



UNIVERSITY of WASHINGTON

FY2022 Annual Review Narrative Survey

Unit: University of Washington Investment Management Company (UWINCO)

Section 1: Programmatic & Academic Vitality Narratives

- 1) Have you made any changes to your unit's strategic plan and/or budget process in the past year? If yes, what are 3-5 key elements of your unit's new/revised strategic plan and/or budget process? If no, please comment on the progress you've made in 3-5 key areas of your strategic plan.

UWINCO has implemented several efficiency measures in its long term planning and budget process over the past year. Some of these items include:

- i. **Hybrid Office Model:** UWINCO transitioned to remote work in March 2020 on short notice. While UWINCO staff already had the ability to work remotely during evenings and weekends, we spent the rest of FY20 and into FY21 working on procedures, processes and making technology investments to ensure the entire staff can work EITHER remotely or in the office with social distancing. Additional improvements (e.g. glass partitions between workstations) may be necessary later in FY22 to meet UW safety standards.
- ii. **Portfolio System:** UWINCO continues to be well served by its in-house investment portfolio system developed over the past decade. Any buy-versus-build decision needs to be re-visited periodically. However, UWINCO decided to not upgrade the internal system. We plan to switch to a new external performance system used by peer institutions, thereby reducing sustainability risk. UWINCO determined the total cost of outsourcing these system costs will be less than the necessary resources to upgrade UWINCO's internal system. While external implementation costs for the new system will temporarily elevate systems costs in FY22, UWINCO projects greater savings will be achieved over the next decade.
- iii. **Travel:** UWINCO has saved a significant amount by not traveling this past year. While we anticipate resuming travel post COVID-19 vaccinations, the technology-related acquisitions along with the investment community embracing video conferencing will result in greater efficiency of time and resources.
- iv. **Compensation:** UWINCO staff compensation changes were postponed and have been pushed out to future years.
- v. **Research:** UWINCO has reduced subscriptions and research by over 15%+ from prior years.