



MEMORANDUM

September 14, 2016

TO: Members of the Board of Trustees

FROM: Nancy L. Zimpher, Chancellor

SUBJECT: Information Security Policy

Action Requested

The proposed resolution approves the State University of New York's Information Security Policy and authorizes the Chancellor, or designee, to develop its implementing procedures.

Resolution

I recommend that the Board of Trustees adopt the following resolution:

Whereas securing and protecting information possessed by the State University of New York is vitally important not only to comply with federal and state confidentiality and information safeguarding laws and technical standards, but also to assure data integrity for the continuous improvement of academic programs across the SUNY system; and

Whereas in an increasingly digital environment, SUNY possesses a broad range of information central to its academic programs, student services, and overall business operations, making information one of its most important assets; and

Whereas the scope of SUNY's academic programs and mission requires secure information sharing between its State-operated campuses, statutory colleges, and community colleges, as well as with System Administration, for the

facilitation of academic programs, student services, business operations, ongoing improvement, and oversight; and

Whereas SUNY's possession and sharing of information, particularly electronic information, across all of its components, require increased vigilance with respect to storing, sharing, and data usage that builds on existing SUNY policy and practice; and

Whereas in light of the foregoing, SUNY has developed a comprehensive Information Security Policy that incorporates existing policies and procedures and introduces new requirements, which will be applicable to all 64 SUNY campuses; and

Whereas the proposed Information Security Policy has been vetted among SUNY's constituency groups; now, therefore, be it

Resolved that SUNY's Information Security Policy, in the form attached to this Resolution, be, and hereby is, approved; and be it further

Resolved that the Chancellor, or designee, be, and hereby is, authorized to develop and implement Information Security procedures in accordance with the Information Security Policy; and, be it further

Resolved that the Chancellor, or designee, be, and hereby is, authorized to amend the Information Security Policy from time to time as is necessary to address operational needs and compliance issues and to incorporate emerging best practices.

Background

SUNY has long recognized the value and importance of the information within its possession, and has focused much attention on data integrity and reporting for purposes of academic oversight and continuous improvement, as is evident in the Data and Transparency and Reporting Policy adopted by this Board in 2013 (Resolution No. 2013-025). Recently, the Enterprise Risk Management Committee focused its attention on information security given the importance of information as a valuable SUNY asset and the risk to the SUNY enterprise should data, particularly electronic information, be compromised. Accordingly, the Enterprise Risk Management Committee coordinated the development of a comprehensive Information Security Policy that incorporates

existing policies and introduces new requirements that will be applicable to all 64 SUNY campuses.

The Information Security Policy has been vetted among SUNY's constituencies and the resulting policy reflects comments from those groups.