



CAMPUS MEMO

TO: Donna Christian, Chairperson
Enterprise Risk Management Committee

Jeff Morrissey, CIO
Computer Services

FROM: William R. Spencer, Chairperson 
Information Security Executive Committee

DATE: June 25, 2015

RE: IT Risk Management and Microsoft Office365

As demonstrated by the 2015 Emergency Preparedness Exercise, an information systems compromise would have severe and lasting negative impacts to the University. The exercise confirmed that information technology is imperative to virtually all University functions. It is essential that adequate controls are in place to ensure the integrity, security, and availability of information systems.

Third-party assessments by Netspi in 2008 and 360Advanced in 2013 identified information security as a critical risk area for the University. Recently, these findings were reaffirmed by the Enterprise Risk Management Committee. The Information Security Officer's risks remediation status report of May 2015 states that critical risk management deficiencies persists in the areas of Data Leak Prevention, Phishing Management, Email Encryption, EDiscovery and Archiving, and Disaster Preparedness. The Information Security Executive Committee (ISEC) has determined the University is in an untenable position with regard to information systems resiliency and security, and has evaluated all available options for addressing these areas of risk.

The ISEC recommends the University implement the Computer Services advocated solution of leveraging the IT risk management capabilities integrated into the Microsoft Office365 environment to provide the remediation, mitigation, and management capabilities necessary to address some of the major mission critical IT-related risks. Unfortunately, the Microsoft Campus Agreement does not provide the Office365 environment required to support our faculty, staff, and administrators without additional costs.

Transitional and recurring costs:

- \$50,000 (one-time) vendor managed implementation services
- \$93,360 (recurring) estimated annual license agreement (\$24/year per employee)

In summary, the University can realize significant enhancements to customer service and risk management capabilities by transitioning faculty, staff, and administrators into the Office 365 environment. The Information Security Executive Committee recommends one-time monies be identified in FY16 to bring the Office 365 initiative to fruition, and commitment in FY17 to provide continual funding for this important initiative.