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# How Ferrum College Automated User Provisioning & Cybersecurity Readiness

**01** **Introductions**

**02** **The operational challenges in Higher Ed**

**03** **Ferrum Challenges**

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# Speakers



**Eugene Hacker**  
Assistant CIO, Ferrum College

Over 20 years in higher education technology leadership from supporting students with technology challenges, to network administration and now managing the information and security strategy for the institution.



**John Saullo**  
Director of Product, QuickLaunch

With 9+ years in Higher Ed Tech, John Saullo leads product management at QuickLaunch, helping campuses streamline operations with IAM and automation.

# 200 Customers+ | 1.2+ Million Users Daily



## 4 Year Public



## 4 Year Private



NATIONAL  
LOUIS  
UNIVERSITY



## HBCU



## California Colleges



GOLDEN GATE  
UNIVERSITY



University of  
La Verne

## 2 Year Public



And Many More

## QuickLaunch IdentityX

- **Student & Staff Identity & Access Management** - modernizes and secures the student experience with single sign-on, MFA & password reset
- **Identity Governance & Administration** - thwarts ransomware phishing attacks with deprovisioning & modernizes the student experience by automating student onboarding.

## QuickLaunch IntegrationX

Integration modernizes data integration by securely connecting apps, automating workflows, syncing data in real time, and powering digital transformation across cloud and on-prem systems.

- **Ellucian Integration Partner** - provides certified, pre-built connectors and APIs that seamlessly link Ellucian systems like Banner, Colleague, and Ethos
- **Free Licenses for Higher Education** - Offers free licenses to help higher education institutions modernize and innovate without budget barriers.

# The Operational Challenge

## Why Higher Ed Systems Fall Out of Sync

In Higher Ed, critical systems like your Identity Store, SIS, LMS, HR, and Finance all manage their own data and rarely stay in sync.

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### Institutions often rely on:

- Custom PowerShell, Python, or SQL scripts for user provisioning
- Manual CSV transfers between systems
- Nightly batch jobs that delay onboarding and updates

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### This creates:

- Inefficiencies across departments
- Frequent data mismatches
- Dependency on a few IT staff who “know the scripts”

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**Higher Ed Systems**

# The hidden Cost of Manual and Scripted Processes



**Security Exposure:** Dormant accounts linger without deactivation.



**Compliance Gaps:** No unified logs or policy enforcement across systems.



**Delayed Access:** Students, faculty, and staff wait hours or days for accounts.



**Data Inconsistency:** Key systems show outdated or mismatched information.



**Staff Dependency:** Only certain IT admins understand or maintain scripts.



# The Solution: QuickLaunch ILM + Integrations



**QuickLaunch replaces outdated scripts and manual workflows with modern automation that's:**

**Reporting and Logs:** Comprehensive reporting and Audit ready logs.

**Comprehensive:** 500+ pre-built connectors for Higher Ed applications.

**API-Driven:** Real-time synchronization replaces batch jobs.

**No-Code:** A visual builder anyone can manage, no scripting required.

**Event-Based:** Automatically responds to changes in SIS or HR.



# About Ferrum College



**Ferrum College** is a private college in Ferrum, Virginia, founded in **1913** as the *Ferrum Training School*. It later became **Ferrum Junior College** (1940–1976) and gradually expanded into a full post-secondary institution. Today, it enrolls about **800 students** and offers **54+ undergraduate majors** and **4 graduate programs**.

Its **700-acre campus** sits in the foothills of the Blue Ridge Mountains.

Ferrum's athletic teams, the **Panthers**, compete in NCAA Division III (ODAC), with **11 men's** and **14 women's** teams. The football team is also known as the "**Black Hats**."

The campus is listed on the **National Register of Historic Places**.



# Ferrum College

## Quicklaunch Deployment Experience

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# Identity Lifecycle Pain Points (Before Quicklaunch)



Separate account management per application (Office365, Gmail, Brightspace, etc.)



Account creation

- CSV exports from our SIS and uploads for account creation
- Manually run Powershell scripts and API calls to create cloud software accounts



Identity Management



No use of multi factor authentication



# Issues with the “Old Way”



We followed “best practices” for password management and encouraged users to have different passwords for each account.



