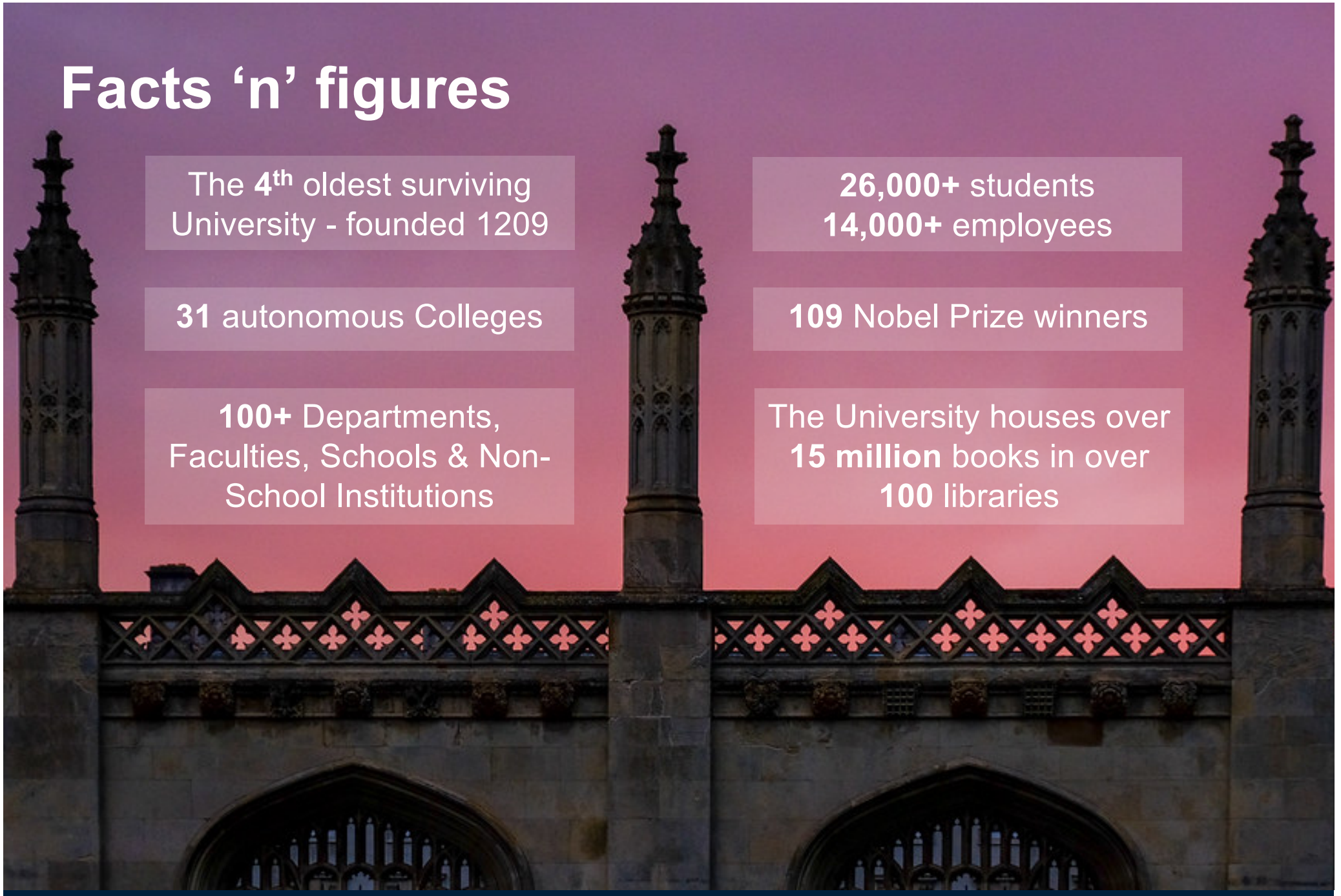
Britta Granas – Functional Analyst, Student Systems

- A PeopleSoft dinosaur who still laments the loss of 'Sparky' from PeopleSoft SA7.6 ANZ

- Experience as SME and in functional roles in large New World dual sector institutions (HE & VET/FE) and the ancient UK education establishment

- Recovering rower and surf lifesaver (what do all the normal people do with their time?)

Facts ‘n’ figures



The 4th oldest surviving University - founded 1209

26,000+ students
14,000+ employees

31 autonomous Colleges

109 Nobel Prize winners

100+ Departments, Faculties, Schools & Non-School Institutions

The University houses over **15 million** books in over **100** libraries

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Other notable facts

The first game of **football** with "football association rules" was played in Cambridge

The Eagle pub is where the discovery of **DNA** was announced in 1953

Sidney Sussex College is still rumoured to have the head of **Oliver Cromwell**

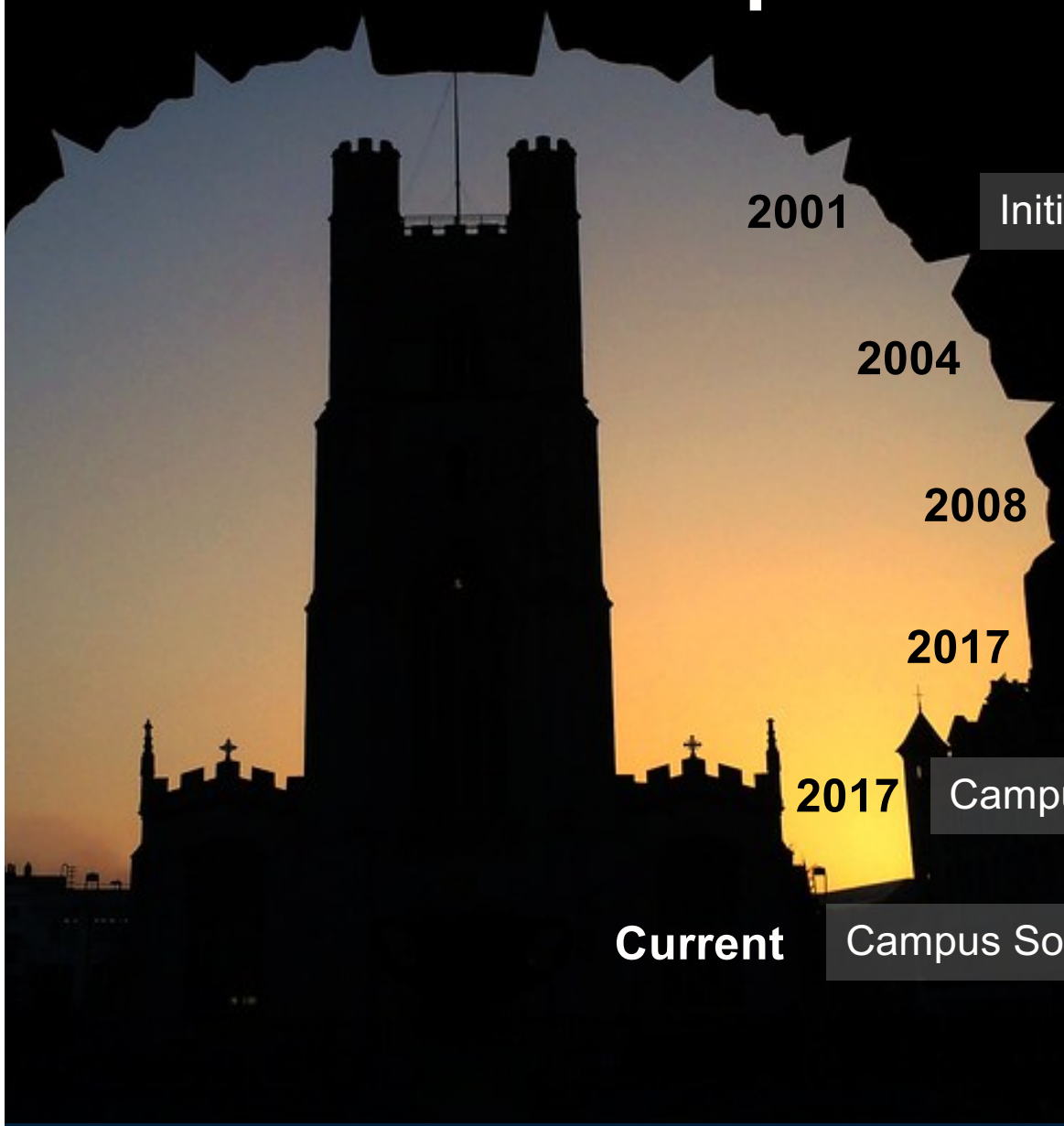
Jimi Hendrix performed in Cambridge at the Dorothy Ballroom in 1967

Cambridge is the home of the world-famous **Fitzbillies Chelsea Bun**

It's 128-110 to Cambridge in the annual men's and women's **Boat Race**

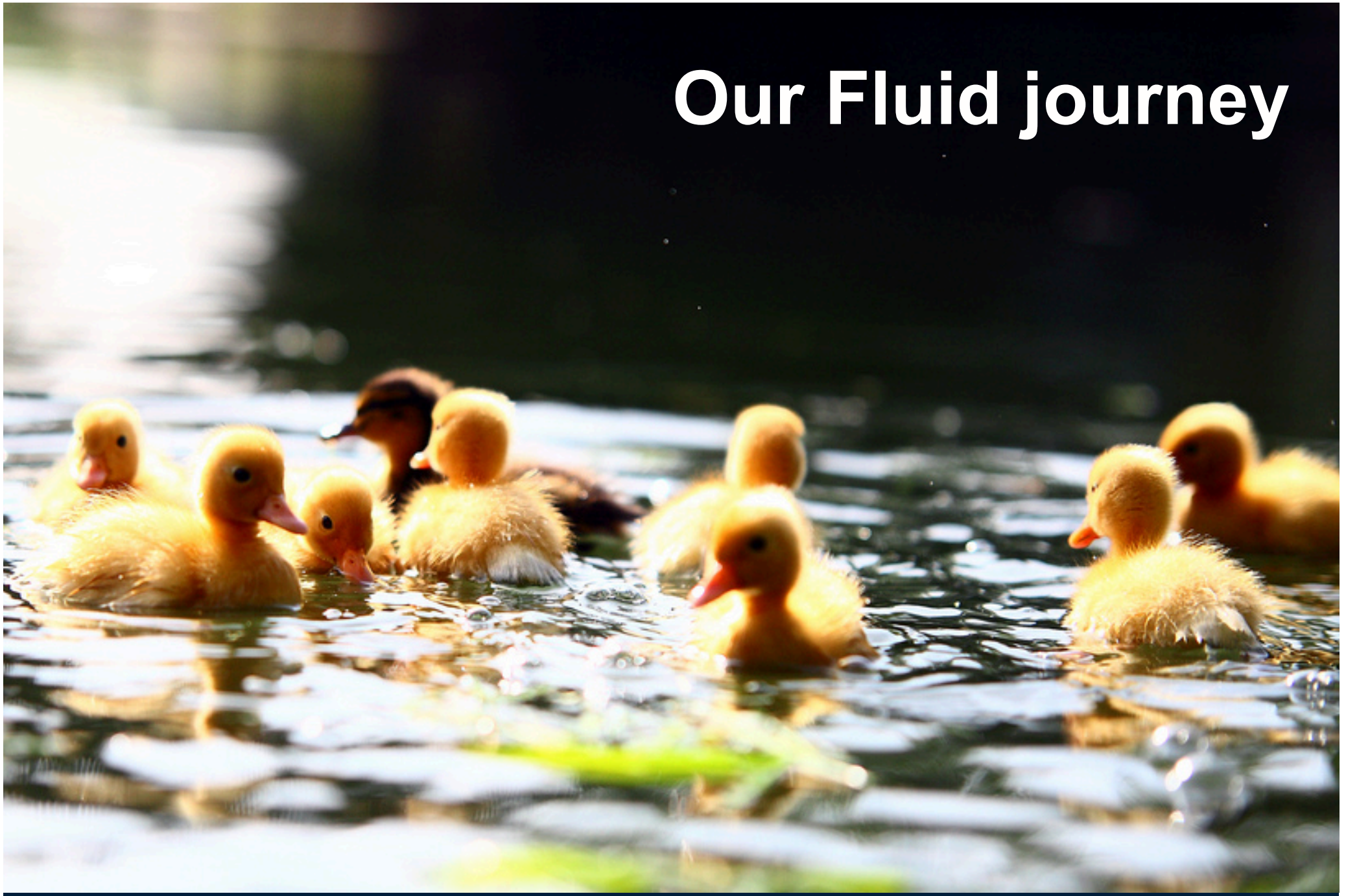
The city of Cambridge voted overwhelmingly (by 73%) to **remain in the EU**

Campus Solutions at Cambridge
"CamSIS"



2001	Initial analysis & implementation work
2004	Campus Solutions 8.0 go-live
2008	Campus Solutions 9.0 upgrade
2017	De-customisation & restructuring
2017	Campus Solutions 9.2 & improvements
Current	Campus Solutions 9.2 PUM 12, Tools 8.57.04

