



# LONGWOOD UNIVERSITY

## REPORT ON AUDIT FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2021

Auditor of Public Accounts  
Staci A. Henshaw, CPA

[www.apa.virginia.gov](http://www.apa.virginia.gov)

(804) 225-3350



## AUDIT SUMMARY

We have audited the basic financial statements of Longwood University (Longwood) as of and for the year ended June 30, 2021, and issued our report thereon, dated June 22, 2022. Our report, included in Longwood's Annual Report, is available at the Auditor of Public Accounts' website at [www.apa.virginia.gov](http://www.apa.virginia.gov) and at Longwood's website at [www.longwood.edu](http://www.longwood.edu). Our audit found:

- the financial statements are presented fairly, in all material respects;
- internal control findings requiring management's attention; however, we do not consider them to be material weaknesses; and
- instances of noncompliance or other matters required to be reported under Government Auditing Standards.

Longwood has not taken adequate corrective action with respect to one previously reported finding. Accordingly, we designated this finding with a "repeat" label in the section entitled "Internal Control and Compliance Findings and Recommendations." Longwood has taken adequate corrective action with respect to audit findings reported in the prior year that are not repeated in this report.

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## INTERNAL CONTROL AND COMPLIANCE FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

### **Continue to Improve Financial System Operating System Security**

**Type:** Internal Control and Compliance

**Severity:** Significant Deficiency

**Repeat:** Yes - Partial (first issued in fiscal year 2020, with significant progress)

**Prior Title:** Improve Operating System Security

Longwood continues to make progress to implement its corrective action plan to address identified weaknesses to improve the security of the financial system's operating system in accordance with its Operational Guidelines Policy as well as their adopted security standard, the International Organization for Standardization and the International Electrotechnical Commission Standard, ISO/IEC 27002 (ISO Standard), and industry best practices, such as Center for Internet Security Benchmarks (CIS Benchmarks). Longwood has remediated one of the two previously identified weaknesses; however, the other weakness remains. We communicated the weakness to management in a separate document marked Freedom of Information Act Exempt (FOIAE) under § 2.2-3705.2 of the Code of Virginia, due to it containing descriptions of security mechanisms. The ISO Standard requires organizations to implement certain controls that reduce unnecessary risk to the confidentiality, integrity, and availability of Longwood's information systems and data.

Limited information security and information technology resources contributed to the weakness remaining. Longwood should continue to implement corrective action to remediate the remaining weakness to ensure the confidentiality, integrity, and availability of sensitive and mission critical data.

### **Improve Asset System Operating System Security**

**Type:** Internal Control and Compliance

**Severity:** Significant Deficiency

**Repeat:** No

Longwood does not secure the asset system's operating system in accordance with the Operational Guidelines Policy, as well as their adopted security standard, the ISO Standard, and industry best practices, such as CIS Benchmarks. We communicated the weaknesses to management in a separate document marked FOIAE under § 2.2-3705.2 of the Code of Virginia, due to it containing descriptions of security mechanisms. The ISO Standard requires organizations to implement certain controls that reduce unnecessary risk to the confidentiality, integrity, and availability of Longwood's information systems and data.

Longwood was unaware of the issues because it did not follow an established baseline when configuring the system. To ensure the confidentiality, integrity, and availability of its sensitive and mission critical data, Longwood should document and implement a configuration procedure that is based on ISO Standard requirements and settings recommended by industry best practices, such as CIS Benchmarks. The configuration procedure should include deviations from recommended and expected security configurations and Longwood's business justification for the deviation. Additionally, Longwood should develop a process to review the system's configuration against its established configuration procedure and CIS Benchmarks on a scheduled basis and after major changes occur to help detect and address potential misconfigurations timely.



Staci A. Henshaw, CPA  
Auditor of Public Accounts

# Commonwealth of Virginia

*Auditor of Public Accounts*

P.O. Box 1295  
Richmond, Virginia 23218

June 22, 2022

The Honorable Glenn Youngkin  
Governor of Virginia

Joint Legislative Audit  
and Review Commission

Board of Visitors  
Longwood University

## INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER

## FINANCIAL REPORTING AND ON COMPLIANCE AND OTHER MATTERS

We have audited, in accordance with the auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in Government Auditing Standards, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States, the financial statements of the business-type activities and aggregate discretely presented component units of **Longwood University** as of and for the year ended June 30, 2021, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the University's basic financial statements and have issued our report thereon dated June 22, 2022. Our report includes a reference to other auditors. We did not consider internal controls over financial reporting or test compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements for the financial statements of the component units of the University, which were audited by other auditors in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, but not in accordance with Government Auditing Standards.

### Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements, we considered the University's internal control over financial reporting (internal control) as a basis for designing audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances for the purpose of expressing our opinion on the financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the University's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the University's internal control.

A deficiency in internal control exists when the design or operation of a control does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent, or detect and correct misstatements on a timely basis. A material weakness is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control such that there is a reasonable possibility that a material misstatement of the entity's financial statements will not be prevented or detected and corrected on a timely basis. A significant deficiency is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control that is less severe than a material weakness, yet important enough to merit attention by those charged with governance.

Our consideration of internal control was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph of this section and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies and therefore, material weaknesses or significant deficiencies may exist that were not identified. Given these limitations, during our audit we did not identify any deficiencies in internal control that we consider to be material weaknesses. We did identify certain deficiencies in internal control titled "Continue to Improve Financial System Operating System Security" and "Improve Asset System Operating System Security," which are described in the section titled "Internal Control and Compliance Findings and Recommendations," that we consider to be significant deficiencies.

### **Compliance and Other Matters**

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the University's financial statements are free of material misstatement, we performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements, noncompliance with which could have a direct and material effect on the financial statements. However, providing an opinion on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of our audit and, accordingly, we do not express such an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed instances of noncompliance or other matters that are required to be reported under Government Auditing Standards and which are described in the section titled "Internal Control and Compliance Findings and Recommendations" in the findings titled "Continue to Improve Financial System Operating System Security" and "Improve Asset System Operating System Security."

### **Longwood's Response to Findings**

We discussed this report with management at an exit conference held on June 29, 2022. The University's response to the findings identified in our audit is described in the accompanying section titled "Longwood's Response." The University's response was not subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the financial statements and, accordingly, we express no opinion on it.

### **Status of Prior Findings**

The University has not taken adequate corrective action with respect to the previously reported finding "Continue to Improve Financial System Operating System Security." Accordingly, we included this finding in the section titled "Internal Control and Compliance Findings and Recommendations." The

University has taken adequate corrective action with respect to audit findings reported in the prior year that are not repeated in this report.

**Purpose of this Report**

The purpose of this report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control or on compliance. This report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with Government Auditing Standards in considering the entity's internal control and compliance. Accordingly, this communication is not suitable for any other purpose.

Staci A. Henshaw  
AUDITOR OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTS

DBC/clj

**LONGWOOD**  
U N I V E R S I T Y

201 High Street  
Farmville, VA 23909  
tel: 434.395.2634  
fax: 434.395.2152  
trs: 711

July 7, 2022

Ms. Staci Henshaw  
Auditor of Public Accounts  
P.O. Box 1295  
Richmond, Virginia 23218

Dear Ms. Henshaw,

Longwood University has reviewed the Internal Control Findings and Recommendations provided by the Auditor of Public Accounts for fiscal year ending June 30, 2021 and is in agreement, in principle, with all of the findings submitted.

Attached for your consideration is a brief update as to where the campus is with respect to progress on the findings. The formal Corrective Action Workplan will be submitted within thirty days as required by CAPP Manual Section 10205. Please contact me should you have any questions or require additional information.

On behalf of Longwood University, please extend my appreciation to all of your staff for their professional audit work and recommendations.

Sincerely,



Louise Waller  
Vice President for Administration and Finance

*Office of Accounting and Financial Reporting*



*Longwood University*



## **FY 2021 – Internal Control Findings and Recommendations**

### Continue to Improve Operating System Security

- ITS will finalize, document and implement the Risk Assessment Mitigation Plan Follow-up procedure.

### Improve Asset System Operating Security

- ITS has re-examined the Center for Internet Security's Benchmark (CIS Benchmarks – Level 1) adoption. ITS will implement the appropriate benchmarks on all new servers and work towards ensuring current server compliance.

## **LONGWOOD UNIVERSITY**

Farmville, VA  
As of June 30, 2021

### **BOARD OF VISITORS**

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### **LONGWOOD OFFICIALS**

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Vice President for Administration and Finance

Jennifer Wilkerson  
Financial Reporting Director