#### PROGRAM REVIEW FOR CENTERS AND INSTITUTES

#### 1. Cover Sheet

- Center/Institute: Center for Corporate Reporting and Governance
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- College/Academic unit: Mihaylo College of Business & Economics; Department of Accounting / Unit 192 / Academic Affairs
- o *Contact Information*: Phone #: (657) 278-4414, Email: ccrg@fullerton.edu, Building location: SGMH 4357
- o Year Established: 2003
- o Year of Last Review: 2013
- o Date the review is being submitted: May 27, 2016
- Name of primary authors if different
   From Director/Administrator: Grant Kurz, Kathleen Nguyen, Aaron Sanchez

### 2. Mission and Goals

The Center for Corporate Reporting and Governance (CCRG) states its mission as: "to advance high quality corporate reporting and governance through education, research and collaboration with the business community". The Center also develops relationships with accounting firms, providing opportunities for student placement. In addition to serving as a resource for students, the Center's activities have greatly increased the visibility of the Department of Accounting, helped secure fellowships for its faculty through its connections with the accounting firms, and most importantly, helped the Department maintain its separate accreditation. The Center's mission is linked with the University's goals to expand connections within our region and to increase external support for University programs and priorities.

### 3. Activities

Activities of the Center include the following high profile events in Orange County: (1) an annual SEC Conference, (2) a sponsored academic conference, (3) collaborative events with local organizations such as the Forum for Corporate Directors, (4) networking opportunities for students and (5) research focused on Orange County firms.

In the future, the Center will continue to expand its outreach efforts, increase its research activities and continue to build on the success of past events. The Center is currently working on a high visibility research project that focuses on analyzing composition and performance of boards of directors of public companies in Orange County and comparing these boards to nationwide boards.

Student involvement in the Center's activities is very high. Research (on OC firms) is performed by a team of student researchers. For instance, six students and two faculty are currently involved in the Center's latest research effort. The academic conference is attended by over 125 CSUF *Master of Accounting* students, who benefit from hearing about financial reporting and governance from 9-10 leading academics invited by the Center from prominent universities.

Over 100 undergraduate students attend the SEC Conference and benefit from hearing from over 25 leading experts from regulators and from experts in the field. This is indeed a one of a kind experience for our students, providing them with an edge over students from our competitor schools.

Students are also provided the opportunity to network with their prospective employers. The Center has helped establish valuable relationships with prospective employers which in turn benefits students seeking high-quality jobs in accounting.

| Conference Summary |                  |  |                           |   |                              |     |  |  |  |  |
|--------------------|------------------|--|---------------------------|---|------------------------------|-----|--|--|--|--|
|                    | Conference Dates |  | Lasskins                  | Variable Consider   | # of Conference Participants |     |  |  |  |  |
|                    | Haskell & White  | SEC                                      | Location                  | Keynote Speakers  | Haskell & White              | SEC |  |  |  |  |
| 2013               | 9/19/2013        | 9/20/2013                                | Hyatt Regency, Irvine, CA | Christopher Cox, SEC Former Chairman  | 109                          | 461 |  |  |  |  |
| 2014               | 9/18/2014        | 9/19/2014                                | Hotel Irvine, Irvine, CA  | Cary Thompson, Bank of America Merrill Lynch                                      | 100                          | 387 |  |  |  |  |
| 2015               | 9/17/2015        | 15 9/18/2015 Irvine Marriott, Irvine, CA |                           | John Campbell, Former Congressman<br>Douglas Ingram, Former President of Allergan | 141                          | 461 |  |  |  |  |

### 4. Organizational Structure and Governance

The CCRG operates using the guidance of a governing board. The governing board is composed of 16 partners from the most prominent accounting and law firms in Orange County. Several of our board members are also involved in other areas at CSUF, at the highest levels: on the Dean's Advisory Board and on the Foundation. The board meets at least once a year to evaluate the previous conferences and plan for the next conference.

The board organizes the timeline and content of the SEC Conference. They help with planning the program, providing input on growing the conference, making strategic alliances, procuring high quality speakers, finding interesting speaker topics and improving the overall quality of the Conference. Board members reach out to high-quality speakers from public, private, and government financial and accounting sectors to come speak at the Conferences.

The following individuals are CCRG Board Advisors for the 2015-2016 year:

| Board of Directors |                        |   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|--------------------|------------------------|---|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
|                    |                        |   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Tony Cherbak       | COO                    | Resources Global Professionals                        |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Mark Hughes        | Partner                | Grant Thornton  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Bala Iyer          | Director               | Qlogic, IHS, Skyworks Solutions and Life Technologies |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Joe B. Johnson     | Managing Partner       | BDO   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Ron Kent           | Partner                | RSM   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Joseph Moderow     | Board Member (retired) | SVP and UPS   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| James Moloney      | Partner                | Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher                               |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Dennis Parrott     | Managing Partner       | KPMG  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Wayne Pinnell      | Managing Partner       | Haskell & White                                       |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Chris Schmidt      | Partner & CEO          | Moss Adams  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Jon C. Smith       | Partner                | Ernst & Young   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Summer M. Taylor   | Director               | Deloitte  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Roger Weninger     | Managing Partner       | Moss Adams  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Ted Wilm           | Partner                | PricewaterhouseCoopers                                |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Gary E. Wilson     | Partner                | PricewaterhouseCoopers                                |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Dean Yoost         | Board Member           | Emulex and Pacific Life Insurance                     |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

