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#### Agenda

- Learning Objectives
- Introductions
- Backdrop State of the Industry
- Options What Can be Outsourced and Why?
- Case Studies
- Risks and Success Factors
- What Next?



### **Learning Objectives**

- Recognize the different types of outsourcing increasing in popularity in the higher education industry
- Identify the benefits and risks to these arrangements
- Determine if your college or university has needs that may be met through an outsourced model

QA

#### **Introductions**



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Principal – Outsourced
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Joy Fisher, CPA
Consulting and Accounting
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# State of the Industry





### **State of the Industry**

What Does Virtual Learning Mean For The Future Of Higher Education?

Budget Cuts Looming In Indiana; Higher Education
Asked To Make 7% Cut

Commentary: Here's how higher education must adapt to meet students' needs in the pandemic era

Has Higher Education Lost Its Mind?

The Pandemic & Higher Education: Old Problems, New Opportunities



## Commonly Outsourced Functions in Higher Education

Bookstore

Food Service

Security

Housing Management

#### **Outsourcing:**

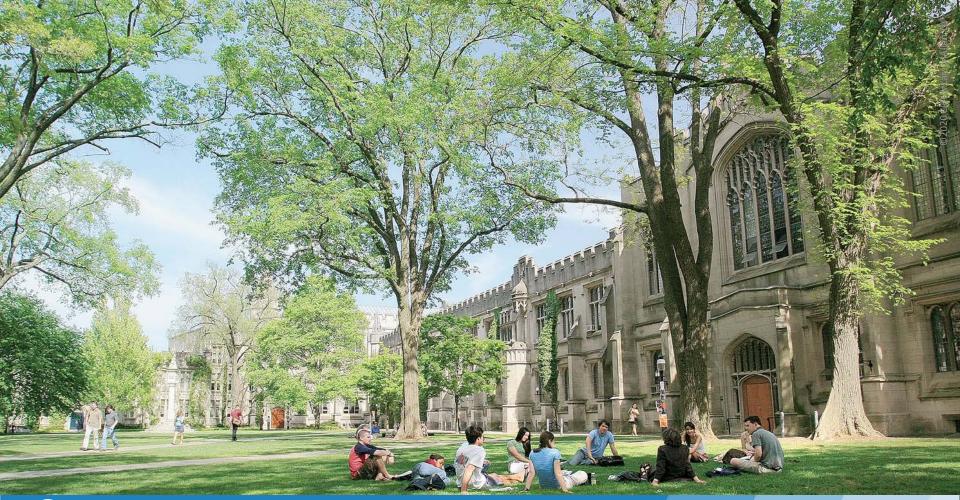
To obtain goods or services from an outside supplier in place of an internal resource.



#### Outsourced Administrative Functions





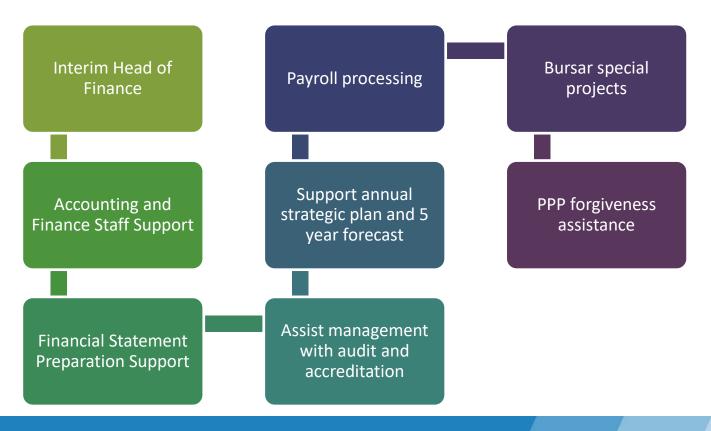


Case Study 1:
Interim
Finance and
Accounting
Outsourcing





#### **Case Study 1 – Outsourced Functions**





### **Case Study 1: Outsourcing Benefits**

Customized, flexible resources

Innovative solutions and new ideas

Thought leadership

Breadth of knowledge, experience, and network

4

## **Case Study 1: Unexpected Impact**

Payroll cost savings and efficiencies

3<sup>rd</sup> party vendor scrutiny Financial aid office forensic investigation

Still engaged; more to come!

4



#### Case Study 2 - Background

- Budget did not provide for a controller
- Unable to achieve segregation of duties
  - Difficulty with staff turnover
  - Limited financial reporting

#### Financial and operational activity includes:

- Housing and auxiliaries
- Endowment and split interest agreements
  - Title IV and Department of Education

**Private College** 

100 students; \$50M budget

Located in a dense, urban area with a high cost of living - and therefore high employment costs for experienced professionals

#### **Strategic initiatives include:**

- Revenue diversification
- New instructional programming
- Reorganization and cost containment



### **Case Study 2 – First Step Into Outsourcing**

Outsourced Roles: Controller + Senior Accountants

Outsourced
Accounting
Function and
System
Conversion

Turnover in related functions led to additional outsourcing

(I)

### Case Study 2 – Today

#### Why do they continue to down the outsourcing path?

- Familiarity with the technology they need
- Relationship that provides access to industry insight and tools
- Flexible resources turn fixed costs into variable expenses



Accounting

Financial Reporting





Student Financial Aid

Payroll





Human Resources

Outsourced

**Functions** 

#### **Outsourcing- Risks and Success Factors**



Transition challenges

Disconnected

Cost overruns

Vendor stability

Relationship point person
Recurring check ins
Transparent fee structure
Realistic expectations during
transition



## Q&A