Our Fluid journey



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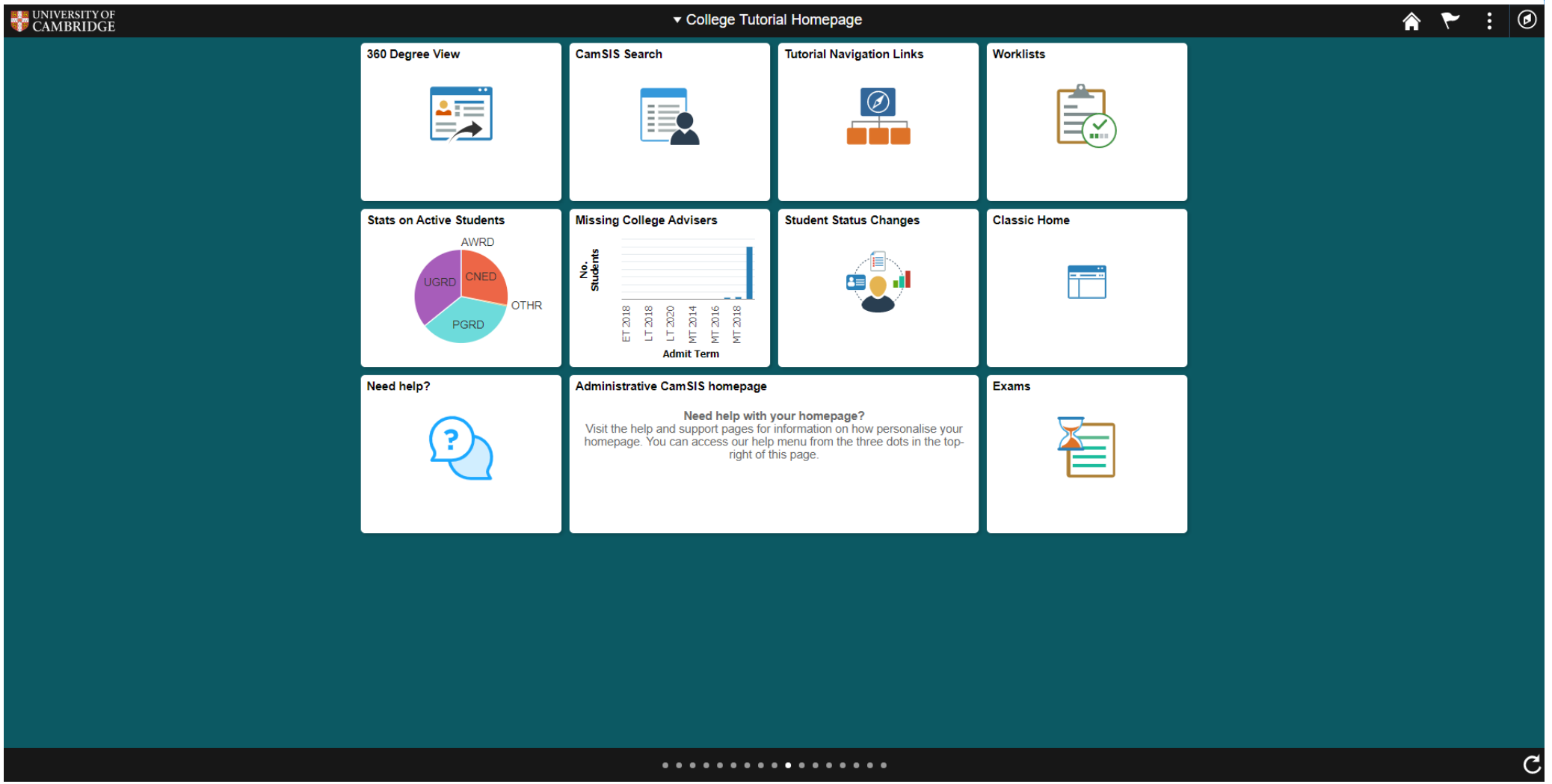
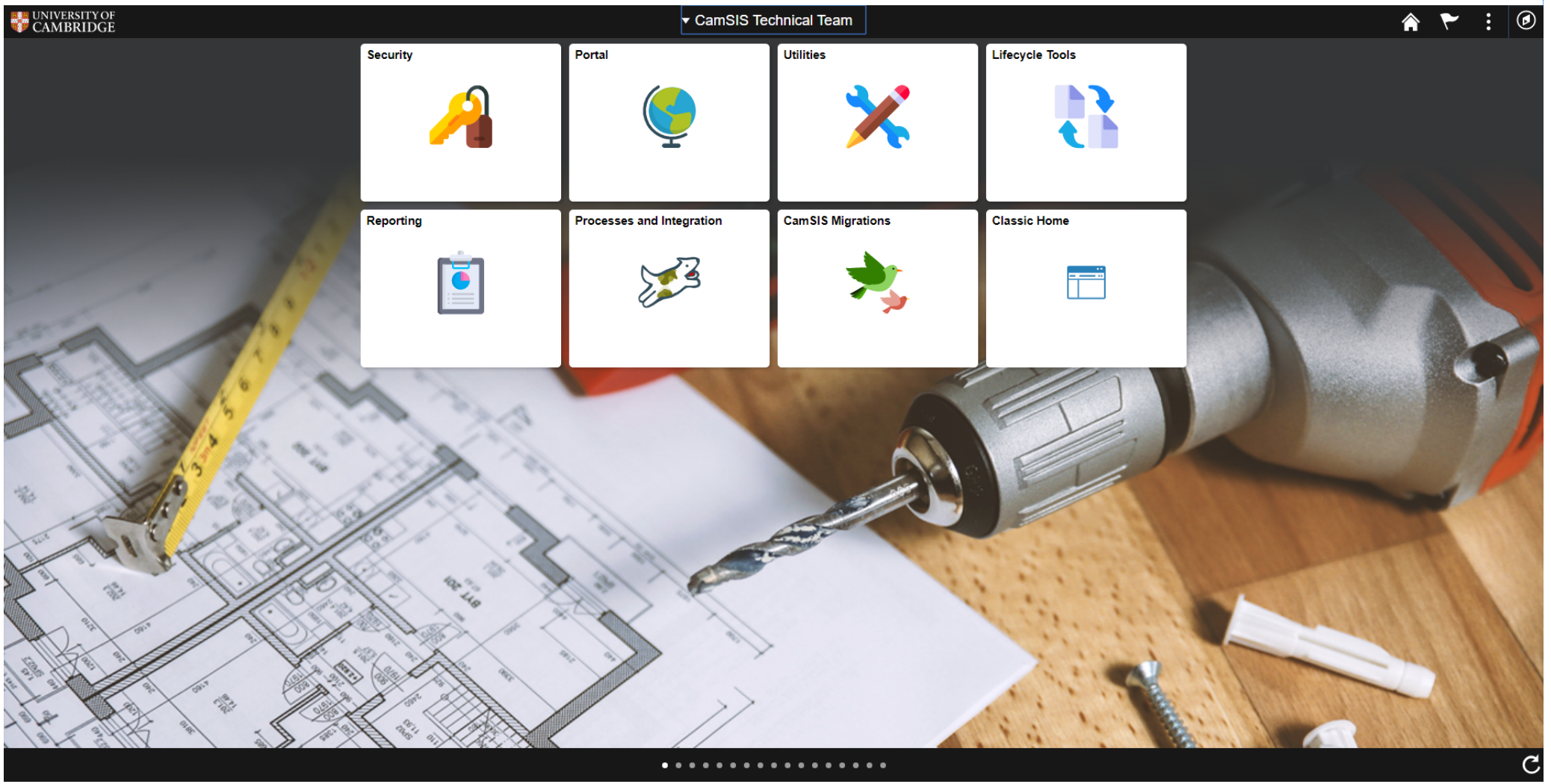
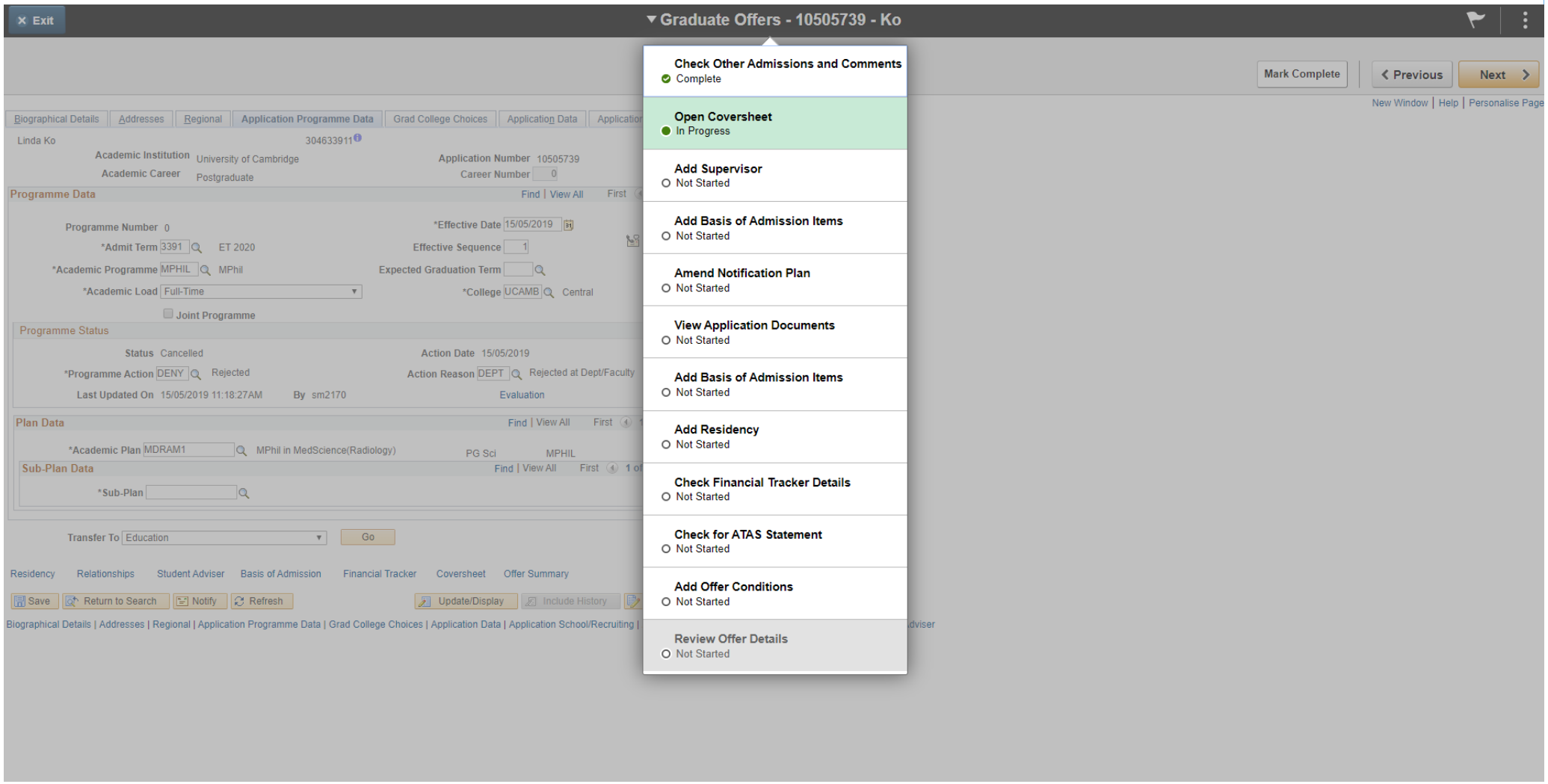
Homepages – gateways to information



