15.568 – Practical Information Technology Management – Spring 2005

Class 4: Administrative Data Project (B) (C)

Questions and other assignment points for Thursday:

Read: De Meyer, A., Loch, C.H., & Pich, M.T., "Managing project uncertainty: from variation to chaos" SMR 43, 2, winter 2002, 60-67, reprint 4326

Prepare for discussion: Administrative Data Project (B) (HBS 9-803-052), and Administrative Data Project (C) (HBS 9-803-053)

Consider the following questions:

1. Why has the Administrative Data Project continued to be extended without really achieving its intended financial goals?

2. Is the project a success or failure at the time of the "C" case? What should be done now to make it a success?

3. In retrospect, what should have been done differently from the outset, May 1993, to have improved the chances of a full success? Use the De Meyer et al article to help you think about alternative ways to plan and manage the project.