

# Report of Planned Internal Audit Activities 2007



# Finance, Audit and Facilities Committee Board of Regents

Department of Audits University of Washington

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### **Executive Summary**

Internal Audit engages in three primary activities – audits, advisory services, and investigations. Our focus is to proactively work with campus schools and colleges assisting management to address financial risk and exposures. Rather than duplicate the financial and compliance auditing performed by KPMG and the State Auditor's Office, Internal Audit concentrates on departmental control systems and processes. In this way, audit resources are maximized.

Internal Audit's goals for 2007 are:

- Complete the top ten high risk audits
- Develop and staff the Medical Centers' audit function
- Implement the quality assurance review recommendations
- Continue participation in the development of University-wide strategic risk management framework

The University of Washington Internal Audit Plan for 2007 is designed to provide comprehensive audit coverage, deploying Internal Audit resources in an effective and efficient manner. As in years past, we will continue to focus on the high risk areas as identified by our risk assessment.



#### 2007 Audit Focus

#### Federal Regulatory Issues

#### **Effort Certification Process**

Faculty effort on research projects continues to be the subject of scrutiny by federal and state auditors. Faculty Effort Certifications (FECs) and Grant and Contract Certification Reports (GCCRs) document faculty and staff efforts charged to sponsored projects. FECs also document cost sharing. We will review controls to ensure effort certification reports are certified by the due date. We will also determine whether principal investigator efforts on sponsored projects are consistent with the level of commitment proposed to the federal government.

#### Clerical and Administrative Salaries

The Department of Health and Human Services Office of Inspector General's (DHHS OIG) 2007 Work Plan includes a review of administrative and clerical salaries directly charged to federally sponsored projects. Federal regulations state such costs should normally be treated as indirect costs. We will determine whether clerical and administrative salaries are charged in accordance with University policy and federal regulation.

#### Cost Transfers

The DHHS OIG's 2007 Work Plan includes a review of cost transfers on federal awards. At the University, there are several mechanisms to transfer costs. We will determine whether the proper mechanism is being used. We will also review controls to ensure that cost transfers are valid, properly supported and approved.

#### Grants Management

We anticipate continued federal interest in research and program accountability. The University can be proud of its award winning grants management program. Internal Audit will continue to identify high risk departments and work with departmental management to ensure full compliance with applicable regulations.

#### Capital Projects

The need to ensure that ongoing and new capital projects do not expose the University to major financial losses is a continuing internal audit focus. In 2007 we will focus on control systems that ensure construction project costs are accurately tracked, and that projects are completed on time and within budget.

#### **Internal Control Systems**

The University continues to move its central systems away from pre-approval controls and toward post audit controls. Internal Audit provides advisory services and training to ensure that departments continue to have a sound basis for establishing and monitoring internal control systems. It is more important than ever that departmental management understand the risks and responsibilities associated with operating in a decentralized post audit control environment. As more functions are delegated to departments, oversight is required to ensure that controls are in place and serve the intended purpose.



### 2007 Audit Focus (continued)

Resource demands on departmental general operating funds force departments to make difficult decisions regarding resource allocations. Resource pressures may result in the elimination of critical system controls. Without system checks and balances, departments have a higher exposure to financial irregularities and noncompliance with policies and regulations.

#### Gifts and Endowments

During FY 2006, the University received more than \$200 million in gifts and endowments. The University relies on individual departments to ensure that these funds are spent in accordance with donor intentions. In 2007, we will review departmental controls designed to ensure gift and endowment funds are expended according to donor intent.

#### Computing and Networking

#### Departmental Computing and Networking

University departments often develop and operate their own computer systems because of special needs. Our focus is on identifying critical systems and networks managed at the departmental level so that we can ensure the security of the overall University computing environment. Toward this objective, we are working with departmental staff to promote awareness of risks and issues concerning internal security and uninterrupted operations.

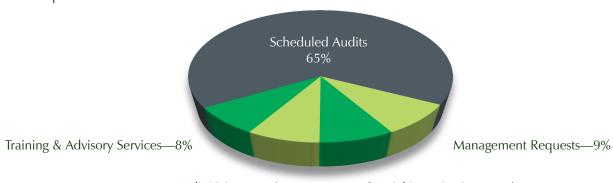
#### **Data Security**

The University and its affiliated institutions acquire, generate, and maintain an enormous amount of data as part of business operations, education programs, and extensive research efforts. Data are stored in electronic form on a variety of information systems. Proper protection of data and information systems is determined by a combination of compliance requirements mandated by state and federal government statutes and regulations, accepted best practices, and institutional risk management decisions. In 2007, we plan to review information security controls designed to ensure the proper protection of University data and information systems.



## 2007 Scheduled Audits

	Internal Controls	Compliance	Business Processes	Information Systems	Follow- Ups
Student Database				•	
UW Medicine Information Technology Services				•	
UW Medicine –Pediatrics				•	
Health Sciences—Primate Center	•		•	•	•
School of Medicine—Genome Sciences	•	•			
Department of Medicine Metabolism, Endocrinology, and Nutrition Medicine	•	•			
Grants and Contracts		•			
Faculty Effort Certifications (FECs)		•			
Clerical and Administrative Salaries		•			
Gifts and Endowments	•	•			
Educational Outreach	•		•	•	
Grants and Contracts—Cost Transfers		•			
UW Medicine—Respiratory Care				•	
President's Office	•	•	•		
Intercollegiate Athletics	•	•	•		•
Capital Projects	•		•		•
Various Departments					•