#### 5. Resources and Sustainability

The CCRG generates revenue from the annual Securities Exchange Conference (SEC). The cash flows generated from the last three SEC Conferences are as follows: (2013-14) \$69,395, (2014-15) \$33,895, and (2015-16) \$41,900. Furthermore, the CCRG receives annual grants of \$60,000 to supplement our annual SEC and Academic Conferences. These grants from the Mihaylo College are mostly used to support students: hiring of students for research, providing them complimentary attendance at the SEC Conference (normally \$400 per person) and funding student networking events. Of the above, \$10,000 is used for research activities (designing, printing and disseminating). Without these monies, the Center would have to find resources from other sources or scale its activities. The fees for the conference which are \$400 cannot be increased because there are competing providers of CPE education that charge less. This Center brings enormous visibility to the college (recognizing the uniqueness of the SEC Conference, our competitor school, UC Irvine, has in past years expressed interest in jointly hosting this event and is currently hosting a smaller event with limited success).

## **6. Highlights and Accomplishments**

Several accomplishments highlight the Center's activities. For thirteen years, the Center has hosted the annual SEC Financial Reporting Conference with increasing participation from 80 attendees in 2003 to nearly 525 attendees in 2015. In addition, Risk Metrics/Institutional Shareholders Services (ISS) granted the Center accreditation in 2008. Other accreditations received include one from National Association of State Boards of Accountancy (NASBA), which allows the Center to offer Continuing Professional Education (CPE) credit to professionals who attend qualified events. The governing board has been strengthened by adding members from accounting firms, law firms and other businesses that have a local or national presence.

The CCRG publicly distributes research bulletins that influence the way local firms run their operations. The CCRG analyzed, compiled, and organized data into the OC Corporate Governance Bulletins, released in June and October of 2014. The June issue discussed Audit Fees in Orange County and the October issue discussed CEO Pay in Orange County. The findings were the topic of discussion at the Forum for Corporate Directors (FCD), a distinguished group comprised of directors of publicly traded firms in Orange County. The FCD and CCRG's collaborative 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Executive Compensation Summit featured the OC Corporate Governance Bulletin's findings in the area of executive compensation to the conference's attendees. Its research has also been covered in the OC Register and over 10 news outlets. The CCRG is now part of an ongoing relationship with the FCD that includes sponsorship of the 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Executive Compensation Summit. The CCRG's bulletins were also highly regarded by the top eight accounting firms in Orange County. It is noteworthy that two audit firms in OC, Deloitte and Moss Adams, requested 25 copies each for discussion of our results within their firms. The Audit Committee Roundtable in Orange County also placed a study from the bulletins as an agenda item for discussion.

The CCRG hosts the Haskell & White Corporate Reporting and Governance Conference, which is a forum for professors, doctoral students and practitioners to present papers in the areas of accounting, finance and economics. The conference is unique because it blends theory with practice. California State University, Fullerton's faculty review submitted papers from around the globe. Over 140 people (students and faculty) attended last year's Haskell & White Academic Conference, including Wayne Pinnell, the Managing Partner of Haskell & White, whom spoke on the *Current Trends in Auditing*.

A significant achievement of the CCRG is our flagship SEC Financial Reporting Conference, providing important updates from the SEC, PCAOB and FASB, as well as industry leader panelists and Keynote speakers discussing critical topics of the year. During the last three years

alone, CCRG provided over 5,000 hours of CPE credits for professionals nationwide. In addition to delivering CPE credit, the CCRG as of 2015 offers MCLE credit for Law Firms in Orange County. The programs provided below outline the depth and breadth of the SEC Financial Reporting Conference in 2015, 2014 and the Academic Conference in 2013, respectively.



