

October 20, 2020

Perm Augmentation Project

Campus IT Discussion

Perm Aug Team:

Josh Andersen (Project Manager)
Shajan Kay (Campus Coordinator)
Keri Bradford (Communication Coordinator)

Perm Aug Sponsorship:

Margaret Klawunn (Exec. Sponsor)
Anthony Schmid (Business Sponsor)
Joe Sabado (Technical Sponsor)

Agenda

- **Project Overview**
 - Background
 - Goals
- **Next Steps**
 - Considerations
 - Proposed Approach
 - What to Expect
 - Timeline
- **Resources**
- **Discussion**

Project Overview

Background & Goals

Project Overview: Background

Perms are six-character* identifiers (currently all-numeric) assigned to all applicants, and used by more than 170 campus applications**. As the number of applicants increases, the number of available perms decreases — **we could run out of perms as early as 2024.**

Approximately 110,000 perms are assigned to applicants each year. We “recycle” the perms of applicants who do not become students, but we only have about 220,000 available perms left in reserve.

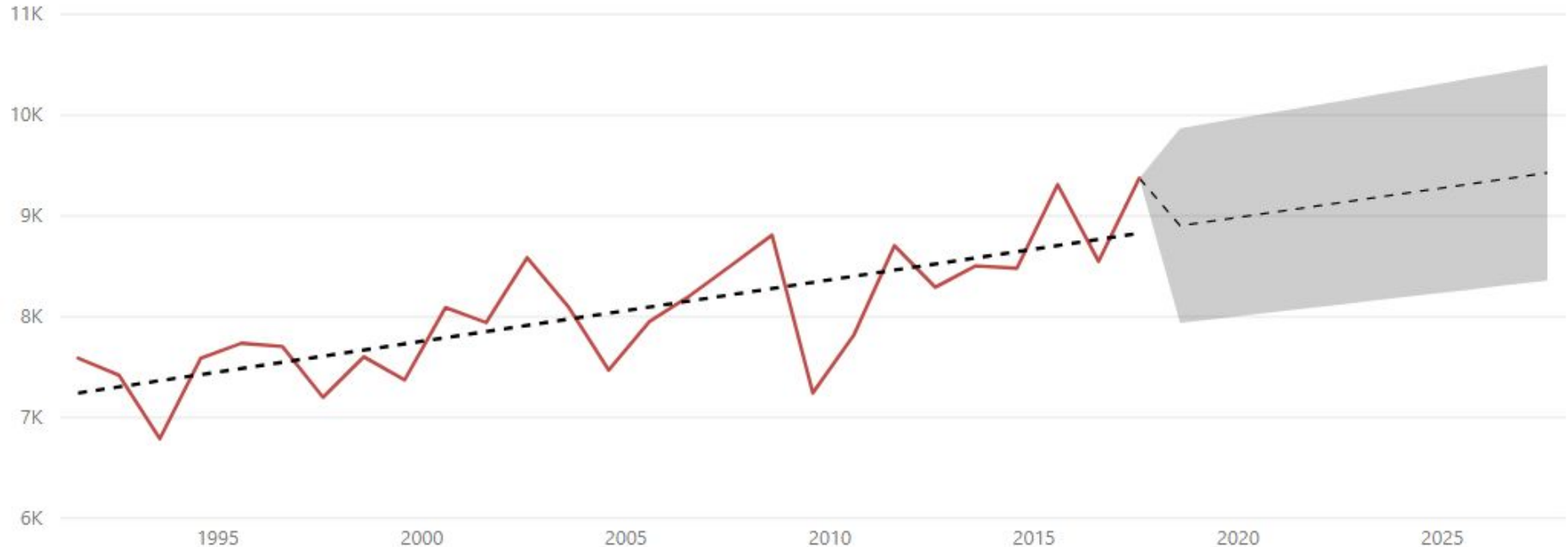
**A seventh digit, which serves as a checksum, sometimes appears with a perm*

*** 670 applications were evaluated for perm usage*

Project Overview: Background

Current “burn rate” of perms per year, for just students — continued growth (gray area) is forecasted with a continued increase in online and cross-campus enrollment

Perms Permanently Assigned Per Year (Non Recyclable Perms)



Project Overview: Goals

- **Eliminate the risk** of running out of perms for the foreseeable future
- **Minimize any costs and work** required to implement a solution, to the greatest extent possible
- **Protect existing numeric perms** so they continue to work with applications after a new solution is implemented

Next Steps

Considerations, Proposed Approach,
What to Expect & Timeline

Next Steps: Considerations

Options considered:

- ~~Assign perms only to students who sign a Statement of Intent to Register (SIR)~~
- ~~Extend the length of perms~~
- Introduce an **alphanumeric perm**

Feedback:

- **Thank you** for your help determining perm usage last year!
- Feedback shows two (of 671) applications could *not* support an alphanumeric perm, and 13 more need a closer look

Next Steps: Proposed Approach

Alphanumeric Perm:

- Achieves **large pool of new perms** with **least amount of changes**
- Is **backwards-compatible** with existing perms
- Vast **majority of applications can work** with alphanumeric perms
- Will **still use a checksum**, calculated from first six characters

Access Card Changes & Level of Impact:

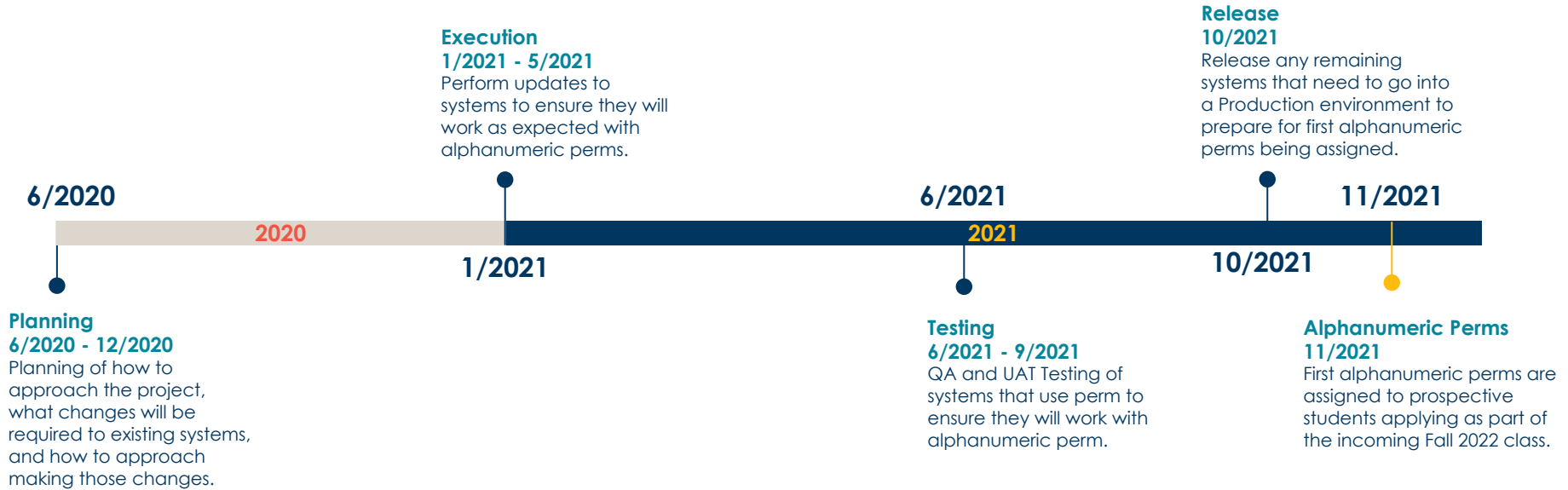
- Magnetic stripe cannot support alphanumeric values — **medium**
- Change barcode font from Codabar to Code 128 — **minimal**
- A second NFC chip is required to work with POS systems — **already scoped** into *Transact replacement project*

Next Steps: What to Expect

We Will Need Your Help:

- **For applications currently using perms:** Verify they can work with alphanumeric perms
- **For applications that require updates to work with alphanumeric perms:** Make necessary updates and verify they work
 - Our team will reach out with next steps to the managers of applications that use perms by the end of the month (October 2020).
 - Our team will send the [Perm Usage Application Inventory](#) to CSF for review and feedback by the end of the month (October 2020).

Next Steps: Timeline



In **November 2021**, applicants for Fall 2022 will be the first to receive **alphanumeric** perms.

Resources

Resources

- **Link to this slide deck:** <http://bit.ly/permaugtownhall>
- **Whitepaper:** <http://bit.ly/permaugwhitepaper>
- **Access Card Whitepaper:** <http://bit.ly/accesscardwhitepaper>
- **Alphanumeric Luhn-Check:**
<https://wiki.openmrs.org/display/docs/Check+Digit+Algorithm>
- **Perm Usage Application Inventory (Smartsheet):**
<http://bit.ly/permappinventory>
- **Project Website:** <https://sist.sa.ucsb.edu/perm-augmentation-project>
- **Contact Team:** perm@sa.ucsb.edu

Discussion

Discussion

- What **questions or concerns** do you have for our team?
 - Drop them in the chat if you prefer!

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