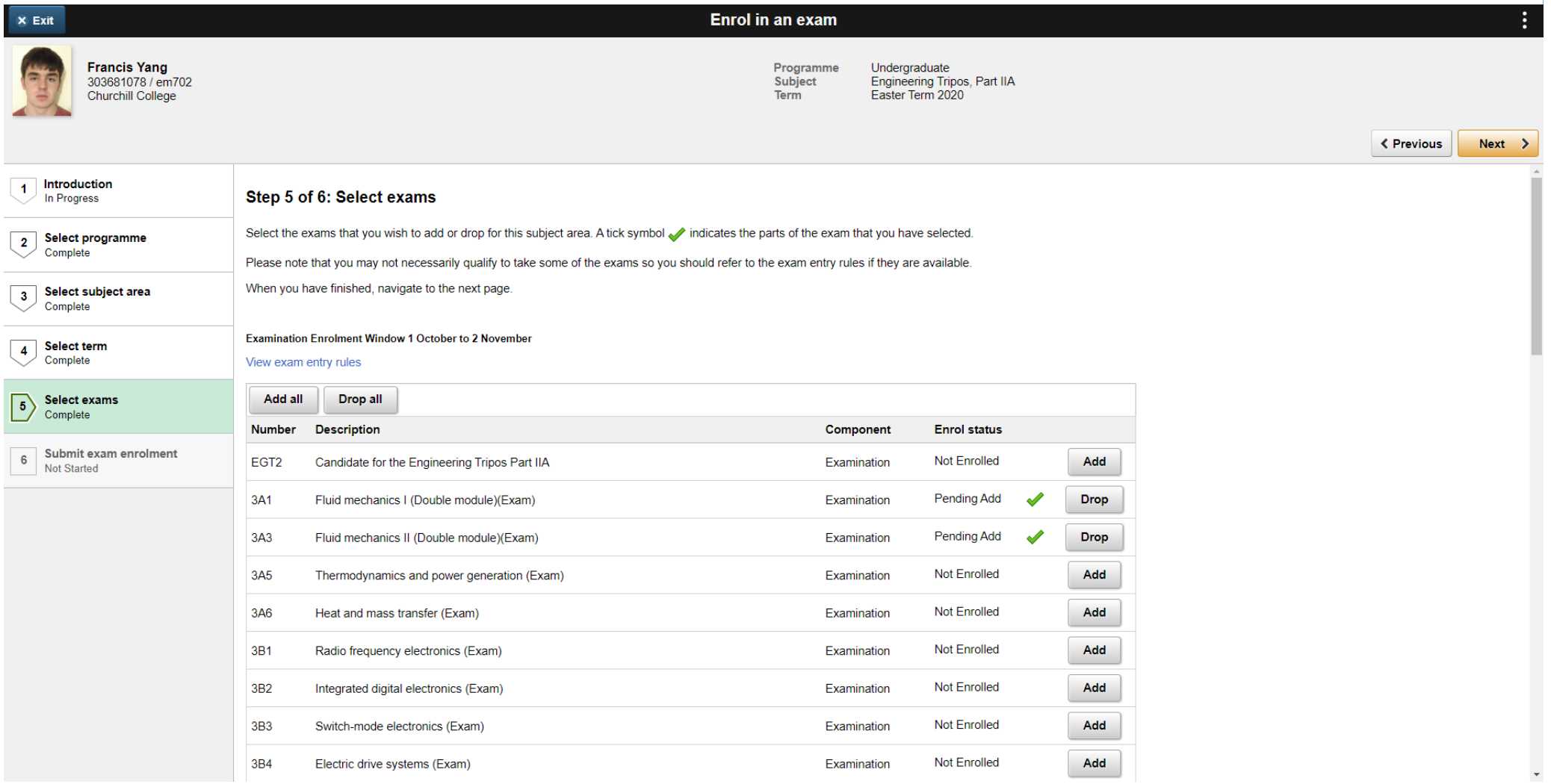
Homepages - simplifying navigation



Activity Guides – Fluid-Classic



Activity Guides – Fluid



Our current Fluid portfolio

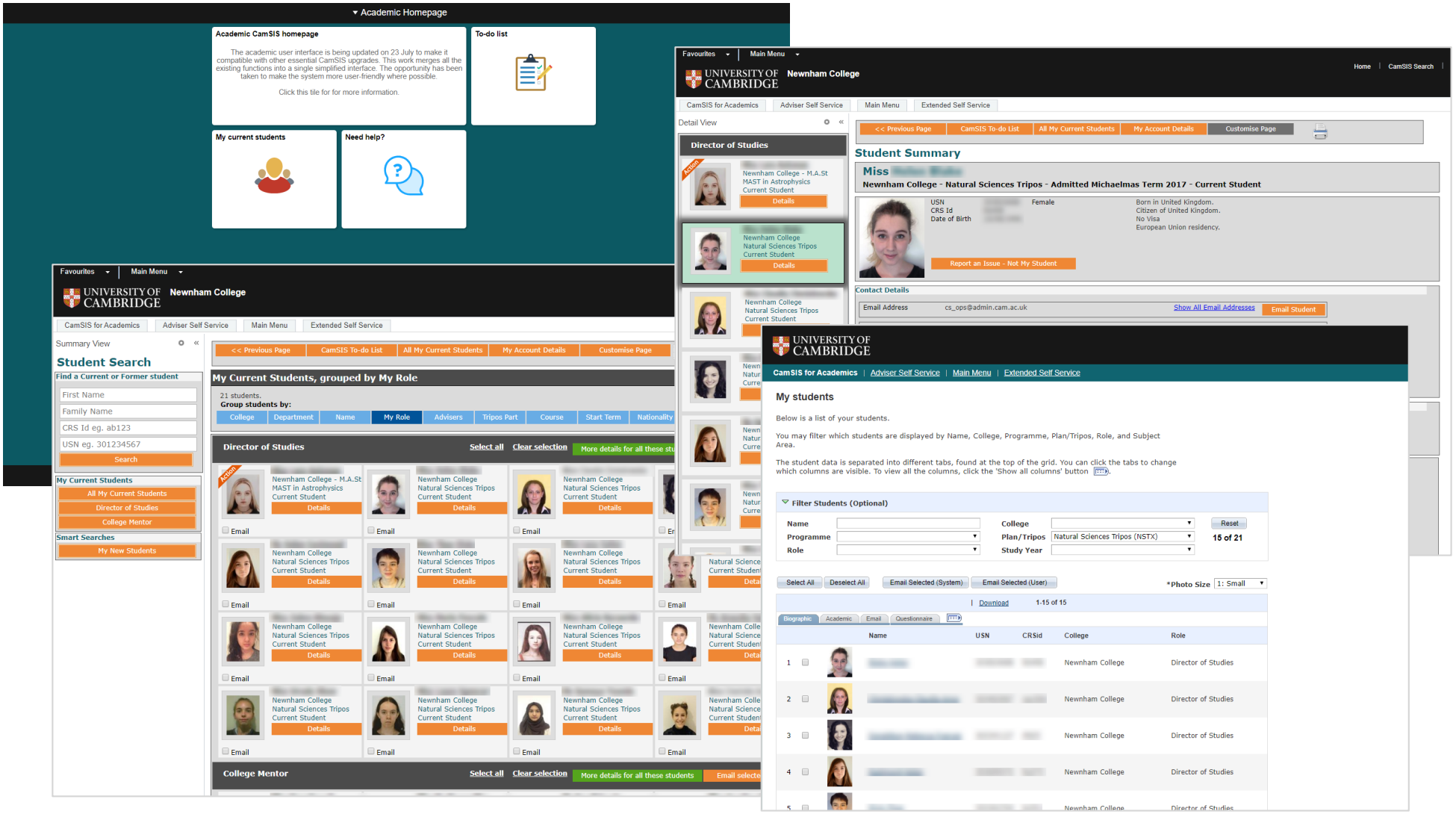
Fully Fluid

Student Self Service
Alumni Self Service
Pivot Grids
Activity Guides
Navigation Collections to Fluid

Part-Fluid – Part-Classic

Student Registration
Academic Self Service
Activity Guides with Classic
Navigation Collections to Classic

But academics were still all over the place



Academic Interface Project

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CY2

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Project team

UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE
Information Services

CY2

Chris Hay
Technical Manager & Functional Lead

Stefan van Liempt
Senior Consultant

Audrey Leyland
Project Manager

Shubham Rastogi
Developer

Matt Emmerson
Lead Developer

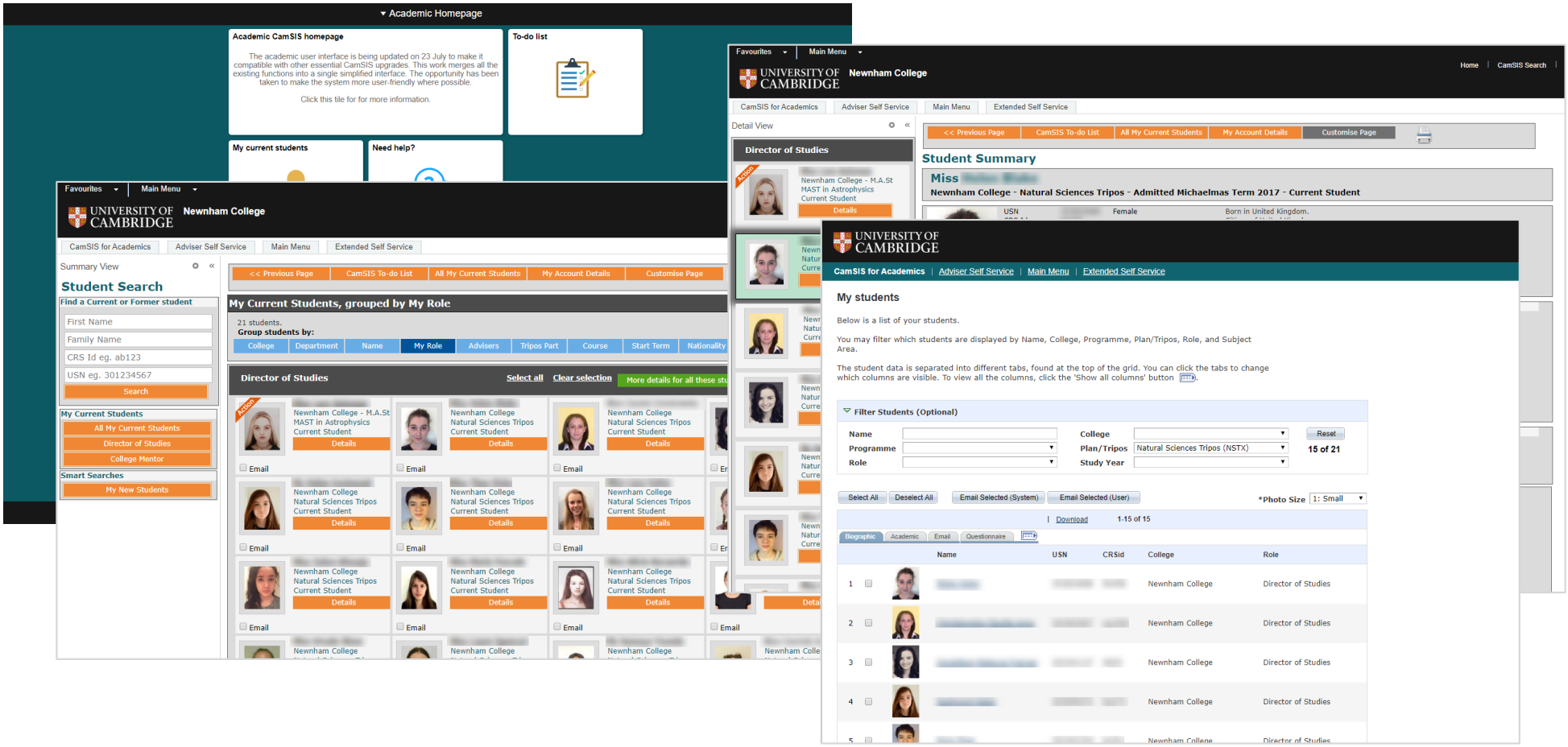
Priya Patel
Developer

Julia Torrejon
Lead Tester

Compatibility

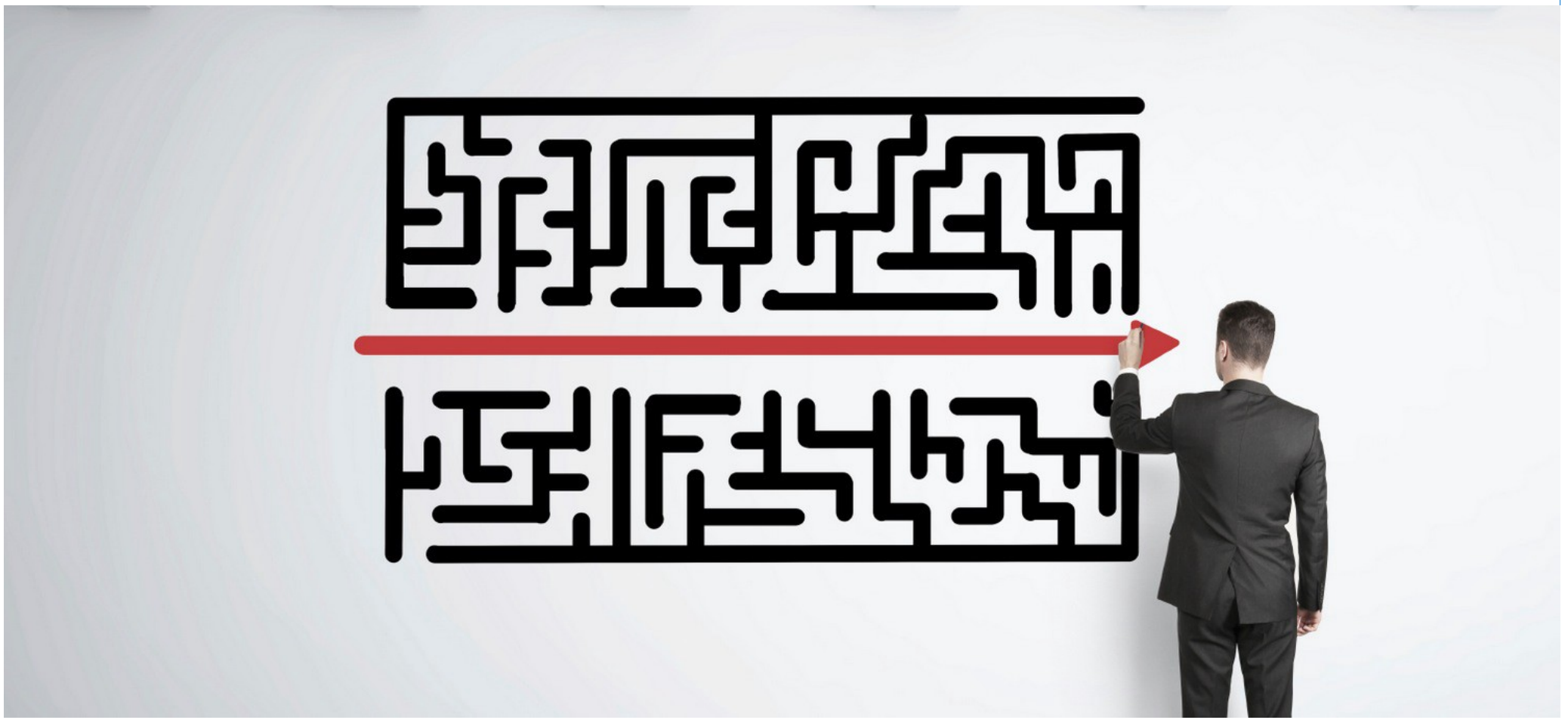
Fluid is becoming more of the “norm”.

User experience



Addressing inconsistencies, gaining efficiencies.

