University of California Office of the President Enterprise Risk Management (ERM)

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Bulletin #9

February 5, 2010

Decision Support System and Enterprise Risk Management Information System

Since 1996, the University of California has been moving towards an enterprise approach to identifying and managing risk. The ERM Program and Enterprise Risk Management Information System (ERMIS), which was deployed in late 2008, provide a platform of tools. The Decision Support System (DSS) has just recently been put in place. This bulletin highlights the ERMIS and the DSS and how they are different and complimentary. In short, the ERMIS is a risk-based program and system and the DSS is a broader information system. The DSS will complement ERM in that it will create a reliable source from which to extract data into the ERMIS for risk identification and analysis.

University of California Office of the President Enterprise Risk Management Information System (ERMIS) – Background

The operational needs of the various UC campuses are different, and so are their needs for defining and classifying data. Business units and divisions across the UC have a need to identify available risk and controls information, acquire it, conduct data analysis, and interpret the results.

The University recognizes the need to enable the UC's faculty, staff, and students to identify and manage risks associated with their activities, consistent with the UC's mission of teaching, research, and public service. By strategically managing risk, UC can reduce the chances of loss, create greater financial stability, and protect UC resources.

The Enterprise Risk Management Information System (ERMIS) includes

- Dashboard reporting on major areas of risk
- Risk assessment tools
- Control and accountability tracking platform
- Risk mitigation and monitoring tools
- Survey capabilities

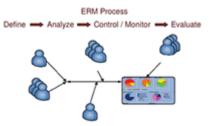
All of these tools can be used independently or interdependently, allowing for:

- Better quantitative analysis capabilities
- Improved analytical and reporting capabilities
- Support for leading risk governance and compliance processes
- System-wide visibility, with local flexibility
- Scalability without additional burden on UC staff

These capabilities lower the overall cost of risk (often times associated with day to day operations) across the institution.







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The newly constituted Institutional Research Office at the Office of the President has partnered with the Office of Information Resources and Communications to develop an integrated data enterprise system to support decision making at UCOP and on the campuses. The Decision Support System (DSS) will make it possible to integrate data from across the UC system, as well as to incorporate data from external sources. Once implemented, it will provide authorized users in the University community with direct access to data from many of the University's major administrative systems.

The goals of the Institutional Research Decision Support System are to provide:

- Integrated data repository
- Data validation and transformation processes
- Improved data quality and consistency
- Improved access to and timeliness of data and reports
- Documentation and standard definitions
- Standard and ad hoc reporting capabilities
- Highly interactive query and comparative data capabilities
- Visualization (maps, graphs, tracking tools)
- Data security appropriate to users' functional areas and business needs
- A high degree of self-service for constituents (via the Internet) customized for their specific information needs
- Cost effective alternatives to individualized solutions for each UC unit

The first phase of this project will focus on incorporating campus Payroll Personnel System (PPS) information into the DSS. Please note that this project is distinct from, but complimentary to, a survey that will be conducted by a third party vendor on behalf of Associate Vice President David Ernst, in consultation with campus controllers. This second survey, likely to be deployed this fall, will assess current baseline practices for human resources, financial and budget management, with a goal to develop consolidated best practices across the UC system.

To learn more, please visit the Risk Services website at http://www.ucop.edu/riskmgt/welcome.html and follow the "Enterprise Risk Management" link. If you have any questions about the ERMIS, please contact Chief Risk Officer Grace M. Crickette (email grace.crickette@ucop.edu, telephone 510-987-9820). For questions about DSS, please contact Director of Institutional Research Kathleen Dettman (email kathleen.dettman@ucop.edu, telephone 510-987-9251).