

This message is in regard to the strategic sourcing initiative, which is an opportunity identified in the Huron Report on Administration Efficiency. Strategic sourcing will be one of the first cases from the Huron Report explored as we move forward with the plan to improve system-wide efficiency. The initiative will leverage the purchasing and sourcing resources across the entire TBR system. The TBR Office of Purchasing and Contracts, under the leadership of Angela Flynn, has assembled a working group to design the charge and scope of this system-wide approach. Much of the upcoming discussions for this group will center on developing a framework of governance and accountability to ensure the system's approach to strategic sourcing is effective, responsive, and sustainable. The ultimate goal for the group is to identify ways to enhance existing agreements, as well as design more mutually beneficial agreements in the future. The group is developing a list of sourcing opportunities to explore in the near future, which will help guide the development of governance and accountability.

In order to develop a list of viable opportunities to leverage the strength of strategic sourcing, the group is seeking the advice and input from key functional areas where procurement and sourcing needs are often common and substantial in cost. The _____ group has been identified as an area where strategic sourcing could serve as a useful benefit to current or future contractual agreements. We would like to know about the upcoming initiatives or existing challenges where a centralized approach to purchasing a product or service could benefit from our work on strategic sourcing. Over the past few years, we have engaged in discussions on collective approaches to third-party products, as well as centralized approaches to outsourced services. The strategic sourcing group would like to develop a priority list of strategic sourcing opportunities by October 1, 2015. Knowing the critical needs of your group will ensure the list has items that offer the most impact to our system.

If you have questions about the plans for strategic sourcing, please contact me. Also if you would like me to talk with the team about how the relationship will work in the future between your group and the strategic sourcing team, I am available to speak whenever you deem it necessary. The discussion on centralized contracts and collective approaches to procurement have grown over the past few years. The approach of this group is to formalize and sufficiently address a need that will benefit us all as a system. I am confident you will realize immediate benefits from the work of this group. I look forward to your responses.

To be sent to the following groups:

1. IT Sub-Council
2. Financial Aid Committee
3. Admissions and Registrars Committee
4. Dr. Nichols (for distribution to the TBR Senior Staff and Presidents)
5. Bursars
6. BPM Finance
7. Business Officers
8. Dr. Denley and Heidi Leming (for distribution to the Academic Affairs and Student Affairs Sub-Council)
9. Chelle Travis (for distribution to the TCAT Directors)
10. Human Resource and Payroll Officers