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# Florida Board of Governors Budget and Finance Committee Meeting Management Controls and Business Process Assessment January 29, 2020

# Agenda

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1. Assessment Overview

2. Observations and Themes

3. Recommendations

5 Q&A





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# Assessment Overview

# Project Objectives & Scope

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## **Objectives.**

Conduct an internal management and accounting/financial control assessment to evaluate the existing internal controls and business processes to identify any areas of risk for the SUS

## **Scope.**

The internal management and accounting controls of the SUS.

# Project Update – Completed Activities

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We have completed our procedures for all 12 universities within the SUS which included:

- 1) Assessing BOG regulations, university policies, procedures, processes and business requirements.
- 2) Preparing inherent risk assessments arising from our assessment of the above as well as our experience in common risks within higher education
- 3) Distributing risk/control questionnaires to university management and conducting interviews onsite to understand risk management and control practices
- 4) Completing evaluations of each university's risk management and control structure
- 5) Identifying gaps in controls and process improvement opportunities as observations and recommendations which have been discussed with management.
- 6) Submitting draft reports to university management for their written response to our observations and recommendations.

# A Collaborative Approach

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- We worked closely with university management who were cooperative and supportive of this engagement.
- Our process was built upon collaboration and dialogue with management. For example:
  - We sent requests for materials in advance of onsite visits (policies/procedures, org charts, strategic plans, risk assessments, previous audits, etc.)
  - We distributed an Information Technology controls questionnaire and reviewed the responses with management to confirm our understanding.
  - We held Fieldwork Exit Conferences with university management to review draft observations for factual accuracy.
    - Where management disagreed we requested additional documentation/evidence to support their assertions.
    - We were able to resolve numerous observations prior to drafting the report.
  - We sent draft reports to management and provided the opportunity to respond in writing to our observations and recommendations.
    - Level of agreement (Agree, partially agree, or disagree).
    - Action Plans.

# Risk Rating Methodology

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- **Inherent Risk**

- Establishes a baseline for risk assessment
- Considers “environmental” and “industry” factors
- Does not focus on specific risk mitigation or controls.

- **Control Effectiveness**

- Identifies specific risk mitigation/control activities.
- Evaluates the adequacy of their design
- Evaluates their relevance to addressing specific risks (identified above).

- **Residual Risk**

- Measures risk levels after the effect of controls
- Typically is evaluated against risk appetite or tolerances
- Provides a view into control effectiveness
- Can be evaluated over time to measure risk management performance

# Risk Rating Methodology (Continued)

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- Five-point scale
  - Not required – organization should select a model that work best for them.
  - Selected in the absence of a SUS-wide risk assessment methodology.
  - Provides more granularity than the three-point scale.

## Impact

- Measures the effect on the related objectives if a risk event were to occur.
  - Inherent impact measures the environment or industry before controls.
  - Residual impact measures controls' ability to reduce impact of risk events if they occur.

## Likelihood

- Measures the probability that the risk event will occur (i.e. usually within a 12 month period)
  - Inherent likelihood measures the environment or industry before controls.
  - Residual likelihood measures controls' ability to reduce probability of risk events' occurrence.





# Observations and Themes

# Themes

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1. Overall, our procedures indicated that controls over internal management and accounting controls of the SUS appeared to be in place.
2. Control gaps or weaknesses were rated “Low” or “Moderate”
  - Intended to convey control “improvement opportunities” not significant issues.
  - Represent lower tiers on the five-point rating scale.
3. Greatest threats to control structure:
  - Management override of controls/collusion.
  - Informal information security control practices.
  - Clear roles and responsibilities for third-party oversight.
  - Varying interpretations of active BOG regulations.

# Observations

Financial Reporting Observations	Risk Rating	Number of Occurrences SUS-Wide: (3)
Restricted Funds – Interfund Transfers	Moderate	2
Monitoring of Budget-to-Actual Performance	Low	1

Procurement Observations	Risk Rating	Number of Occurrences SUS-Wide: (2)
Contract Management - Shared Services Agreements	Moderate	1
Policies and Procedures – Vendor Setup and Monitoring	Moderate	1

Grant Management Observation	Risk Rating	Number of Occurrences SUS-Wide: (1)
Segregation of Duties: Grant Drawdown Process	Moderate	1

# Observations (continued)

Information Technology Observations	Risk Rating	Number of Occurrences SUS-Wide (39)
Configuration Management Program	Moderate	3
Business Continuity Management – Incident Classification	Moderate	1
Information Security Governance Key Risk and Performance Indicators (2) Cybersecurity Risk Management Program (2) Policies and Procedures (2) “Clean Desk” Policy (4)	Low - Moderate	10
Employee Security Awareness Training	Low	6
Data Protection Employee Removable Media (6) Employee Mobile Device Management Policy (5) Sensitive Data-Tracking (1) Data Handling and Classification (1) Data Center Moisture Detection Systems (1)	Low	14
Logging and Monitoring Policy	Low	1
Monitoring of Third-Party Service Providers	Low	1
User Termination and Role Changes	Low	2
IT Operations – Asset Tracking	Low	1

# Observations (continued)

Risk Category	Observation	UWF	FSU	UNF	UF	UCF	FAMU	FPU	USF	NCF	FIU	FAU	FGCU
Financial Reporting	Monitoring of Budget-to-Actual Performance									Low			
Financial Reporting	Restricted Funds – Interfund Transfers					Moderate				Moderate			
Procurement	Contract Management - Shared Service Contracts	Moderate											
Procurement	Policies and Procedures - Vendor Setup and Monitoring	Moderate											
Grant Management	Segregation of Duties - Grant Drawdown Process												Moderate
Information Technology	Business Continuity Management - Incident Classification	Moderate											
Information Technology	Configuration Management - Configuration Management Program		Moderate			Moderate					Moderate		
Information Technology	Data Protection - Data Handling and Classification Policy										Low		
Information Technology	Data Protection - Employee Mobile Device Management Policy	Low		Low						Low	Low	Low	
Information Technology	Data Protection – Employee Removable Media	Low	Low			Low	Low	Low				Low	
Information Technology	Data Protection - Sensitive Data-Tracking		Low										
Information Technology	Employee Management – Employee Security Awareness Training	Low			Low	Low	Low					Low	Low
Information Technology	Employee Management - User Termination and Role Change		Low		Low								
Information Technology	Information Security Governance – Clean Desk Policy			Low		Low				Low		Low	
Information Technology	Information Security Governance - Cybersecurity Risk Management Program					Low					Low		
Information Technology	Information Security Governance - Key Risk and Performance Indicators		Moderate									Moderate	
Information Technology	Information Security Governance - Policies and Procedures						Low	Low					
Information Technology	Logging and Monitoring - Logging and Monitoring Policy											Low	
Information Technology	Data Protection - Data Center Moisture Detection									Low			
Information Technology	IT Operations - Asset Tracking											Low	
Information Technology	Monitoring of Third-Party Service Providers		Low										





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# Recommendations

# Conclusions

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- A series of minor-moderate improvements in financial and **information technology controls** could significantly improve assurance over reliability of data (e.g. guidance on data protection considering Sunshine State laws)
- An enhanced focus on **third-party risk management** would increase transparency and accountability among university service providers (and help manage costs).
- Building upon initiatives that **share information, dialogue, and resources** across the SUS could help address major challenges (e.g. best practices in controls, managing shared services agreements, interpreting BOG regulations).
- Establishing an **enterprise risk management (ERM) program** for the SUS could be an effective way to address the observations and themes and numerous other challenges using a comprehensive, structured, and methodical approach.





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# Questions?