Security was weak



Even though we used scripts and csv uploads for account creation, account changes resulted in manually changing account data in multiple places

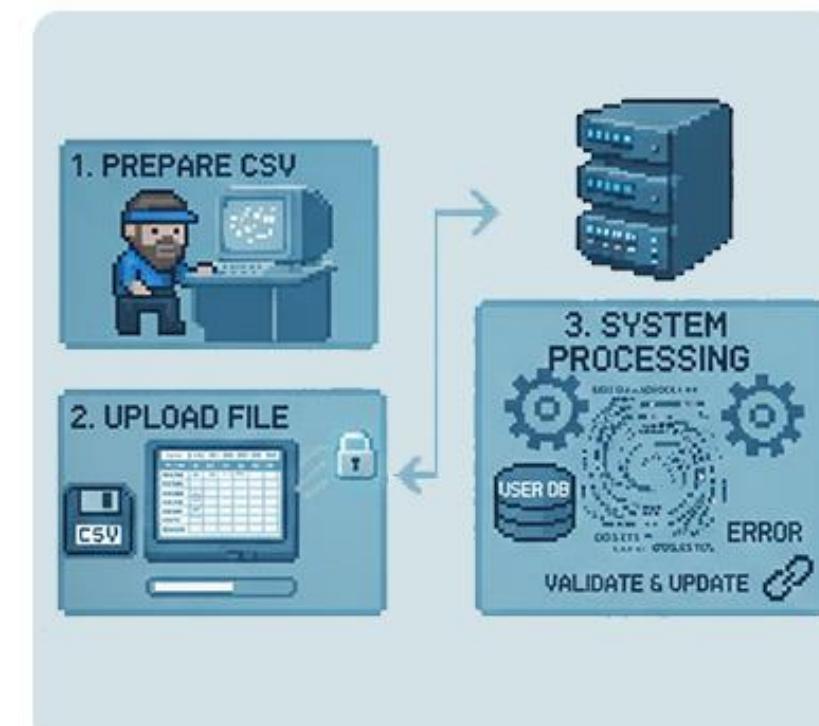
- Examples: Name changes, account changes when hiring former students, issues when students leave and decide to return, etc.



The customer experience

- While some users had a good onboarding experience, others did not. The experience was inconsistent.

## OLD WAY PASSWORD RESET



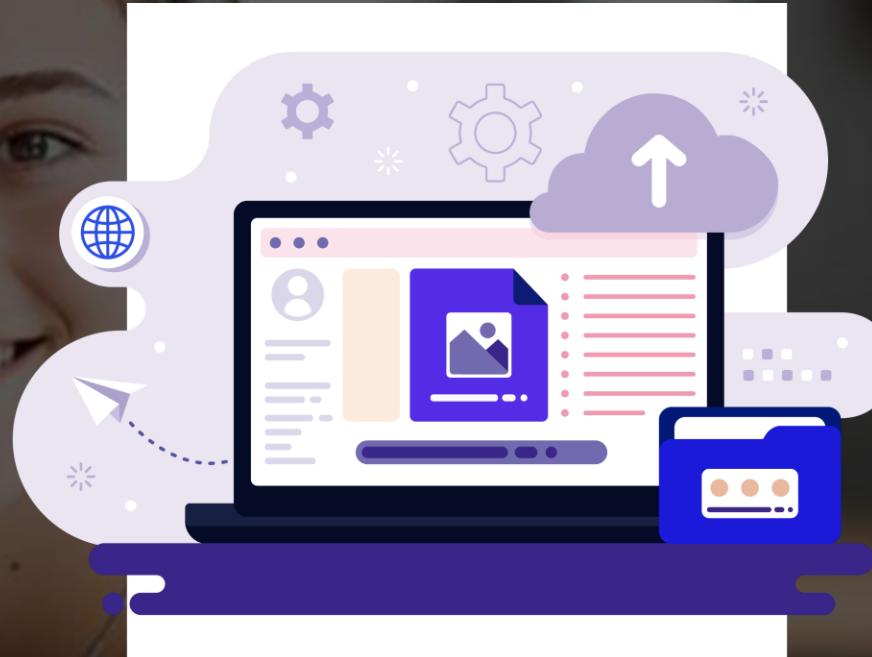
## “User Experience”