Simplification

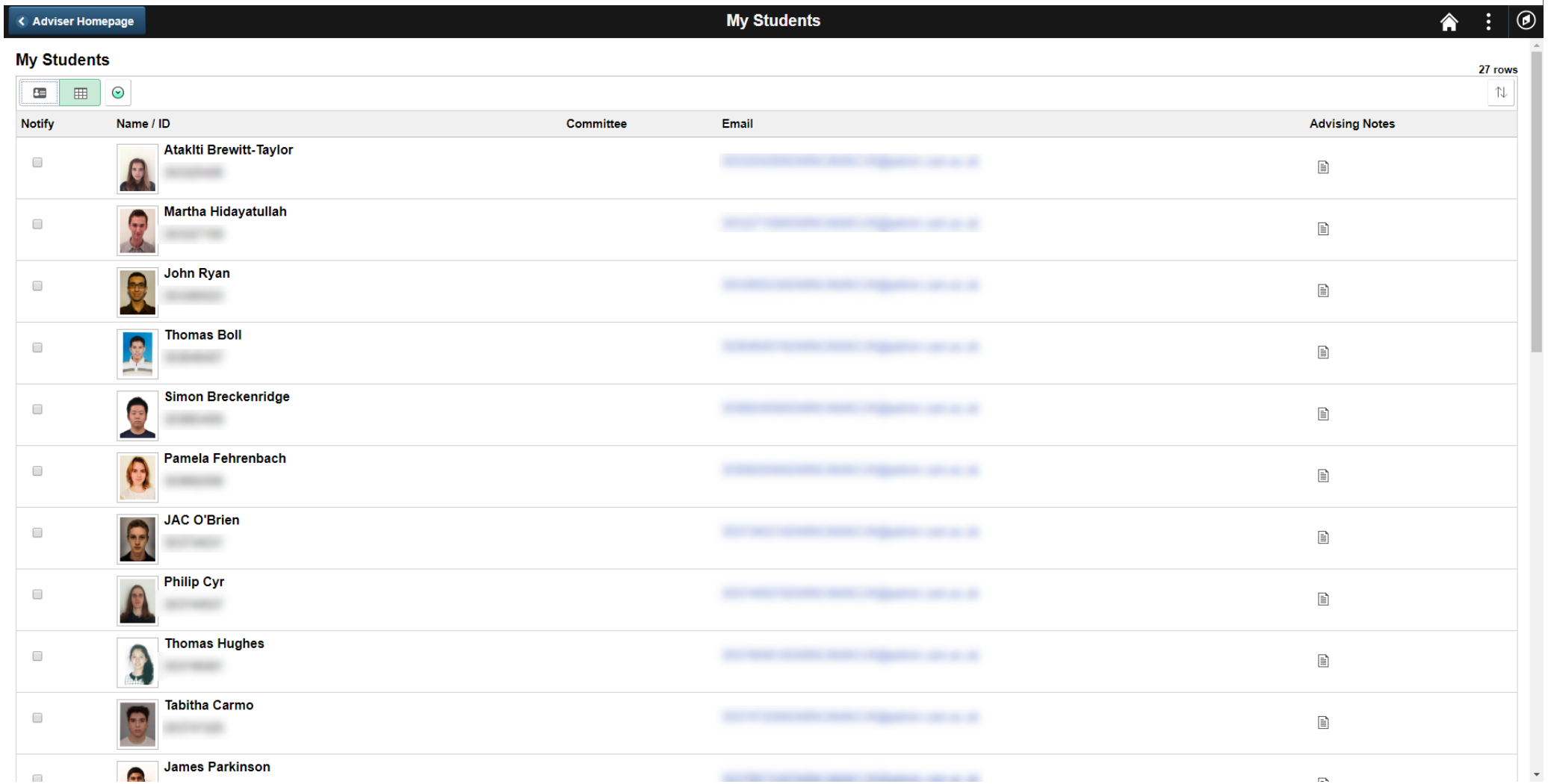


Too many routes; interfaces; ways of doing things.

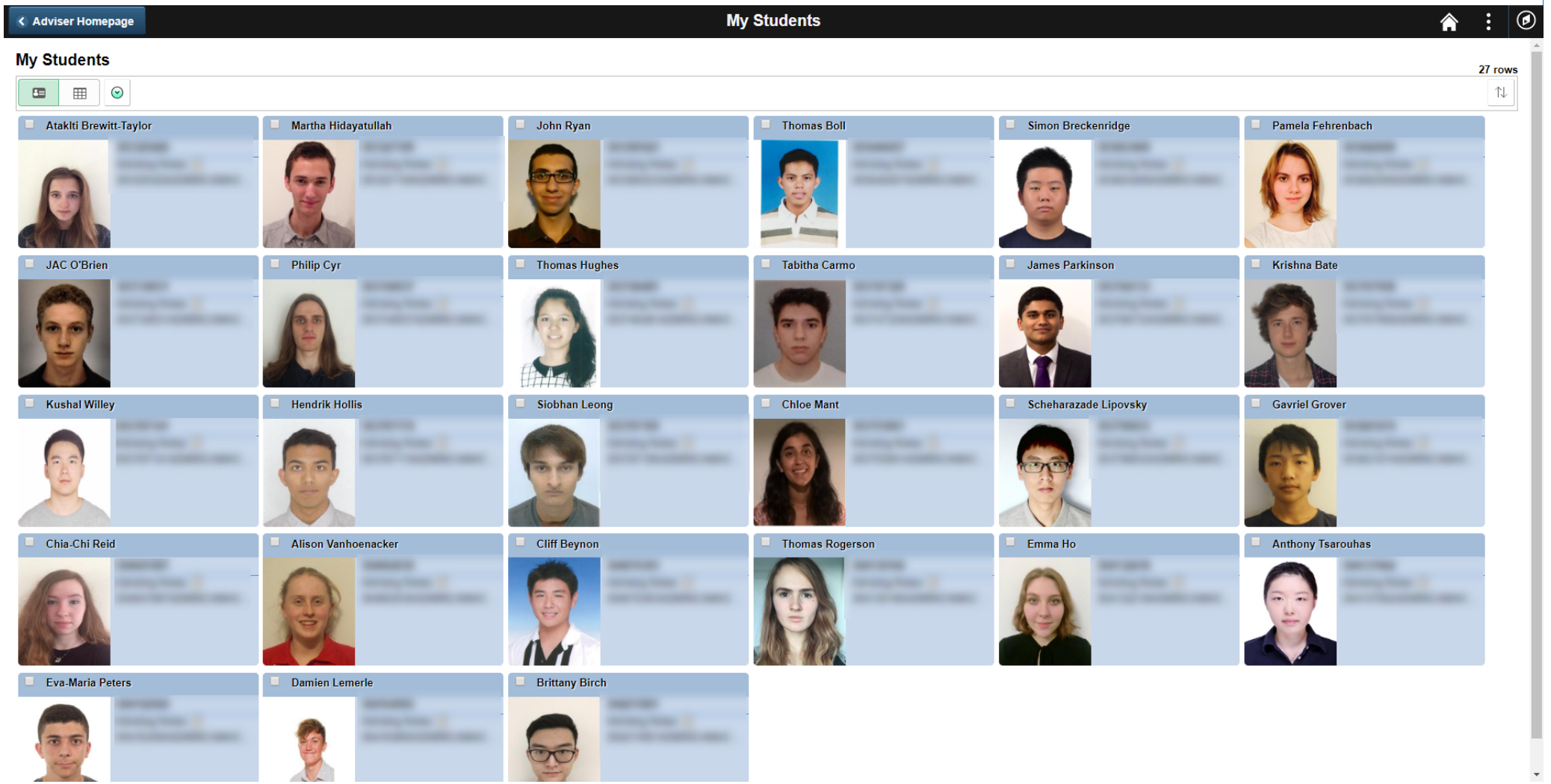
De-customisation

Previous versions were all 100% bespoke solutions,
with technology layers that were getting harder to maintain.

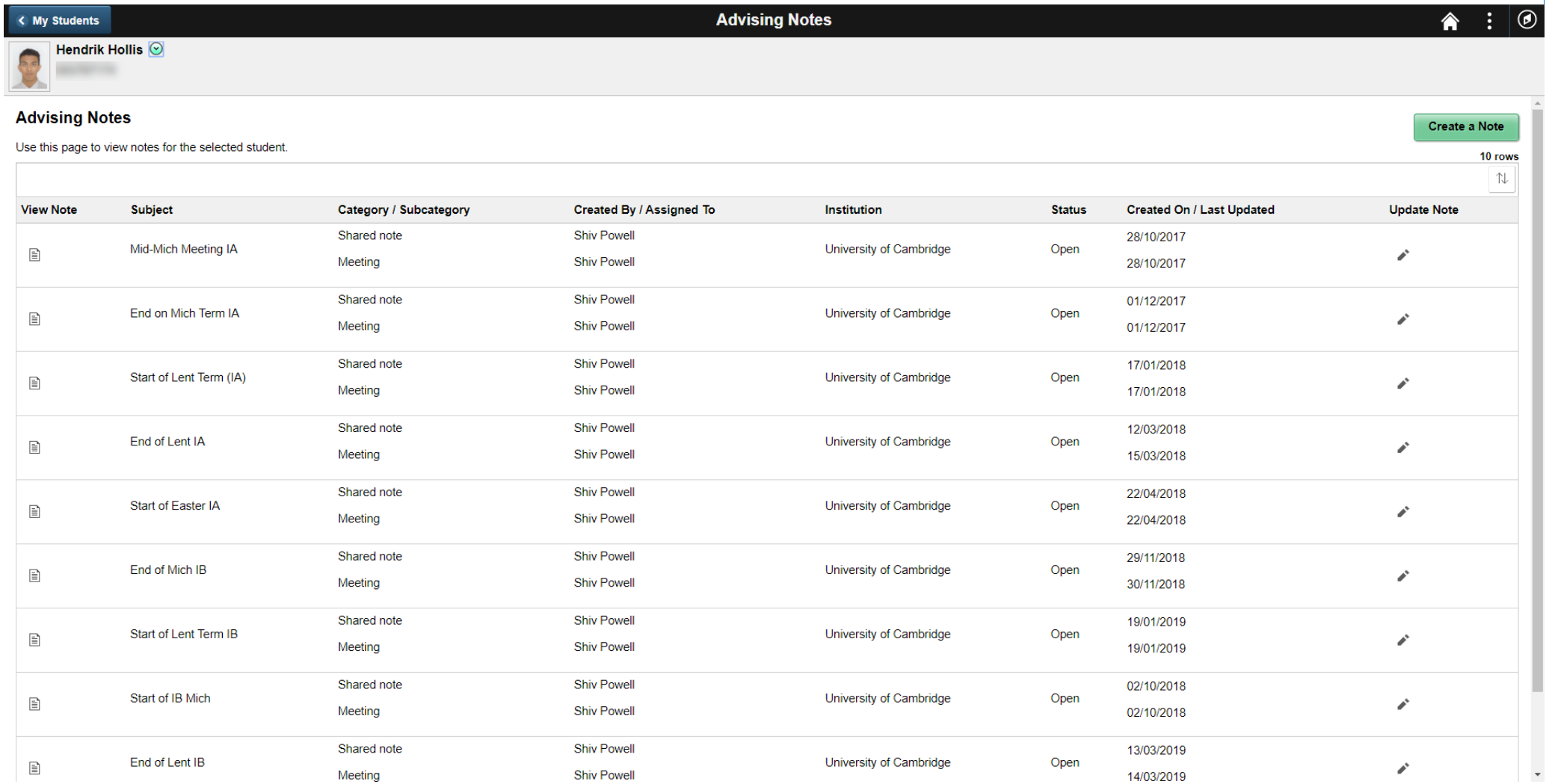
Delivered Advisor Self Service?



Delivered Advisor Self Service?



Delivered Advisor Self Service?



View Note	Subject	Category / Subcategory	Created By / Assigned To	Institution	Status	Created On / Last Updated	Update Note
	Mid-Mich Meeting IA	Shared note Meeting	Shiv Powell Shiv Powell	University of Cambridge	Open	28/10/2017 28/10/2017	
	End on Mich Term IA	Shared note Meeting	Shiv Powell Shiv Powell	University of Cambridge	Open	01/12/2017 01/12/2017	
	Start of Lent Term (IA)	Shared note Meeting	Shiv Powell Shiv Powell	University of Cambridge	Open	17/01/2018 17/01/2018	
	End of Lent IA	Shared note Meeting	Shiv Powell Shiv Powell	University of Cambridge	Open	12/03/2018 15/03/2018	
	Start of Easter IA	Shared note Meeting	Shiv Powell Shiv Powell	University of Cambridge	Open	22/04/2018 22/04/2018	
	End of Mich IB	Shared note Meeting	Shiv Powell Shiv Powell	University of Cambridge	Open	29/11/2018 30/11/2018	
	Start of Lent Term IB	Shared note Meeting	Shiv Powell Shiv Powell	University of Cambridge	Open	19/01/2019 19/01/2019	
	Start of IB Mich	Shared note Meeting	Shiv Powell Shiv Powell	University of Cambridge	Open	02/10/2018 02/10/2018	
	End of Lent IB	Shared note Meeting	Shiv Powell Shiv Powell	University of Cambridge	Open	13/03/2019 14/03/2019	

So it’s just a conversion project, right?