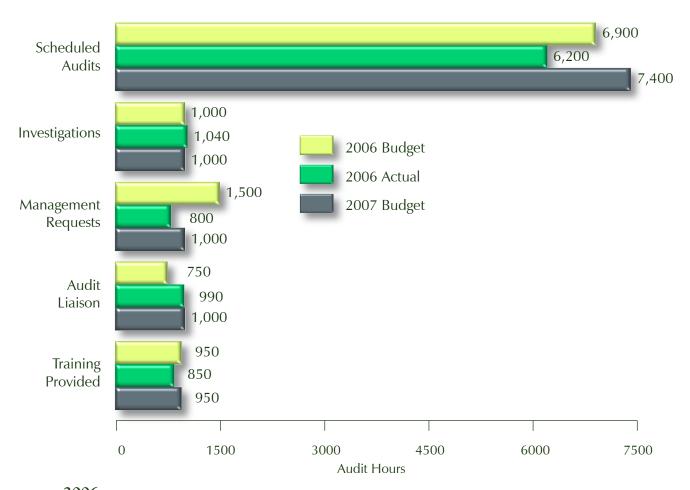


Audit Liaison—9%

Special Investigations—9%



2007 Planned Audit Hours



#### 2006

• Staff turnover and extended leave resulted in reduced audit resources available for scheduled audits

#### 2007

- Budget for scheduled audits increased in anticipation of a fully staffed internal audit department
- Budget for management requests reduced to align with 2006 results
- Budget for audit liaison increased in anticipation of the external audit activity remaining high



## Summary of Audit Coverage

The University departments listed below are ranked from high to low in terms of the relative risk they represent. A  $\bullet$  in the columns to the right signifies the areas each auditing entity plans to audit in 2007. A  $\ddagger$  represents the areas audited by other auditors in 2006.

Risk Ranl		University Internal Audit	Hospital Internal Audit	State Auditor's Office	KPMG	Peterson Sullivan	Other Auditors
1.	School of Medicine	•		•			‡
2.	Harborview Medical Center	•	•	•	•		
3.	University Medical Center	•	•	•	•		
	Health Sciences	•					‡
5.	Computing & Communications						
6.	College of Arts & Sciences		•	•			‡
7.	College of Engineering			•			‡
8.	Grant & Contract Accounting	•		•	•		‡
9.	School of Business Administration	•					
10.	College of Ocean & Fishery Sciences						‡
11.							
12.	School of Social Work						
13.	College of Forest Resources						
14.	Treasury Office				•		
15.	Educational Outreach	•					
16.	Office of Research						‡
17.	School of Dentistry						
18.	Capital Projects	•					
19.	Payroll			•	•		
	Payables Operations			•	•		
	Financial Accounting			•	•		
	Facilities Services				•		
	Student Fiscal Services				•		‡
	Transportation				•		
	Housing & Food Services					•	
26.	Intercollegiate Athletics	•			•		
27.	Office of Development & Alumni Relations				•		
28.	Enrollment Services (Admissions & Records)						
29.	College of Architecture & Urban Planning						
30.	Bothell Campus						
31.	School of Law						
32.	Purchasing			•	•		‡



## Summary of Audit Coverage (continued)

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Risk, Rank		University Internal Audit	Hospital Internal Audit	State Auditor's Office	KPMG	Peterson Sullivan	Other Auditors
33.	UW Tech Transfer						
34.	Undergraduate Education	•					
35.	Equipment Inventory			•	•	‡	
36.	School of Nursing						
37.	Graduate School						‡
38.	Real Estate/Metropolitan Tract Office					•	
39.	Student Financial Aid						
40.	University Libraries	•					
41.	Office of Sponsored Programs	•					
42.	Human Resources						
43.	Student Life						
44.	Provost						
45.	Daniel J. Evans School of Public Affairs						
46.	Tacoma Campus						
47.	Risk Management				•		
48.	University Police						
49.	Student Activities and Union Facilities					•	
50.	Media Relations and Communications						
51.	Business Services						
52.	College of Education						
53.	School of Pharmacy						
54.	Information School						
55.	Planning & Budgeting						
56.	ASUW/GPSS					•	
57.	Minority Affairs						
58.	Student Publications					•	



### Risk Assessment Methodology

We use a risk assessment model to prioritize audit coverage and ensure timely reviews of high exposure areas. We define risk to include:

- Loss, unauthorized use and misappropriation of University assets
- Violation of laws and regulations
- Adverse publicity involving the University

The risk assessment process includes gathering and evaluating information from senior management and college and department administrators, and utilizing the University's data warehouse for financial information. We use the following risk factors to help identify high risk areas.

- Business Exposure
- Compliance Requirements
- Control Environment Stability
- Audit Coverage
- Financial Impact
- Information Systems Complexity
- Management's Interest
- Auditor's Interest

We review risk assessment models used by peer institutions and utilize their experience and knowledge of university operations to ensure our risk assessment model includes factors relevant to the University of Washington.

We develop our annual audit plan based on the results of the risk assessment survey, management input, planned external audit coverage and issues currently affecting universities nationwide.



### Elements of the Audit Planning Process

- Interviews of senior University management for key concerns
- University-wide assessment of risk
- Consideration of the changing environment and identification of issues that could affect the University
- Evaluation of issues of concern to other universities

#### Universities contacted:

University of Arizona

University of California - Berkeley

University of California - San Diego

University of California System

Colorado State University System

Cornell University

University of Florida

University of Georgia

Georgia Institute of Technology

University of Georgia System

University of Illinois - Urbana-Champaign

John Hopkins University

Massachusetts Institute of Technology

University of Michigan

University of Minnesota

University of New Mexico

University of North Carolina - Chapel Hill

Oregon University System

University of Pennsylvania

Stanford University

Texas A&M University Systems

University of Texas System

University of Utah

University of Wisconsin-Madison

- Integrated planning with external auditors
- Assessment of cyclical audit coverage for the high-risk organizational units identified in our risk assessment