Financial Internal Controls

Financial Information Management & Financial Reporting

> Administrative Council Meeting April 21, 2016



Agenda

- I. Refresh: "Anchor Team" Background / Goals
- II. April 13, 2016 Report: Team Discoveries,Observations and Recommendations
 - Financial Reporting Subteam
 - GL Entry Subteam
 - Account Reconciliation Subteam
- III. What to Anticipate Next



Financial Internal Controls Project Structure



Updated January 2016

Anchor Team Goals

- 1. Establish accounting processes and activities to ensure the integrity of financial data contained within the General Ledger.
- 2. Provide a supporting structure necessary for the production and distribution of financial reports in accordance with stakeholder requirements and customer needs.



Financial Reporting Recommendations

- Assign responsibility for monitoring of transactions.
- Define and monitor proper usage of SFS funding string fields (i.e., Fund-Department-Project-Program-Account).
- Improve "program code" and "account code" definitions.
- Strengthen policy on Revenue Producing Activities (RPAs).
- Create a comprehensive accounting policy manual, including a glossary of terms.
- Develop capacity to produce GAAP/GASB financial reports.
- Explore opportunities for the integration of shadow systems.



GL Entry Recommendations

- Overall, policies and procedures are to be written, easily accessible and enforced.
- SFS direct entry access needs to be controlled.
- Journal Entry Tool (JET) needs to be redesigned.
- Establish criteria (roles, approvals, access, etc.) for new shadow systems that provide outputs that are processed through JET.



Account Reconciliation Recommendations

- Establish financial policy defining account reconciliation requirements.
- Communicate and train staff on account reconciliation procedures.
- Need to enable processes to support balance sheet reconciliations.



What to Anticipate (from Anchor Team)

Funding String / COA / Reports

- Complete requirements gathering (i.e., GAAP/GASB and managerial reporting needs).
- Build out UW-Madison funding string fields and COA.
- Create both cash and accrual books.
- Develop common set of financial reports, including managerial.

Access to GL / JET

- Clarify roles within GL.
- Modify direct entry access.
- Design future state GL entry (i.e., change JET tool design, develop approval workflows, provide for inflow from feeder systems).

Account Reconciliation

- Work with campus units to provide support materials for current year-end data submissions to Accounting Services.
- Draft reconciliation requirements, policies and procedures.
- Develop GL data reports/templates to which campus units can reconcile.



What to Anticipate Next (Overall)

- Review reports and recommendations from other financial process improvement teams launched so far.
- > Align and prioritize recommendations.
- > Assess the timing/launch of other five teams.
- Develop implementation plans and timelines.



Questions / Comments

