

IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY

Office of the Vice President for Research

# Centers at Iowa State University

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Iowa Utilities Board

February 18, 2016

# The Iowa Energy Center

- One of 13 centers/institutes reporting to the Vice President for Research at ISU
- Established in 1990 by the Iowa General Assembly as part of the *Iowa Energy Efficiency Act*
- The Iowa Energy Center is administered by Iowa State University per Chapter 266 of the Iowa Code
- The director is appointed by the President of ISU, selection and recommendation generated through standard UHR process
- The Energy Center has an Advisory Council, whose role and composition are specified by the *Iowa Energy Efficiency Act*

# ISU Controls I

## Iowa Energy Center Grant Practices

- Projects are approved with a budget, which can not be modified without Energy Center approval
- Disbursements are made to principal investigator's institution (not to the investigator)
- Funded projects and abstracts listed on Center's website
- Expenditures beyond grant programs are also disclosed in annual report, along with funded projects

# ISU Controls II

## Institutional Financial System Controls

- Kuali Financial System supports established standards and procedures across the institution, including separate entering and approval of transactions
- Controller's Department monitors all KFS activities, see <http://www.controller.iastate.edu/controller/internal.html>
- Controller's Department provides training to all employees involved in financial transactions, including center accountants
- IEC financial activities are monitored by:
  - Sponsored Programs Accounting (grants programs)
  - Financial Accounting & Reporting (IEC activities)

# ISU Controls III

## Programmatic Controls

- Centers reporting to the Vice President for Research have an annual director/center evaluation with the VPR office
- All ISU centers undergo a thorough review every 7 years, according to policy of the Iowa Board of Regents
- Programmatic review of the Iowa Energy Center is scheduled for 2016, with a national panel conducting the review

# ISU Controls IV

## IEC External Review 2016

- Are the grant programs meeting the legislative intent of the mission?
- Do the grant program process mechanics follow best practices? Is grant funding being spent and monitored consistent with the formal grant agreement?
- How is grant program success assessed? Are the outcomes satisfactory? Can grant program impact be improved?
- What can the Energy Center do to better identify and shape external funding opportunities?

# Iowa Audit System – Auditor of State

## Financial Audit Division

- Annual audits of state departments and agencies ... and other governmental subdivisions as requested

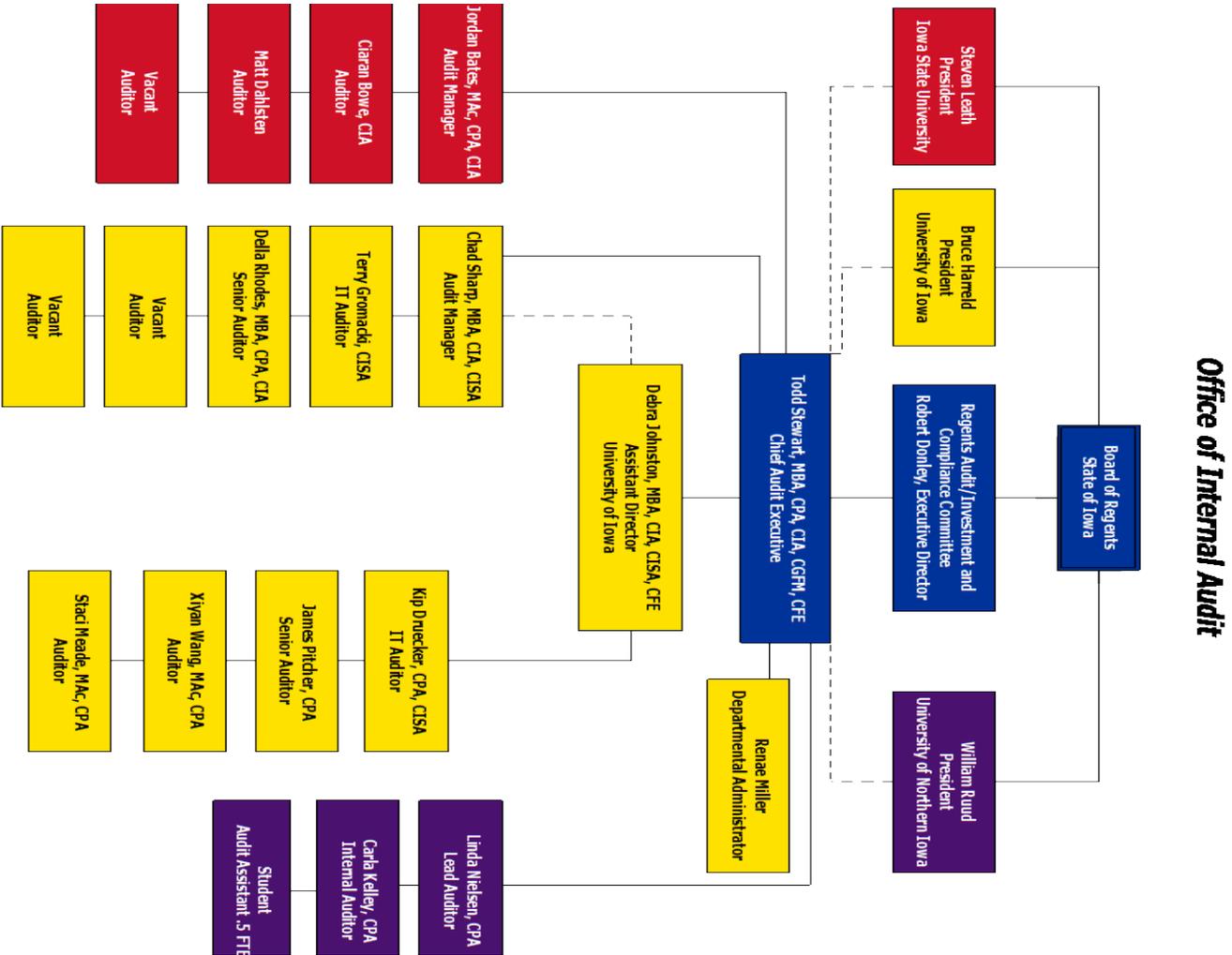
## Performance Investigation Division

- Conducts comprehensive performance audits of state agencies
- Investigates suspected embezzlements and conducts special studies assigned by the Auditor of State or requested by the legislature
- Has not audited IEC

# Iowa Audit System – Board of Regents

- Board of Regents Office of Internal Audit (OIA) conducts audits at all Regents' institutions
- OIA works with management to identify areas of risk; and works to improve processes, efficiencies, and the control environment of the university
- Audits several ISU units per year
- Has not audited IEC

# Iowa Audit System – Board of Regents



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