

**MANAGEMENT AGREEMENT  
BETWEEN  
THE COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA  
AND  
VIRGINIA POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTE  
AND STATE UNIVERSITY  
PURSUANT TO  
THE RESTRUCTURED HIGHER EDUCATION  
FINANCIAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE OPERATIONS  
ACT OF 2005**

**THE BOARD OF VISITORS  
OF  
VIRGINIA POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTE  
AND STATE UNIVERSITY**

**POLICY GOVERNING  
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY**

November 7, 2005

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**THE BOARD OF VISITORS OF VIRGINIA POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTE  
AND STATE UNIVERSITY  
POLICY GOVERNING INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY**

**I. PREAMBLE.**

The Restructured Higher Education Financial and Administrative Operations Act (the “Act”), Chapter 4.10 (§ 23-38.88 et seq.) of Title 23 of the Code of Virginia, provides, inter alia, that public institutions of higher education in the Commonwealth of Virginia that have entered into a Management Agreement with the Commonwealth “may be exempt from the provisions governing the Virginia Information Technologies Agency, Chapter 20.1 (§ 2.2-2005 et seq.) of Title 2.2., and the provisions governing the Information Technologies [sic] Investment Board, Article 20 of Chapter 24 (§ 2.2-2457 et seq.) of Title 2.2; provided, however, that the governing body of . . . [such] institution shall adopt, and . . . [such] institution shall comply with, policies” that govern the exempted provisions. See § 23-38.111 of the Code of Virginia. This Information Technology Policy shall become effective upon the effective date of a Management Agreement authorized by subsection D of § 23-38.88 and § 23-38.97 of the Act between the Commonwealth and the University that incorporates this Policy.

The Board of Visitors of Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University is authorized to adopt this Information Technology Policy pursuant to § 23-38.111 of the Code of Virginia.

**II. DEFINITIONS.**

As used in this Information Technology Policy, the following terms have the following meanings, unless the context requires otherwise:

“**Act**” means the Restructured Higher Education Financial and Administrative Operations Act, Chapter 4.10 (§ 23-38.88 et seq.) of Title 23 of the Code of Virginia.

**“Board of Visitors”** or **“Board”** means the Board of Visitors of Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University.

**“Information Technology”** or **“IT”** shall have the same meaning as set forth in § 2.2-2006 of the Code of Virginia as it currently exists and from time to time may be amended.

**“Major information technology project”** or **“major IT project”** shall have the same meaning as set forth in § 2.2-2006 of the Code of Virginia as it currently exists and from time to time may be amended.

**“Policy”** means this Information Technology Policy adopted by the Board of Visitors.

**“State Chief Information Officer”** or **“State CIO”** means the Chief Information Officer of the Commonwealth of Virginia.

**“University”** means Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, consisting of the University Division (State Agency 208) and Virginia Cooperative Extension and the Agriculture Experiment Station Division (State Agency 229).

### **III. SCOPE OF POLICY.**

This Policy is intended to cover and implement the authority that may be granted to Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University pursuant to Subchapter 3 (§ 23-38.91 et seq.) of the Act. This Policy is not intended to affect any other powers and authorities granted to the University pursuant to the Appropriation Act and the Code of Virginia, including other provisions of the Act or the University’s enabling legislation as that term is defined in § 23-38.89 of the Act.

This Policy shall govern the University’s information technology strategic planning, expenditure reporting, budgeting, project management, infrastructure, architecture, ongoing operations, security, and audits conducted within, by, or on behalf of the University. Upon the

effective date of a Management Agreement between the Commonwealth and the University, as authorized by subsection D of § 23-38.88 and § 23-38.111, therefore, the University shall be exempt from those provisions of the Code of Virginia, including those provisions of Chapter 20.1 (§ 2.2-2005 et seq.) (Virginia Information Technologies Agency) and of Article 20 (§ 2.2-2457 et seq.) (Information Technology Investment Board) of Chapter 24 of Title 2.2 of the Code of Virginia, that otherwise would govern the University's information technology strategic planning, expenditure reporting, budgeting, project management, infrastructure, architecture, ongoing operations, security, and audits conducted within, by, or on behalf of the University; provided, however, that the University still shall be subject to those provisions of Chapter 20.1 (§ 2.2-2005 et seq.) (Virginia Information Technologies Agency) and of Article 20 (§ 2.2-2457 et seq.) (Information Technology Investment Board) of Chapter 24 of Title 2.2 of the Code of Virginia that are applicable to public institutions of higher education of the Commonwealth and that do not govern information technology strategic planning, expenditure reporting, budgeting, project management, infrastructure, architecture, ongoing operations, security, and audits within, by, or on behalf of the University.

The procurement of information technology and telecommunications goods and services, including automated data processing hardware and software, shall be governed by the Policy Governing the Procurement of Goods, Services, Insurance, and Construction, and the Disposition of Surplus Materials approved by the Board, and the Rules Governing Procurement of Goods, Services, Insurance, and Construction that are incorporated in and attached to that Policy.

#### **IV. GENERAL PROVISIONS.**

##### **A. Board of Visitors Accountability and Delegation of Authority.**

The Board of Visitors of the University shall at all times be fully and ultimately accountable for the proper fulfillment of the duties and responsibilities set forth in, and for the appropriate implementation of, this Policy. Consistent with this full and ultimate accountability, however, the Board may, pursuant to its legally permissible procedures, specifically delegate either herein or by separate Board resolution the duties and responsibilities set forth in this Policy to a person or persons within the University, who, while continuing to be fully accountable for such duties and responsibilities, may further delegate the implementation of those duties and responsibilities pursuant to the University's usual delegation policies and procedures.