- Unifying our existing platforms into a common identity solution
- Simplifying end-user access
- Simplifying end-user account management
- Improving security and introducing multi factor authentication
- Improving account creation automation and reducing human error

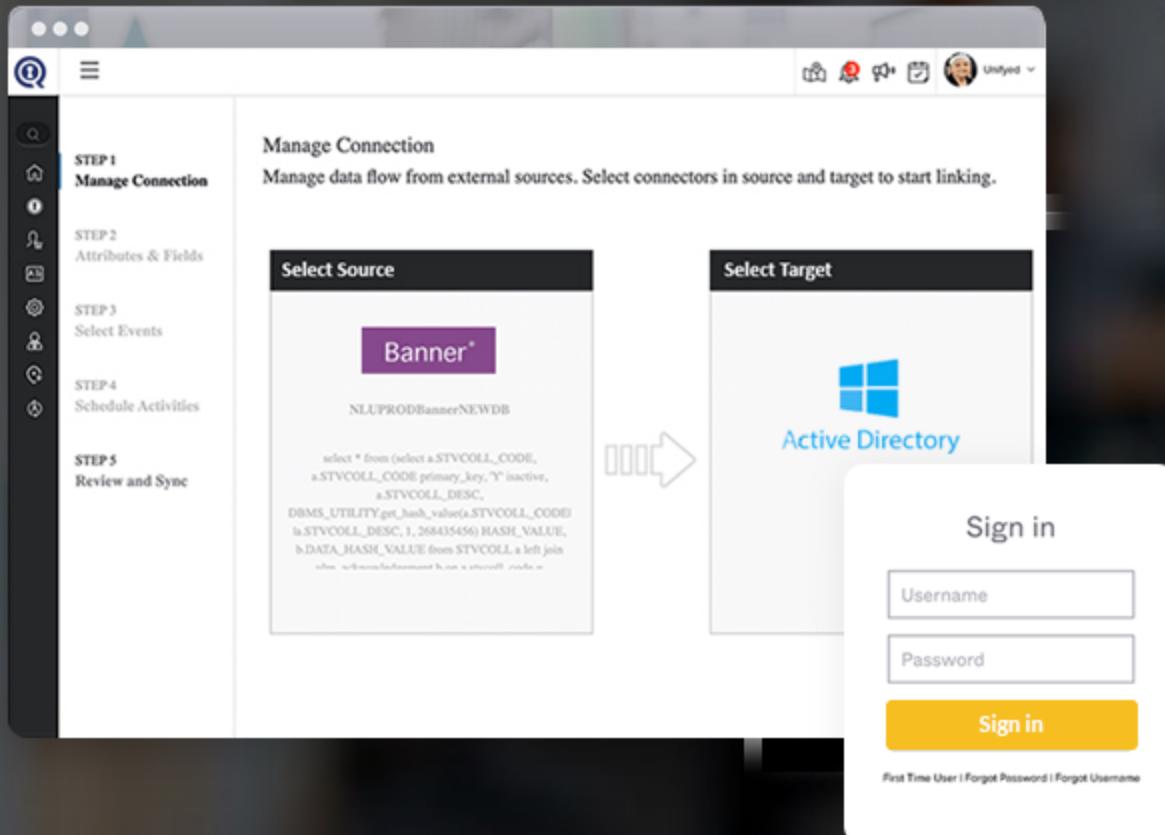


# Special Requirements

- Our SIS must remain the source of truth
- We can't interface directly with the SIS because of hosting requirements
- Phase 1: We onboarded Gmail, Brightspace, and Office 365 with SSO
- Phase 2: We automated account creation of Gmail and Brightspace (O365 already syncs with AD)
- Phase 3: Campuswide MFA