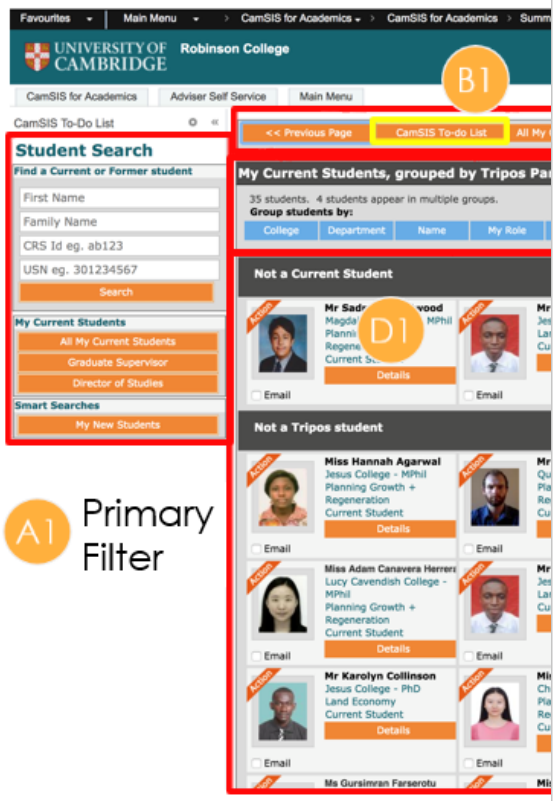
We’d only continue with:

- Poor user experience
- High maintenance overheads
- Redundant functionality
- Technical debt

Analysis

Workcenter

Overview homepage

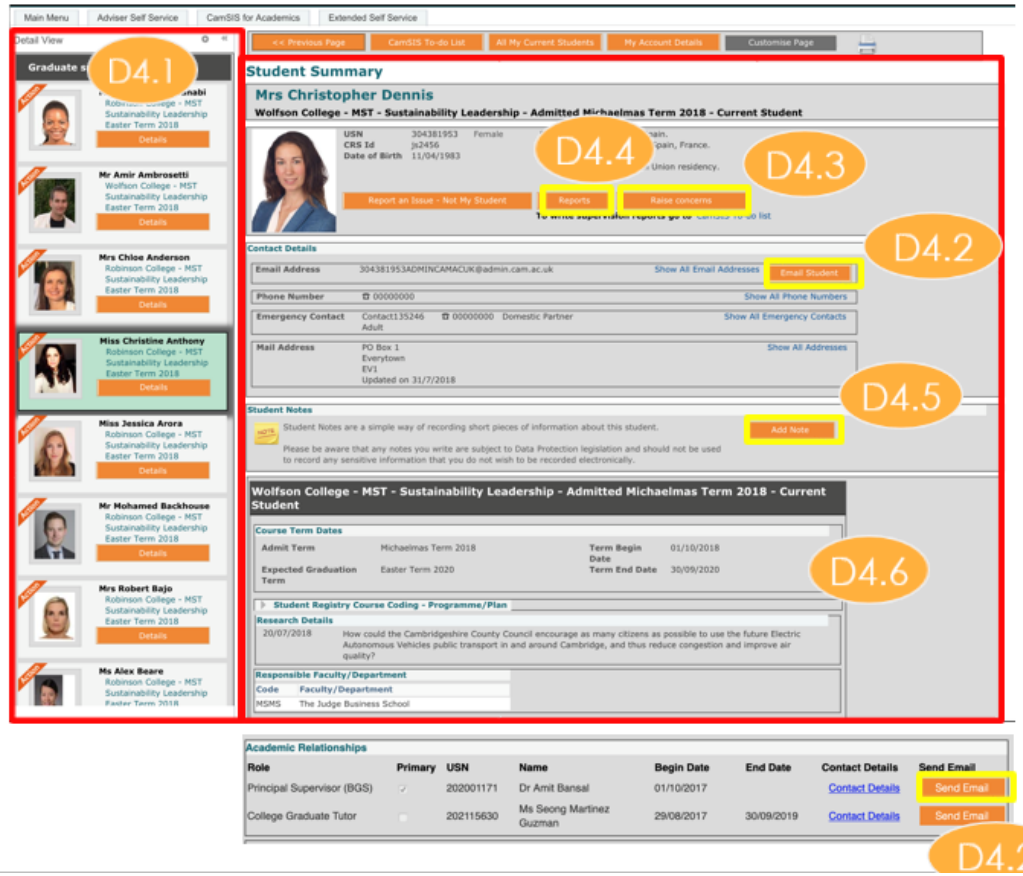


A1 Primary Filter

Workcenter

Current view of the selfservice for academics

Note: Need to exists in Fluid
Report an issue will dissapear



Student Summary

Left panel

- Student list

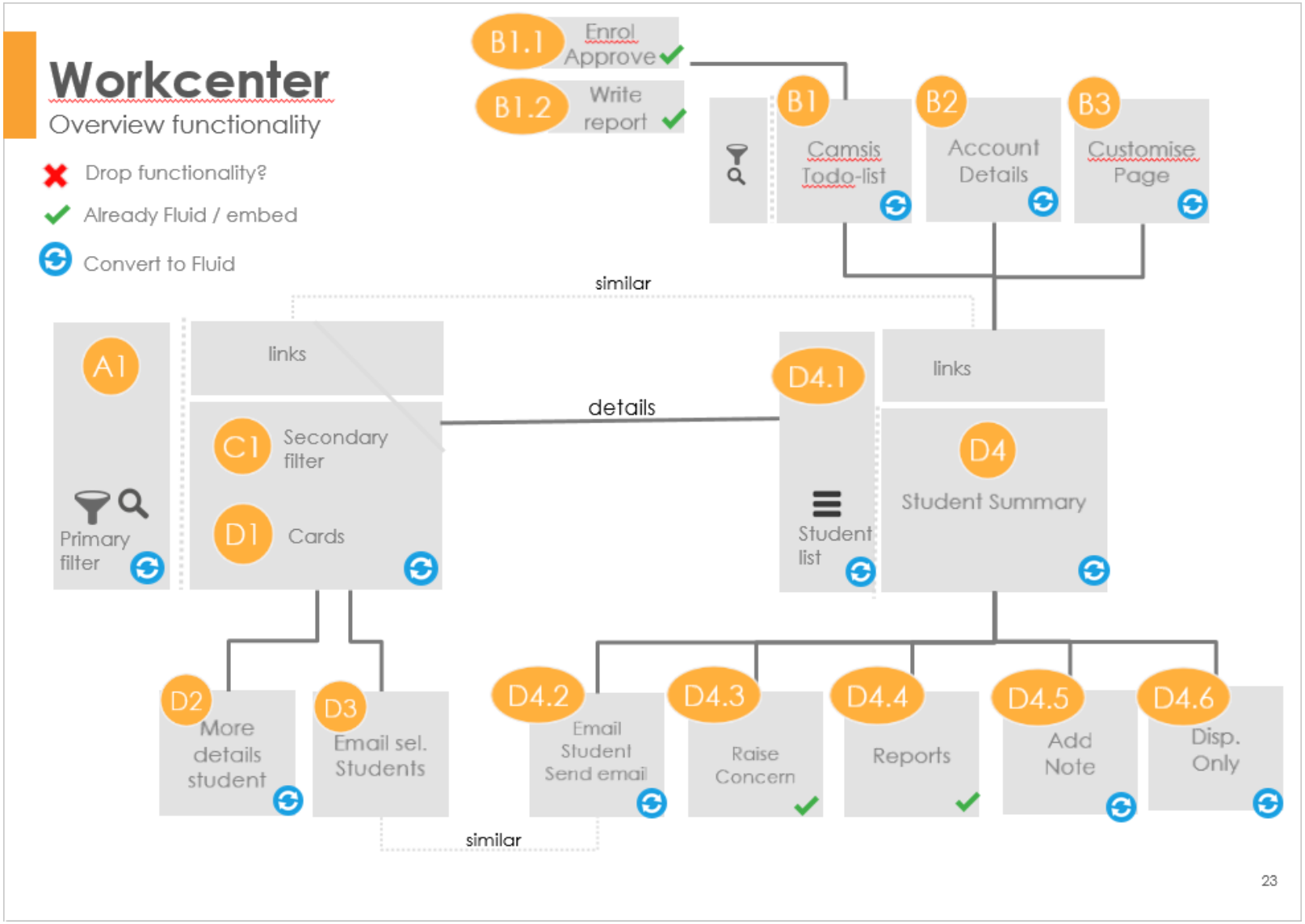
Student Summary

- Reports
- Raise concerns
- Email student / Send Email
- Add Note

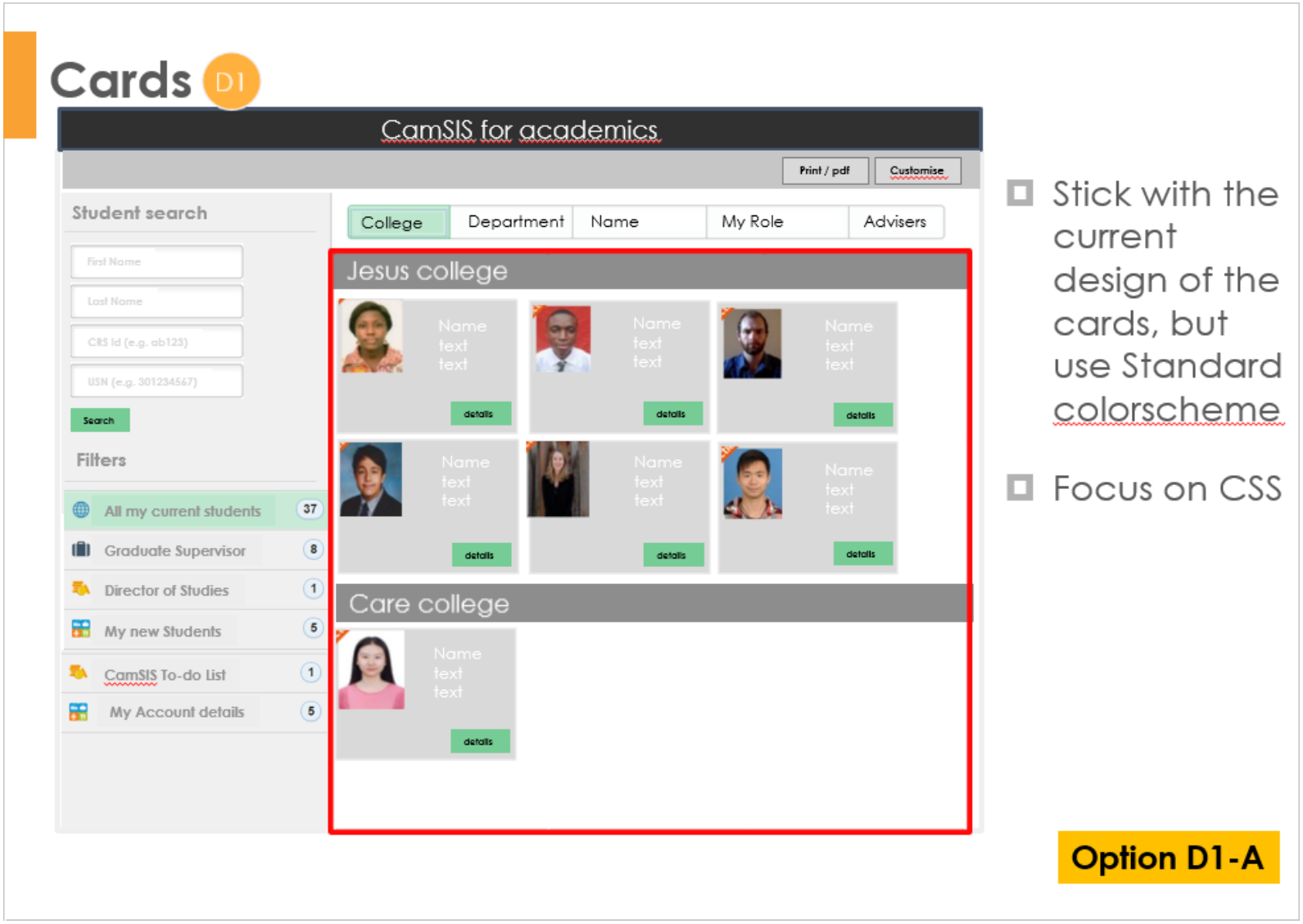
Display only areas

- Contact details
- Course Term dates
- Student Course / program / plan
- Term information
- Previous education
- Work experience

Breaking it down into blocks



Mock-ups


Cards D1
CamSIS for academics
Print / pdf
Customise
Student search
First Name
Last Name
CRS Id (e.g. ab123)
USN (e.g. 301234567)
Search
Filters
All my current students 37
Graduate Supervisor 8
Director of Studies 1
My new Students 5
CamSIS To-do List 1
My Account details 5
College
Department
Name
My Role
Advisers
Jesus college
Name text text
details
Care college
Stick with the current design of the cards, but use Standard colorscheme
Focus on CSS
Option D1-A

