

Elsa A. Murano, Ph.D.
President

April 2, 2008

MEMORANDUM

TO: All Texas A&M University Unit Heads

SUBJECT: Internal Management Peer Reviews

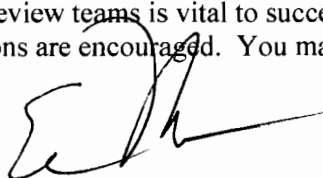
Texas A&M University is committed to accountability, a cornerstone for excellence and a key expectation of the Board of Regents and other stakeholders. To uphold this commitment and respond to the Board of Regents' emphasis on maintaining a strong control consciousness and sound operational practices through the audit function, the university is developing an on-going monitoring process utilizing internal management peer reviews. The reviews, which should be considered as complementing System audit processes, will enhance assurance that operational practices and related controls support compliance with prescribed rules and regulations, promote accountability, and encourage identification and implementation of best practices across the university.

University Risk and Compliance will coordinate the reviews. Resources will be leveraged by working with subject matter experts from other divisions that currently perform monitoring activities across the University. The cross-divisional teams will focus on significant issues and risks identified by university management and by System, State, and federal auditors. The reviews may involve a single unit or multiple processes that cross divisional lines and impact numerous units.

All Texas A&M University units are subject to the reviews, and advance notice will be provided to unit heads before reviews are initiated. Unit heads will coordinate with the teams to ensure access to all relevant resources (i.e., personnel and information), respond to reports, and correct areas of concern.

The internal management peer reviews will reinforce and supplement on-going monitoring activities performed by units while expanding efforts to mitigate risks, enhance compliance, strengthen internal controls, and minimize future audit findings. It is my hope that the cross-divisional reviews will encourage widespread, integrated monitoring activities, heighten control consciousness, and advance the sharing of best practices.

Cooperation between unit management and the review teams is vital to successfully enhancing the university's culture of excellence. Your insight, comments, and questions are encouraged. You may contact Charley Clark at cbc@tamu.edu or (979) 845-1323 for more information.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'E. Murano', written over the typed name.

Dr. Elsa A. Murano
President
Texas A&M University

cc: Dr. H. Russell Cross
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