# Automated Provisioning

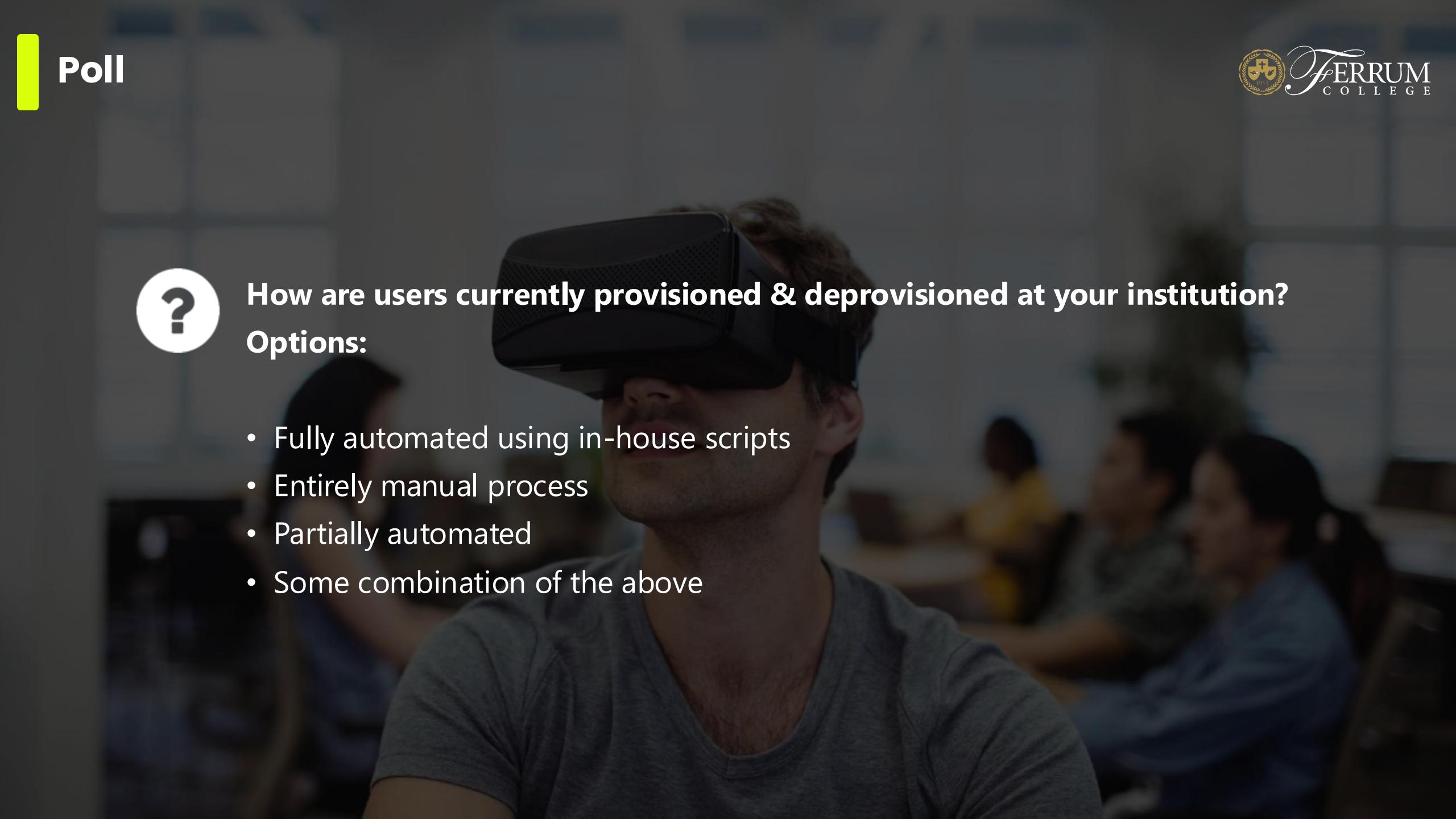


- Our SIS Hosted environment restrictions prevented interactions from 3rd party integrations, so we improvised:  
SIS >> AD >> QuicklaunchDB >> Apps
- Brightspace and Gmail would be have automated account creation based on the accounts synced to Quicklaunch from Active Directory

# Benefits from Quicklaunch Solution

- Reduced password reset tickets (evident by the dashboard)
- Self-sufficient end users (reset passwords)
- Simplified access for users (less forgot passwords)
- Account creation automation
- Greater account security through MFA
- Greater account security through the simplification of account access
- Easier management for IT staff



A dark, slightly blurred background image of a person wearing a virtual reality headset, looking upwards and to the right. The person is wearing a grey t-shirt. In the foreground, there is a white circle containing a black question mark icon.