Mock-ups

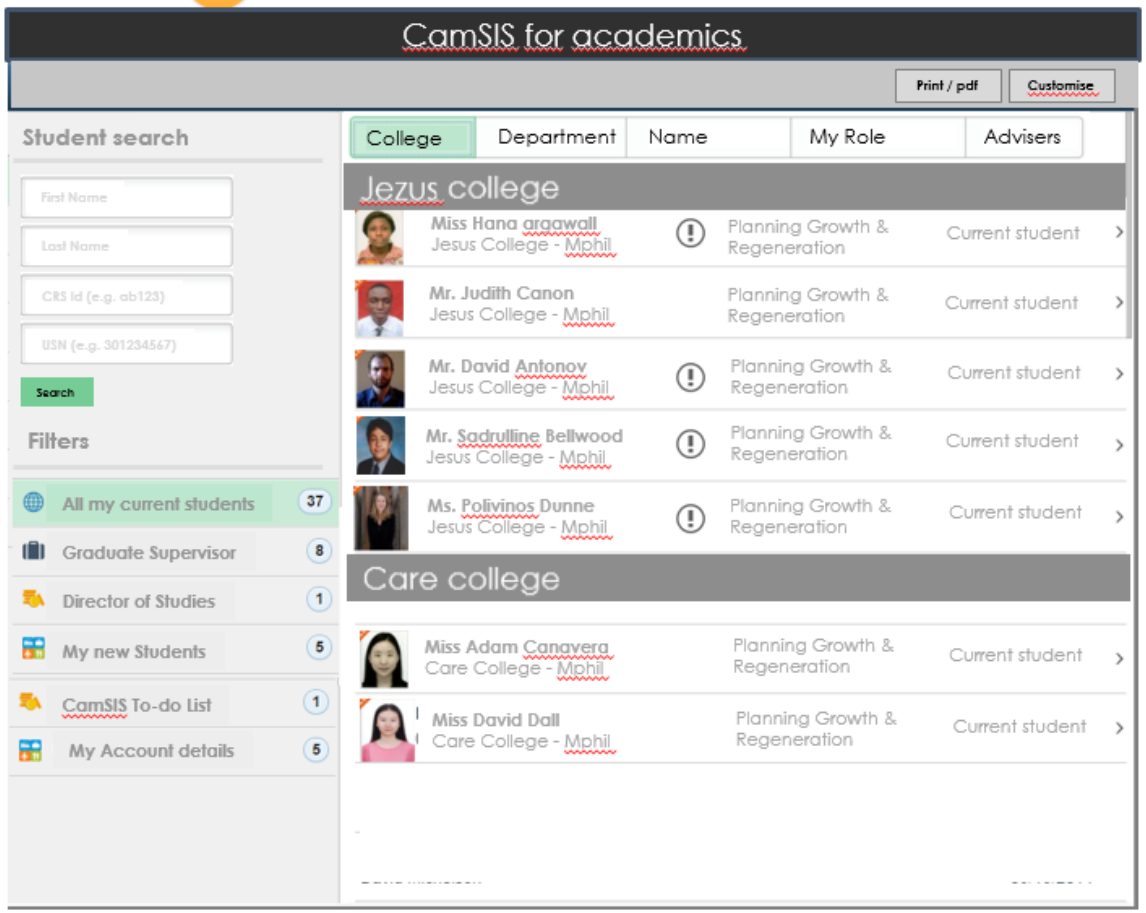
Cards D1

- **Cards**
  Adopted from Fluid HCM
- **Details**
  Cards can be flipped (lower right corner) to show more details
- **Note**
  Might build this from scratch.

