Data Access Guideline – Access to Financial Data

Executive Summary

This Data Access Guideline is a recommendation being put forth by the Office of the Controller and by the Data Management Committee to allow unrestricted access to financial information to authorized UW employees who need the information to do their jobs. Specifically, this guideline applies to financial information created by and maintained in the UW’s Financial Accounting System (FAS) and to the same information maintained in the UW’s Enterprise Data Warehouse.

Rationale

Given the significant number of interdisciplinary grants and activities, the need for units to view financial information of other units to manage these grants and activities has become vital. Additionally, as the UW implements more interdisciplinary applications to efficiently and effectively manage interdisciplinary activity, the need for unrestricted access will further increase.

Allowing unrestricted access to financial data supports the UW values of visibility and collaboration and will be critical to effective reporting, monitoring and management of financial operations across the University.

Advisory Opinions Sought

The UW Office of Office of the Controller shared the initiative for open financial information with individuals who are responsible for financial oversight in various schools, colleges, and departments including the Chancellors of the Bothell and Tacoma Campuses, many of the Deans, department administrators, controllers, and CFOs. Additionally, the initiative was discussed with key areas of central administration that commonly deal with confidential or restricted data that may appear in FAS such as Human Resources, Human Subjects Division and Risk Management. This process, the individual concerns, results and any proposed solutions are summarized in the attached Addendum.

Concurrence

The undersigned concur with the proposed change in data access described in this Data Management Guideline.

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