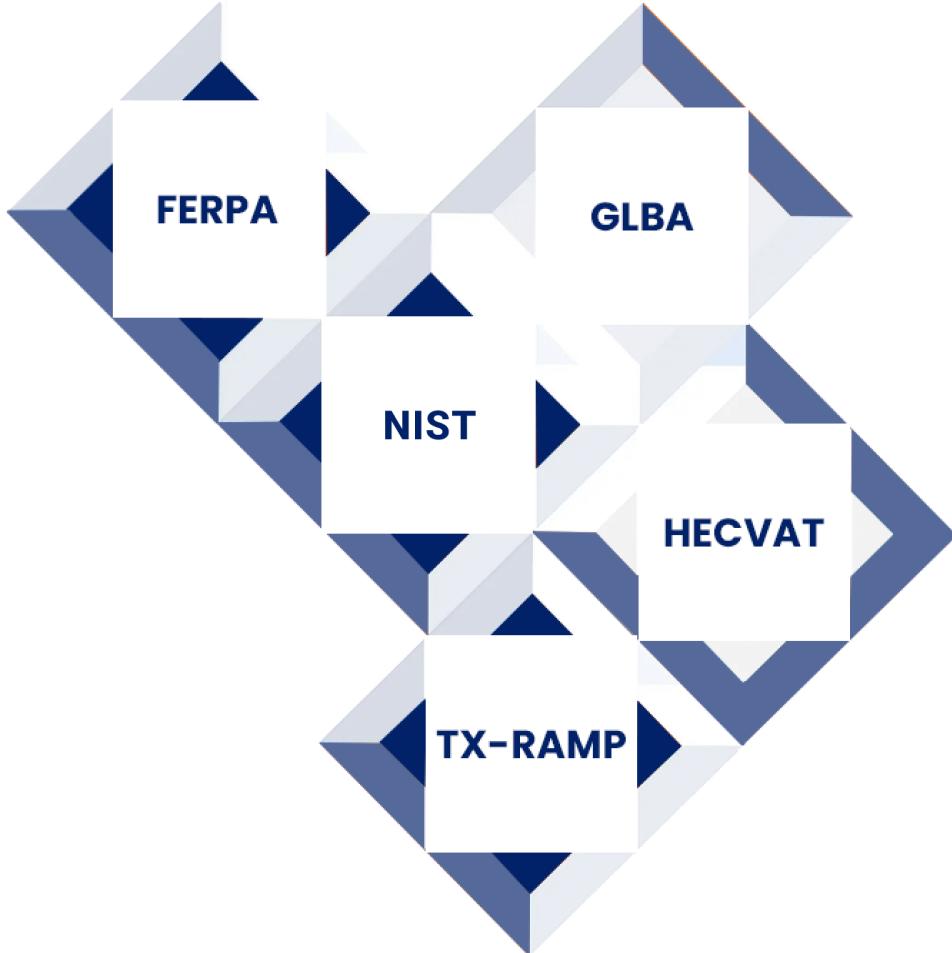
## How are users currently provisioned & deprovisioned at your institution?

### Options:

- Fully automated using in-house scripts
- Entirely manual process
- Partially automated
- Some combination of the above