| TIME               | TOPIC   | SPEAKERS  |
|--------------------|---|---|
| TTIVIE             | 10110   | OI LAKLIIO  |
| 12:30 - 12:45 p.m. | Check-in  |   |
| 12:45 - 12:55 p.m. | Welcome and Announcements   | Dr. Vivek Mande, Director, CSUF Center for Corporate<br>Reporting & Governance  |
| 1:00 - 1:40 p.m.   | Split-day Trading on Shanghai Stock Exchange  | Rashad Abdel-Khalik, Professor of Accountancy and V.I.<br>Zimmerman Professor in International Accounting, Universities at Urbana-Champaign |
|                    | Session 1: Financial Analysts   | Moderator: I-Ling Sophia Wang, California State Univer-<br>Fullerson  |
| 1:45 - 2:10 p.m.   | Buy-Side Analysts and Earnings Conference<br>Calls  | Michael Jung, Assistant Professor, Stern School of Busin<br>New York University   |
| 2:15 - 2:40 p.m.   | Do Analysts Understand Innovation? Evidence<br>from Patents and Trademarks and Analyst<br>Forecasts | Qin Li, PhD Candidate, University of California, Irvine   |
| 2:45 - 3:10 p.m.   | Current Trends in Auditing  | Wayne Pinnell, Managing Partner, Haskell & White  |
| 3:10 - 3:20 p.m.   | Coffee Break  | - 4   |
|                    | Session 2: Corporate Boards   | Moderator: Walied Keshk, California State University, Fulls   |
| 3:20 - 3:45 p.m.   | Board Classification and Shareholder Value:<br>Evidence from a Natural Experiment                   | Daehyun Kim, PhD Candidate, The University of Texas at A  |
| 3:50 - 4:15 p.m.   | Information Disclosure and Insider Trading<br>around Board Meetings                                 | Seil Kim, PhD Candidate, Stem School of Business, New<br>University   |
| 4:20 - 4:45 p.m.   | Is Classified Board the Weak Corporate<br>Governance? Evidence from Financial<br>Restatements       | Khondkar Karim, Professor and Chair of the Accounting<br>Department, University of Massachusetts Lowell                                     |
| 4:45 - 4:55 p.m.   | Coffee Break  |   |
| 100                | Session 3: Capital Markets  |   |
| 4:55 - 5:20 p.m.   | Does Institutional Ownership Predict Mutual   | Moderator: Wonik Choi, California State University, Fuller  |
| B. HI              | Fund Performance? An Examination of<br>Undiscovered Holdings within 13F Reports                     | Xuhui Pan, Assistant Professor, A.B Freeman School of<br>Business, Tulane University  |
| 5:25 - 5:50 p.m.   | Lost in Translation: Cultural Differences and<br>Earnings Management Contagion                      | Nathan Dong, Assistant Professor, Columbia University   |
| 6:00 - 9:00 p.m.   | Reception   |   |

### 7. Planning and Strategic Outlook

Planning for the Center is conducted by the governing board, assistant directors, chair and dean. There is a process in place for planning the annual SEC Conference with board participation. Attendance for the conferences has steadily grown. CPE certificates are issued to attendees and conference evaluations are sent to the board for review. With the introduction of MCLE credits, a greater proportion of lawyers now make up the SEC Conference.

After review, the leadership indicates that there is no current need to modify center activities or operations.

|   | Mihaylo College<br>Learning Goals |   |                         |   |  | Mihaylo College Strategic Goals  |   |   |   |  | CSUF Strategic Goals  |   |  |  |
|---|-----------------------------------|---|-------------------------|---|--|--|---|---|---|--|---|---|--|--|
|   | 1: Functional knowledge           | 2: Business opportunity recognition and problem solving | 3. Interpersonal skills | 4: Awareness of global, local, and regional environment |  | <ol> <li>Deliver innovative and effective<br/>curriculum and instruction to prepare<br/>Mihaylo students for success in the<br/>global economy.</li> </ol> | 2. Provide effective, student-focused operations. | <ol> <li>Recruit diverse and high-quality<br/>faculty and support high-quality<br/>applied research.</li> </ol> | <ol> <li>Strengthen partnerships with key<br/>stakeholders and increase financial<br/>support for the College.</li> </ol> |  | 1: Develop and maintain a curricular and co-curricular environment that prepares students for participation in a global society and is responsive to workforce needs. | 2: Improve student persistence, increase graduation rates Universitywide, and narrow the achievement gap for underrepresented students. | 3. Recruit and retain a high-quality and diverse faculty and staff | 4: Increase revenue through<br>fundraising, entrepreneurial activities,<br>grants, and contracts |
| Increase visibility                                     | х                                 | X   | Χ                       | Х   |  | Х  | Х   | X   | X   |  | X   | X   | Х  | Х  |
| Host SEC conference                                     | х                                 | Х   | Χ                       | Х   |  | x  | Х   | X   | Х   |  | х   | X   | Х  | Х  |
| Increase<br>Academic<br>Reputation                      | х                                 | Х   | Х                       | х   |  | х  | Х   | x   | х   |  | Х   | X   | х  | X  |
| Increase<br>professional<br>and business<br>interaction | х                                 | х   | х                       | х   |  | х  | х   | х   | х   |  | Х   | x   | х  | Х  |

# 8. Appendices

The Center does not have an account with Auxiliary Services Corporation of the CSUF Foundation. There is an account with Cal State Fullerton Philanthropic Foundation.

#### **Summary and Recommendation(s)**

The Center for Corporate Reporting and Governance (CCRG) disseminates information on current financial reporting issues, provides interpretations of financial rules, and publishes research results of studies conducted by the Center. In addition, the Center brings accounting firms to campus to increase student hiring and placement. Most of the Center's activities revolve around the hosting/sponsoring of two annual conferences along with research bulletins: the SEC Financial Reporting Conference, the Haskell & White Academic Conference and research on OC firms. The SEC Conference is the main source of revenue for the Center. Continuing Professional Education (CPE) credit is awarded to professionals who attend the SEC Conference. The CCRG is accredited by NASBA. The Center has a governing board whose membership includes top professionals in the accounting field and assists the Center in its annual planning. The Center is an effective organization that accomplishes its mission and goals.