**B. Strategic Planning.**

The President, acting through the Vice President for Information Technology and Chief Information Officer, shall be responsible for overall IT strategic planning at the University, which shall be linked to and in support of the University's overall strategic plan.

At least 45 days prior to each fiscal year, the President, acting through the Vice President for Information Technology and Chief Information Officer, shall make available the University's IT strategic plan covering the next fiscal year to the State CIO for his review and comment with regard to the consistency of the University's plan with the intent of the currently published overall five-year IT strategic plan for the Commonwealth developed by the State CIO pursuant to § 2.2-2007 of the Code of Virginia and into which the University's plan is to be incorporated.

**C. Expenditure Reporting and Budgeting.**

The President, acting through the Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer, shall approve and be responsible for overall IT budgeting and investments at the

University. The University's IT budget and investments shall be linked to and in support of the University's IT strategic plan, and shall be consistent with general University policies, the Board-approved annual operating budget, and other Board approvals for certain procurements.

By October 1 of each year, the President, acting through the Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer, shall make available to the State CIO and the Information Technology Investment Board a report on the previous fiscal year's IT expenditures.

The University shall be specifically exempt from:

- Subdivision A 4 of § 2.2-2007 of the Code of Virginia (review by the State CIO of IT budget requests) as it currently exists and from time to time may be amended;
- §§ 2.2-2022 through 2.2-2024 of the Code of Virginia (Virginia Technology Infrastructure Fund) as they currently exist and from time to time may be amended; and
- any other substantially similar provision of the Code of Virginia governing IT expenditure reporting and budgeting, as it currently exists and from time to time may be amended.

**D. Project Management.**

Pursuant to § 23-38.111 of the Act, the Board shall adopt the project management policies, standards, and guidelines developed by the Commonwealth or those based upon industry best practices for project management as defined by leading IT consulting firms, leading software development firms, or a nationally-recognized project management association, appropriately tailored to the specific circumstances of the University. Copies of

the Board's policies, standards, and guidelines shall be made available to the Information Technology Investment Board.

The President, acting through the appropriate designee, shall oversee the management of all University IT projects. IT projects may include, but are not limited to, upgrades to network infrastructure, provision of technology to support research, database development, implementation of new applications, and development of IT services for students, faculty, staff, and patients. Day-to-day management of projects shall be the responsibility of appointed project directors and shall be in accord with the project management policies, standards, and guidelines adopted by the Board, as amended and revised from time to time.

On a quarterly basis, the President, acting through the Vice President for Information Technology and Chief Information Officer, shall report to the Information Technology Investment Board on the budget, schedule, and overall status of the University's major IT projects. This requirement shall not apply to research projects, research initiatives, or instructional programs.

The President, acting through the Vice President for Information Technology and Chief Information Officer in cooperation with the Provost and Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer, shall be responsible for decisions to substantially alter a project's scope, budget, or schedule after initial approval.

The University shall be specifically exempt from:

- § 2.2-2008 of Title 2.2 of the Code of Virginia (additional duties of the State CIO relating to project management) as it currently exists and from time to time may be amended;



- §§ 2.2-2016 through 2.2-2021 of Title 2.2 of the Code of Virginia (Division of Project Management) as they currently exist and from time to time may be amended; and
- any other substantially similar provision of the Code of Virginia governing IT project management, as it currently exists or from time to time may be amended.

The State CIO and the Information Technology Investment Board shall continue to have the authority regarding project suspension and termination as provided in § 2.2-2015 and in subdivision A 3 of § 2.2-2458, respectively, and the State CIO and the Information Technology Investment Board shall continue to provide the University with reasonable notice of, and a reasonable opportunity to correct, any identified problems before a project is terminated.

**E. Infrastructure, Architecture, Ongoing Operations, and Security.**

Pursuant to § 23-38.111 of the Act, the Board shall adopt the policies, standards, and guidelines related to IT infrastructure, architecture, ongoing operations, and security developed by the Commonwealth or those of nationally-recognized associations, appropriately tailored to the specific circumstances of the University. Copies of the policies shall be made available to the Information Technology Investment Board.

The President, acting through the Vice President for Information Technology and Chief Information Officer, in cooperation with the Provost and Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer, shall be responsible for implementing such policies, standards, and guidelines adopted by the Board, as amended and revised from time to time.

For purposes of implementing this Policy, the President shall appoint an existing University employee to serve as a liaison between the University and the State CIO.

**F. Audits.**

Pursuant to § 23-38.111 of the Act, the Board shall adopt the policies, standards, and guidelines developed by the Commonwealth or those based upon industry best practices for project auditing as defined by leading IT experts, including consulting firms, or a nationally-recognized project auditing association, appropriately tailored to the specific circumstances of the University, which provide for Independent Validation and Verification (“IV&V”) of the University’s major IT projects. Copies of the policies, standards, and guidelines, as amended and revised from time to time, shall be made available to the Information Technology Investment Board.

Audits of IT strategic planning, expenditure reporting, budgeting, project management, infrastructure, architecture, ongoing operations, and security, shall also be the responsibility of the University’s Internal Audit Department and the Auditor of Public Accounts.