# Demo: From Scripts to Modern Automation





**Automation enhances both efficiency and control.**

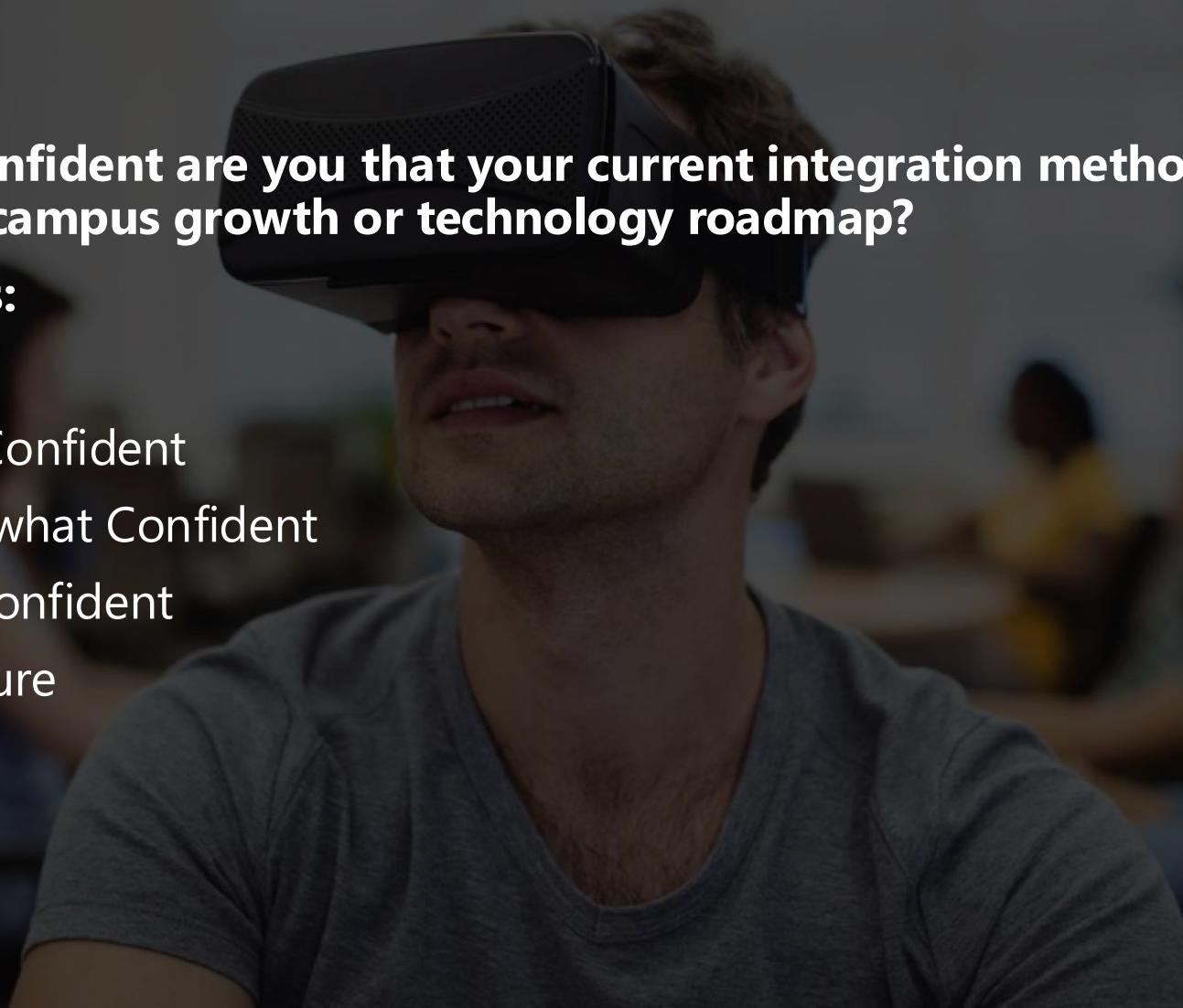
- **Audit Logs:** Every account and data change is tracked.
- **Policy-Based Workflows:** Govern access by user type, department, or system.
- **Data Security:** Eliminates risk from dormant accounts or human error.
- **Compliance Alignment:** Supports FERPA, SOC 2, and NIST 800-63-4.
- **Resilient Infrastructure:** Reduces key-person dependency and scripting errors.