Option D1-B

Mock-ups

Cards D1



- **Cards**

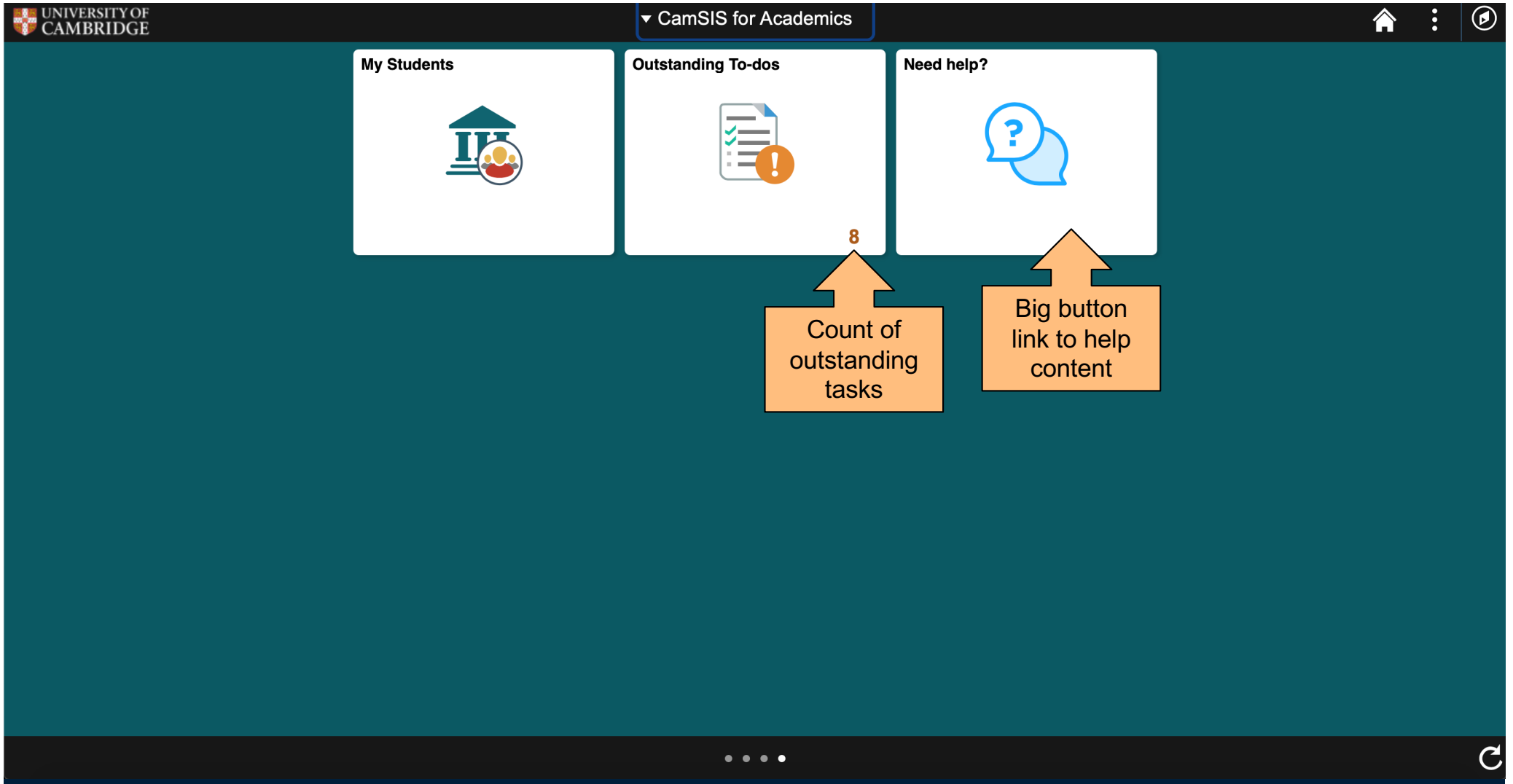
  compact overview in grid

Option D1-C

Demonstration

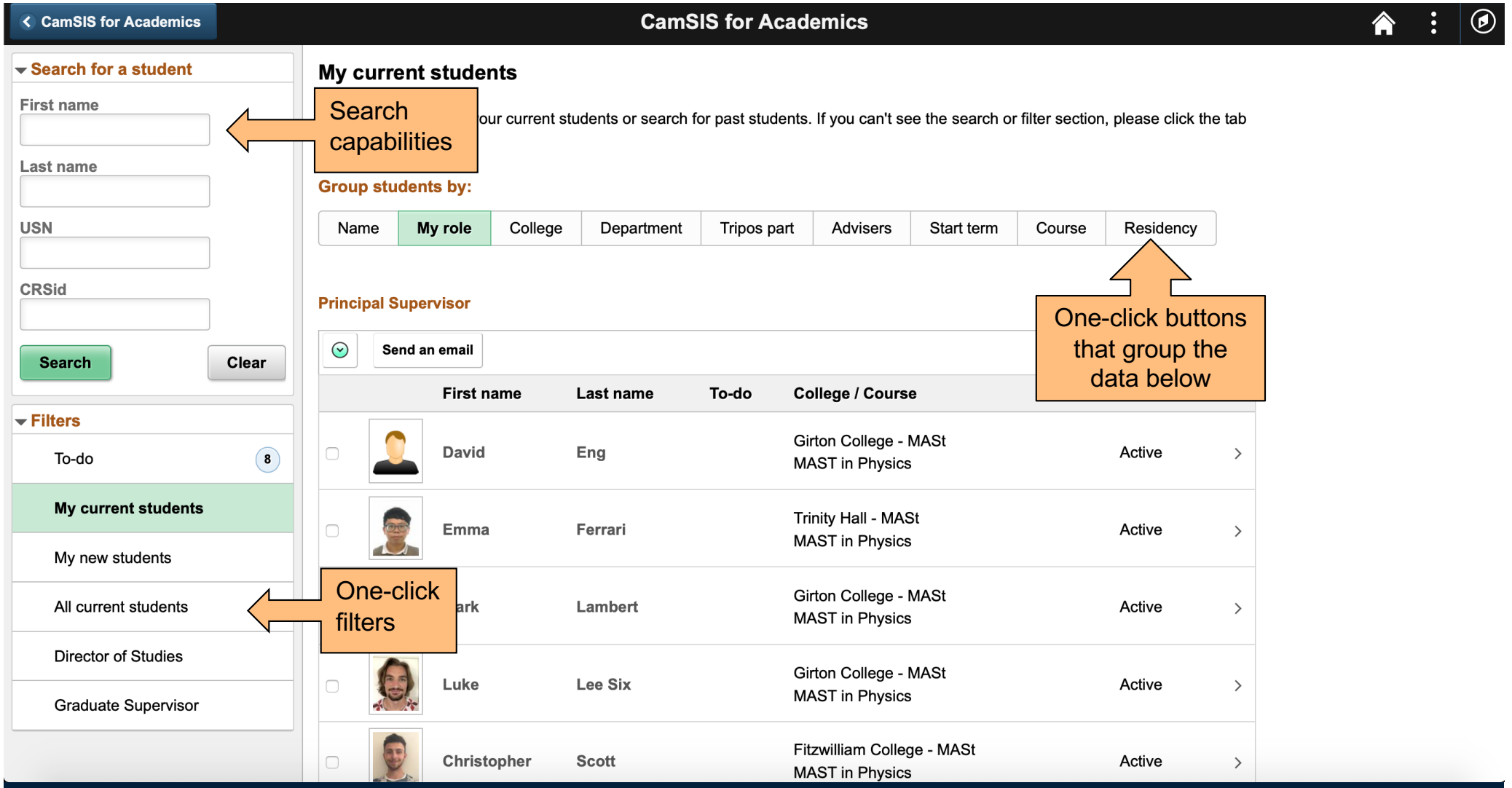
Academic homepage

Tiled access to information or tasks



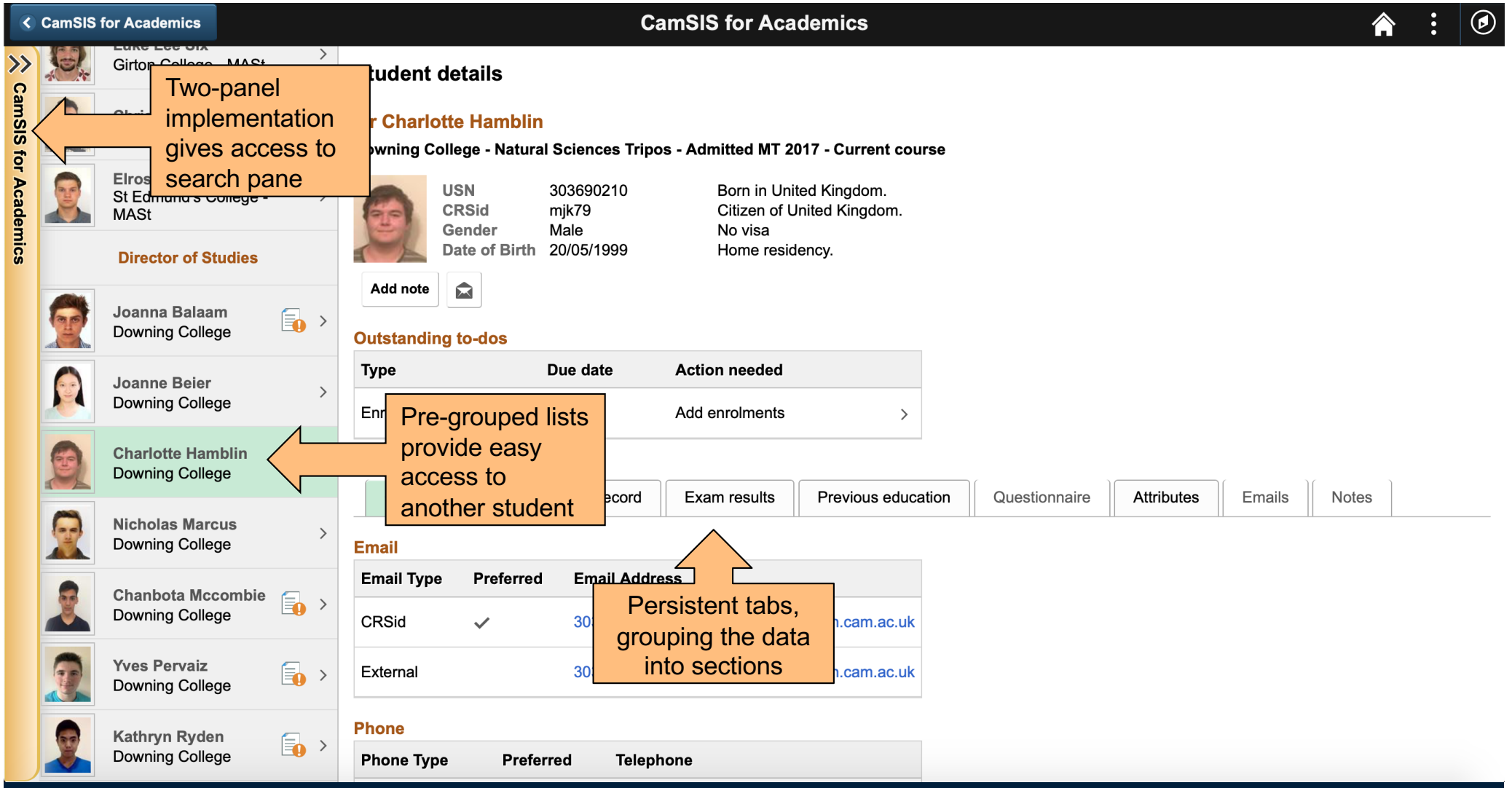
My current students page

Interactive page allowing slicing and dicing of information, generating lists



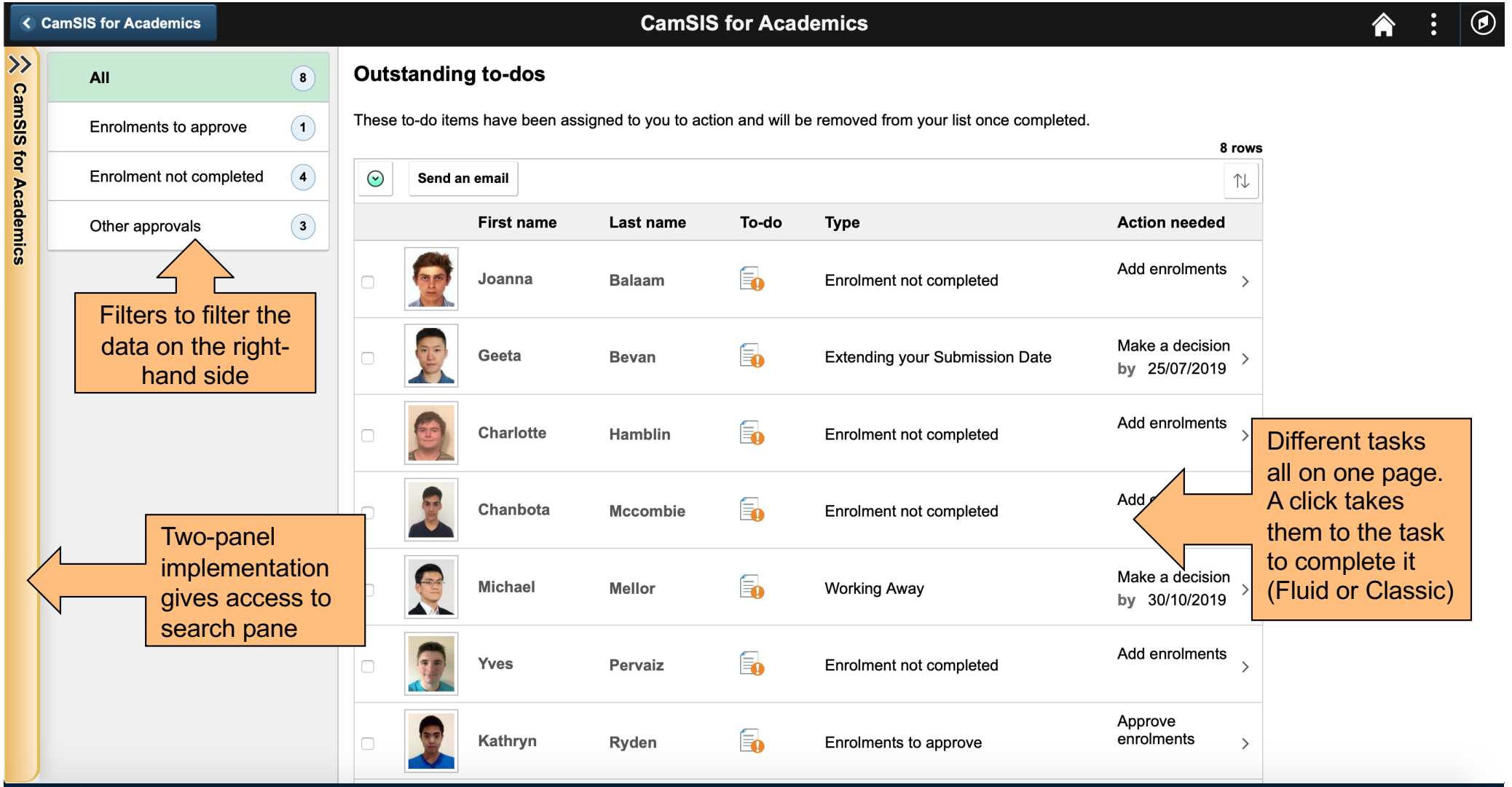
Student details page

Consolidated info about a student, with direct access to other students



Outstanding to-dos page

Tasks that the academic needs to complete – dynamic, real-time



Demo (in addition)

- Overall framework
  - Fluid Master-Detail framework – equivalent of a Classic WorkCenter. Tried a few options (grouplets, didn't quite work), navigation tabs (which we used, with added queries to do the filters).
  - To-dos – main content (not Master Detail) with a side-page.
  - Successfully using a two-panel implementation!
- User experience improvements
  - Slimming down, getting rid of manual configuration.
  - Building in business rules and intelligent information.
  - Dynamic content – real-time – automatic clean-up.
  - Fixing the bugs that have been there for too long.

Testing overview

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Testing overview - approach

Google Analytics

chrome

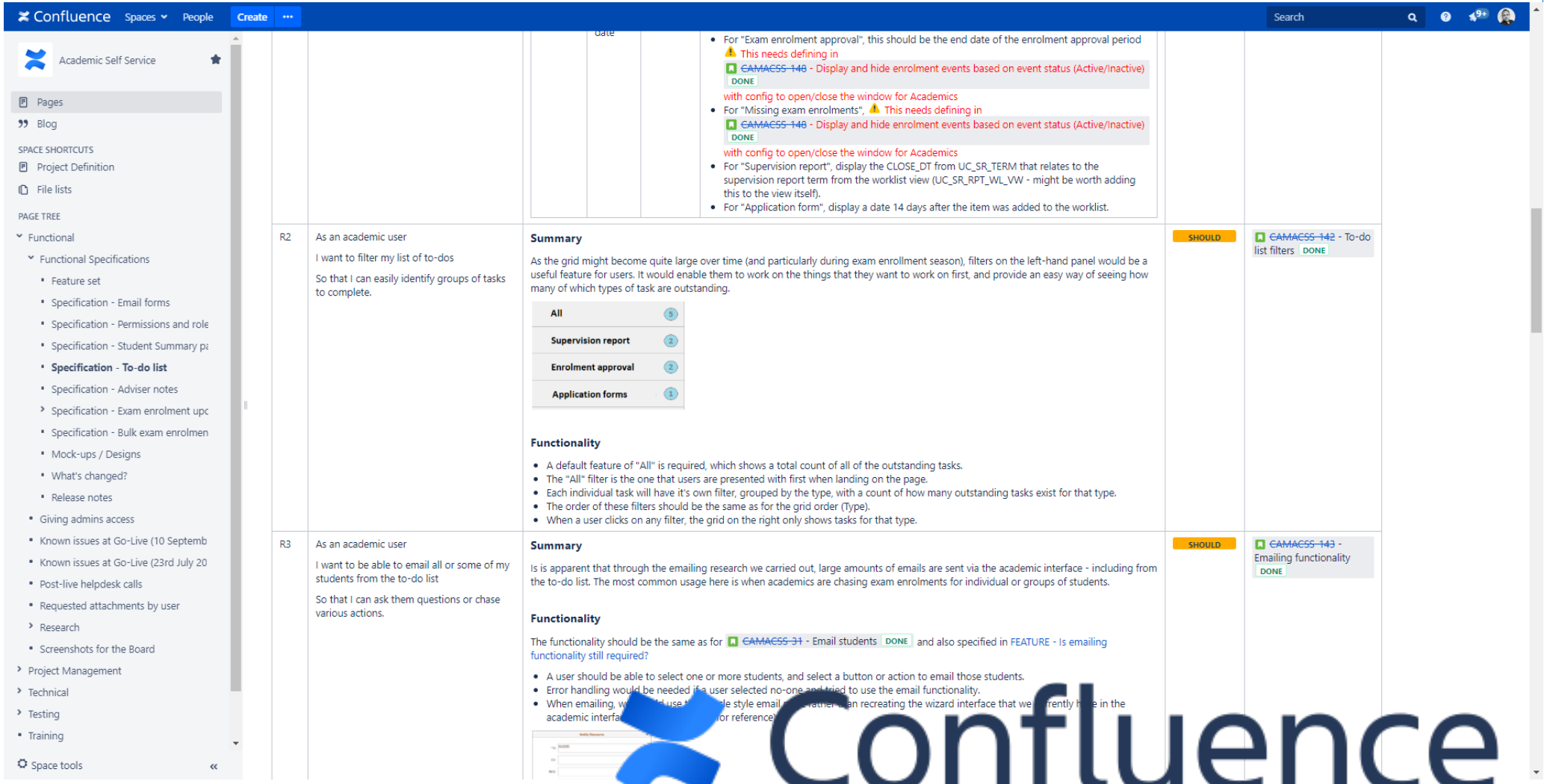
Firefox

Safari

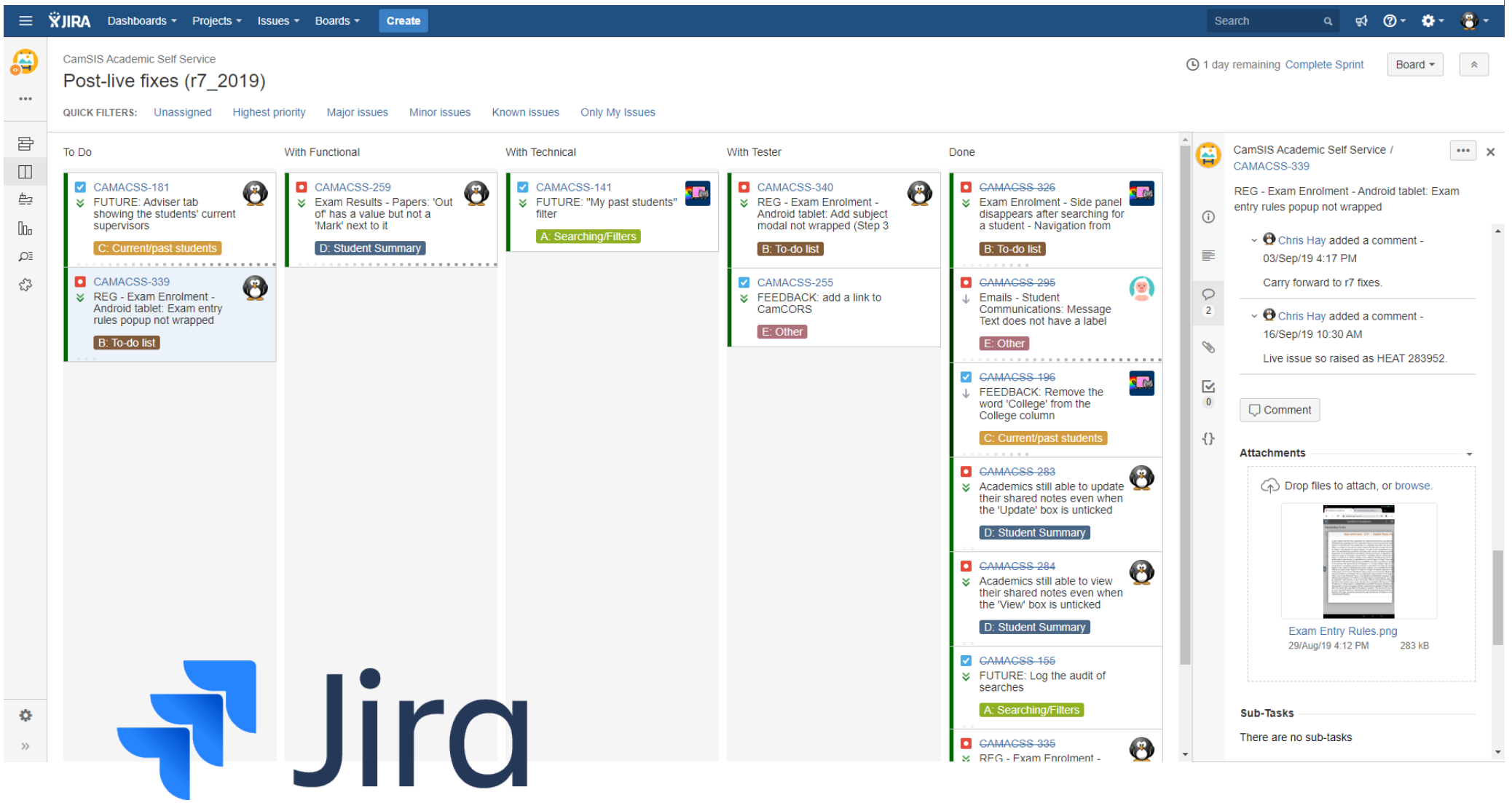
INTERNET EXPLORER

MICROSOFT EDGE

Testing overview - tooling



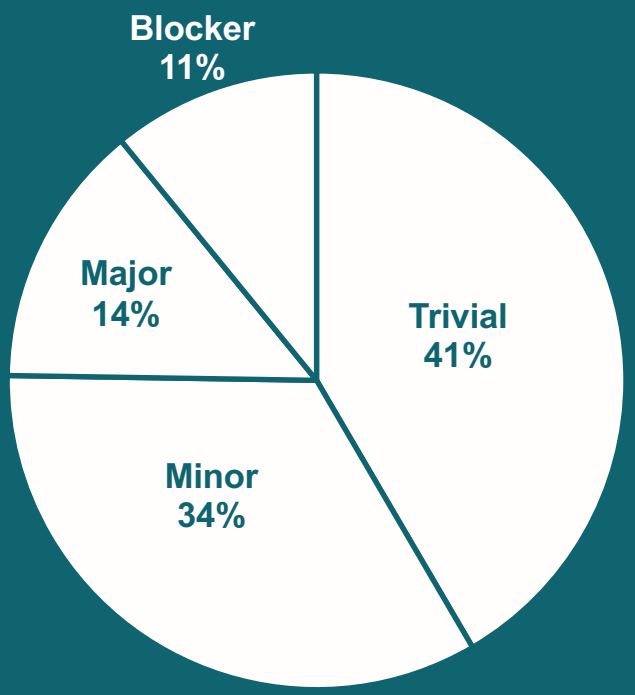
Testing overview - tooling



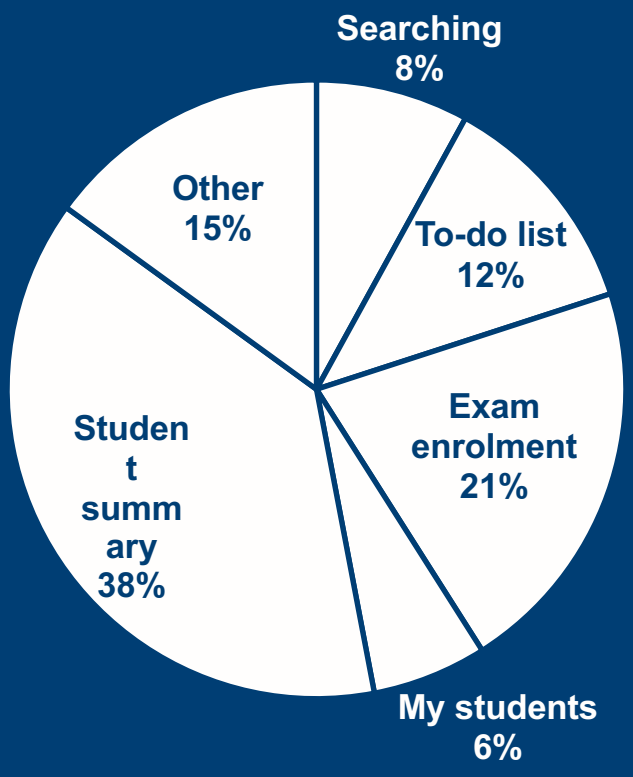
Jira

Testing outcomes

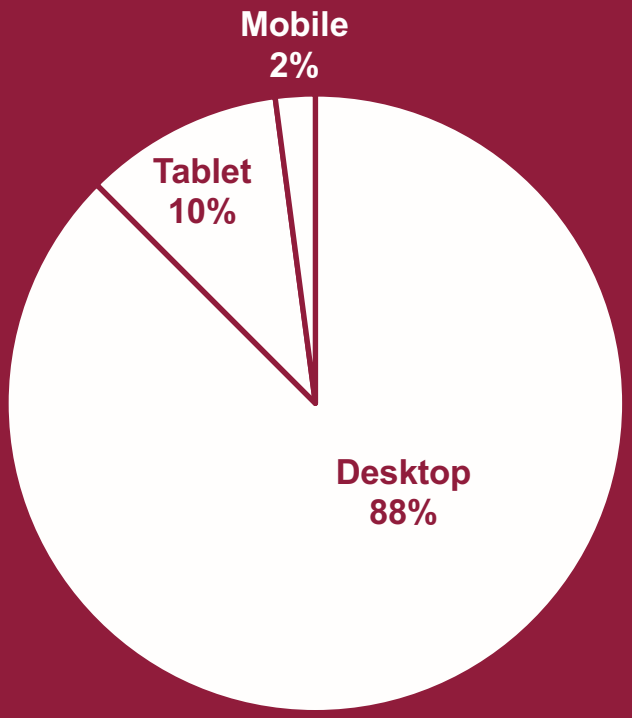
BY PRIORITY



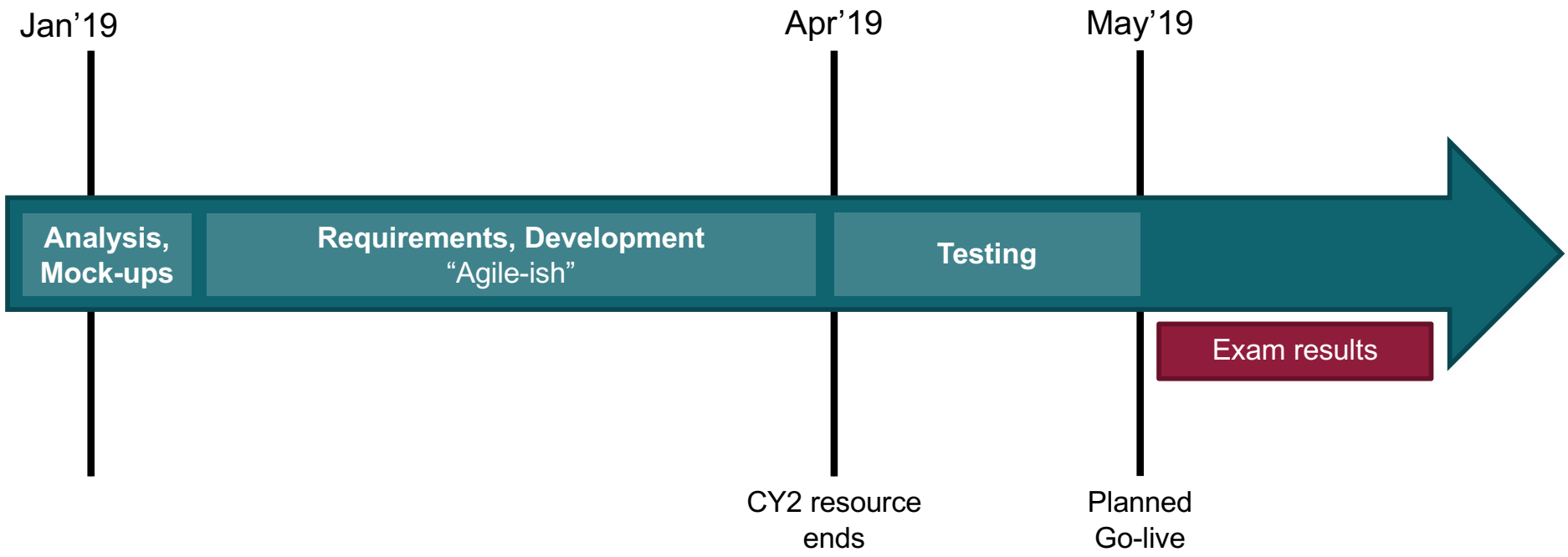
BY AREA



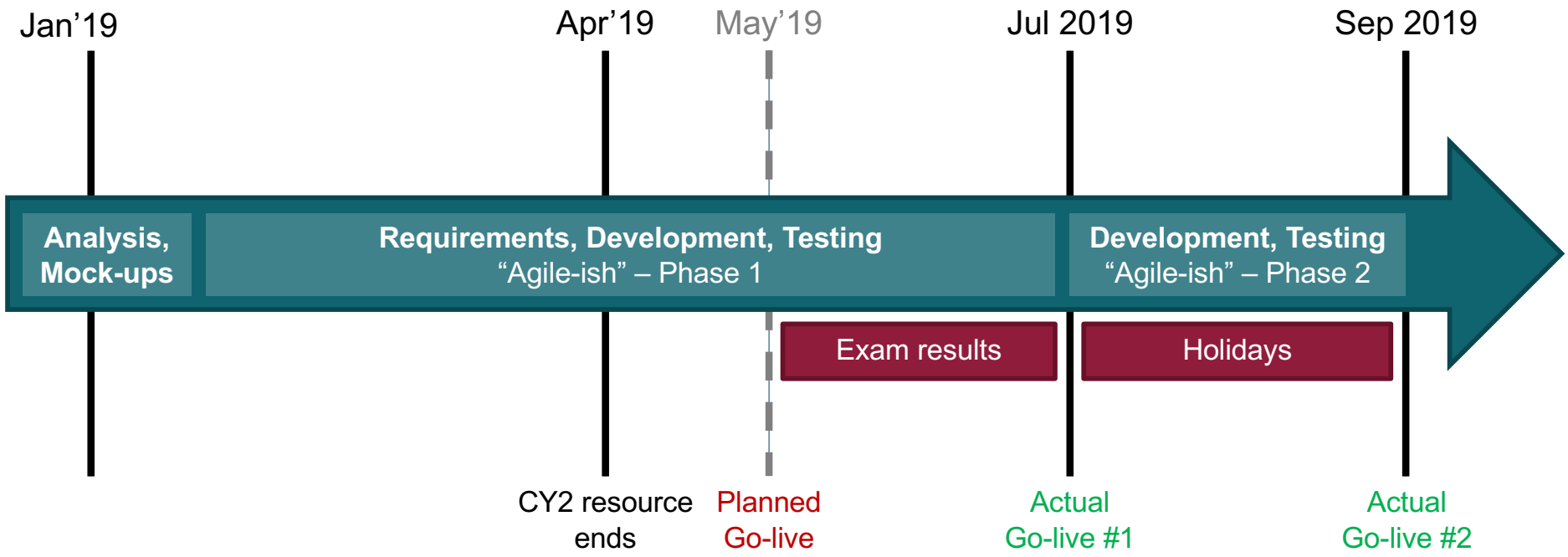
BY DEVICE



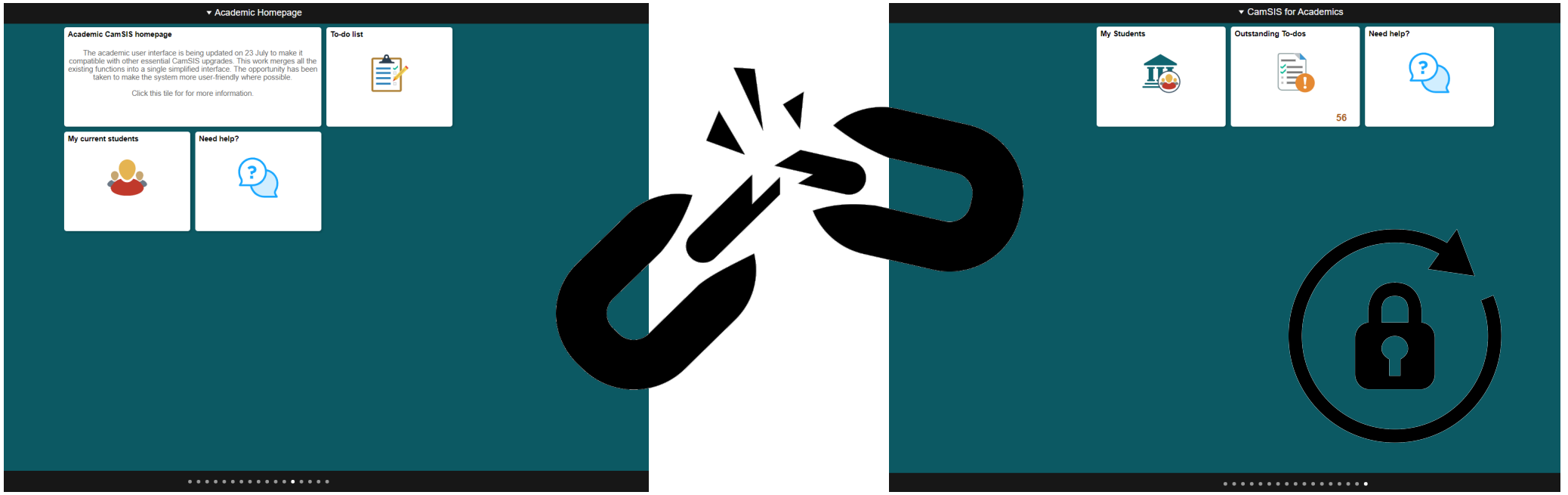
Timescales – what we planned for



Timescales – in reality



Thinking ahead about decommissioning



New homepage, new security, new naming convention

Maintenance impacts

Reduction of maintenance overheads

Object type	Old	New	% Reduction
Records	178	70	61%
Fields	101	51	50%
Pages	68	30	56%
Menus	6	2	66%
Components	40	8	80%
Message catalogue	86	37	57%
SQL definitions	146	39	73%
Styling (including stylesheets & images)	56	7	88%
Portal registry structures	65	20	69%
Application packages	5	7	~
	751	**271**	**64%**

Ways of working

- Remote and local project team members
- Development methods – splitting Application Packages
- Phasing
- Low-key project governance

Takeaways

Takeaways

There are not enough Fluid examples yet.

Takeaways

Fluid page interactions are tricky, and browser differences don’t always help.

Takeaways

There were not enough willing users available to help

Takeaways

Finding the right balance between usage and need

Takeaways

Training/skills – Fluid, CSS, Java, device behaviors

The greatest of all …

And with that …

Other sessions of interest

“Automating DPK installs with GitLab and Ansible”

Paul Houghton

Senior Database Administrator, University of Cambridge

Session #5514

Resources

Peoplebooks - Working with Master/Detail Components
Peoplebooks - Working with Two-panel Implementations
PeopleSoft Fluid UX Standards - https://docs.oracle.com/cd/E65859_01/fluid_ux/index.html

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