**How confident are you that your current integration methods can scale with your campus growth or technology roadmap?**

**Options:**

- Very Confident
- Somewhat Confident
- Not Confident
- Not Sure





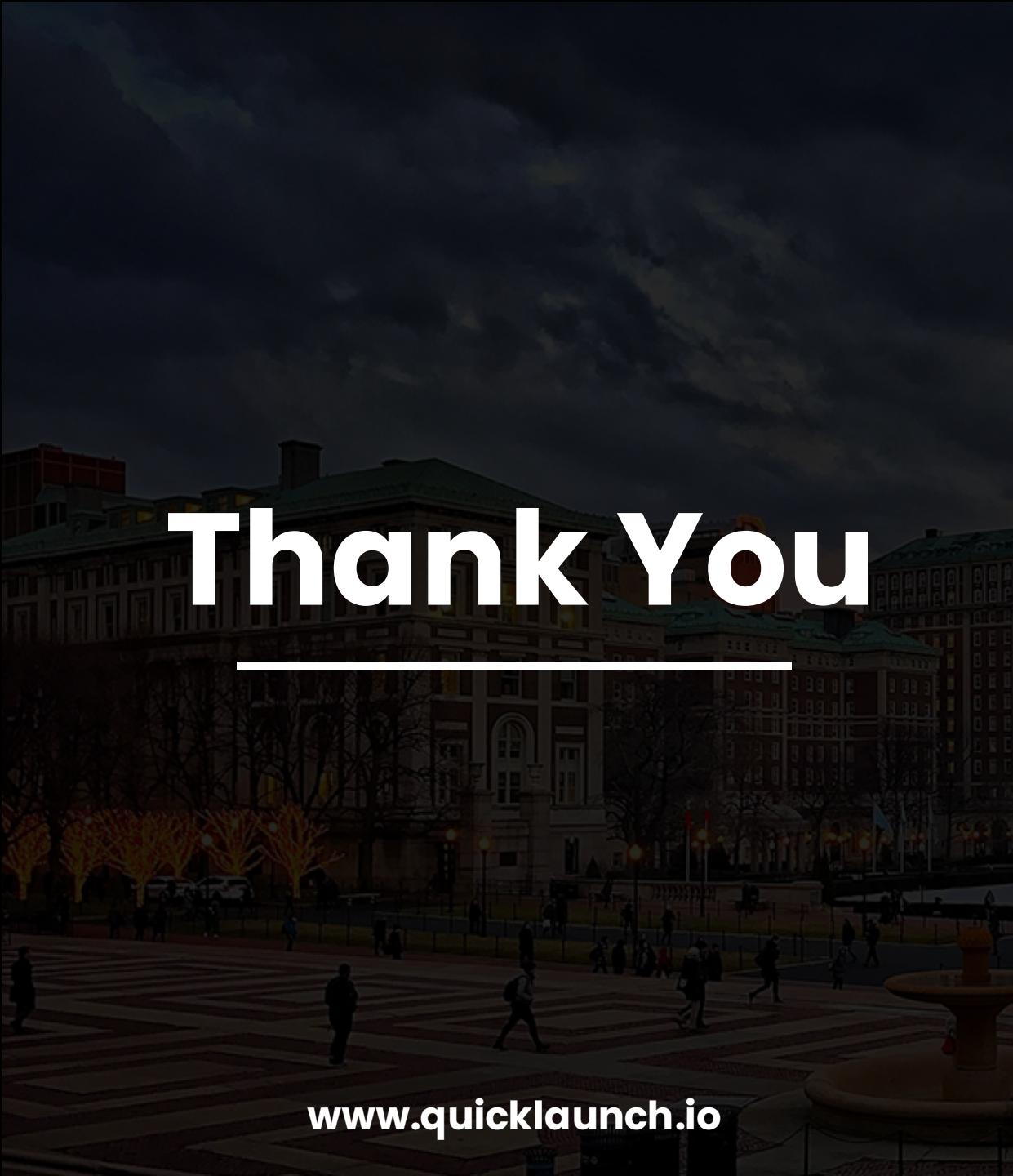
We'd now like to open the floor for your questions.

# Limited-Time Offer for Higher Education Institutions

-  **Partner with us by Jan 31, 2026**
-  **Waived Implementation Fee**

**Sign up for a no cost consultation call today!**





# Thank You

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[www.quicklaunch.io](http://www.quicklaunch.io)

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*AI-powered integration & identity*



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