

# CFO Colleague

Booth 206

## Getting the Right Numbers to the Right People at the Right Time

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# Getting the Right Numbers to the Right People at the Right Time

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Without question – the CFO is the key numbers leader for an institution.

It's essential to what are the right numbers and what numbers should go to what people in a timely manner.

Explore the art and science of numbers management with a distinguished expert and take your leadership to another level.

# Agenda

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- Knowing the right (and essential) numbers to know and get right
- Understanding the importance of financial information distribution – the board, president, and team
- Seeing why often time is of the essence – setting up systems that work



# Knowing the right (and essential) numbers to know and get right

*“The Right Stuff”*

# The Right Stuff

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“Data is like garbage. You’d better know what you are going to do with it before you collect it.” —Mark Twain, writer and humorist

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“Most of the world will make decisions by either guessing or using their gut. They will be either lucky or wrong.” —Suhail Doshi, CEO and Founder of Mixpanel, Inc. and Founder of Mighty

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“There are many things of which a wise man might wish to be ignorant.”  
— Ralph Waldo Emerson

# The Right Stuff



**Accuracy is the foundation of trust and credibility**



**Inaccurate data can lead to poor decision-making**



**Legal and regulatory compliance depend on accuracy**



# The Right Stuff

Net Tuition  
Revenue

Debt Burden

Surplus

Accounts  
Payable

DOE Financial  
Responsibility  
Score

Composite  
Financial  
Index (CFI)

Debt covenants

Cash Flow

5-year budget  
and forecast

Your Key  
Metrics

## Financial and Operational Benchmarks

### Commitment to Healthy Financial Operations

1. Annual traditional net tuition per (NTR) student  $\geq$  \$14,000
2. First time freshman traditional tuition discount  $\leq$  50%
3. Advancing NTR per student three years forward for first time freshmen should be greater than current NTR for Seniors (micro price inflation)
4. Non-student revenues (donations and unrestricted investment returns primarily)  $\geq$  12% of operating revenue (Student revenues include net tuition, fees and auxiliary revenues)
5. Endowment value  $\geq$  150% of the annual operating budget
6. Traditional student to faculty ratio  $\geq$  15:1 with  $\leq$  15% of traditional classes having 9 or fewer students
7. Faculty:  $\leq$  10% Instructor,  $\geq$  40% Asst. Professor,  $\leq$  30% Associate,  $\leq$  20% Professor
8. Overall faculty load assigned to non-teaching appointments (release time)  $\leq$  5%
9. Non-traditional NTR  $\geq$  40% of overall NTR
10. Non-traditional net contribution  $\geq$  40% of NT revenues after facility and overhead costs



# Question

What are the three ratios used to derive the Department of Education Financial Responsibility Score (DOE FRS)?



# Let's Make A Deal



# The Right Stuff

## Composite Financial Index (CFI)

- Primary Reserve
- Net Income
- Return on Net Assets
- Viability

## Department of Education Financial Responsibility Score (DOE FRS)

- Primary Reserve
- Equity
- Net Income

| Example College                                                                     |                   | CFO Colleague |           |                                     |           |           |           |           |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------|---------------|-----------|-------------------------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| RATIOS                                                                              |                   | Actual        | Projected | / - - - - F o r e c a s t - - - - / |           |           |           |           |
|                                                                                     |                   | 2021 - 22     | 2022 - 23 | 2023 - 24                           | 2024 - 25 | 2025 - 26 | 2026 - 27 | 2027 - 28 |
| Primary Reserve Ratio:<br>Expendable Net Assets<br>Total Expenses                   | weight / strength |               |           |                                     |           |           |           |           |
|                                                                                     | 35%               |               |           |                                     |           |           |           |           |
|                                                                                     | 55%               | 0.311         | 0.224     | 0.219                               | 0.129     | 0.256     | 0.208     | 0.174     |
| Net Income Ratio:<br>Change in unrestricted net assets<br>Total unrestricted income | 0.133             |               |           |                                     |           |           |           |           |
|                                                                                     | 10%               |               |           |                                     |           |           |           |           |
|                                                                                     | 15%               | 0.007         | 0.034     | -0.031                              | -0.069    | 0.136     | -0.040    | -0.030    |
| Return on Net Assets Ratio:<br>Change in net assets<br>Total net assets             | 0.007             |               |           |                                     |           |           |           |           |
|                                                                                     | 20%               |               |           |                                     |           |           |           |           |
|                                                                                     | 30%               | 0.062         | 0.055     | 0.013                               | -0.018    | -0.024    | -0.024    | -0.018    |
| Viability Ratio<br>Expendable Net Assets<br>Long-Term Debt                          | 0.020             |               |           |                                     |           |           |           |           |
|                                                                                     | 35%               |               |           |                                     |           |           |           |           |
|                                                                                     | 0%                | 0.617         | 0.451     | 0.333                               | 0.208     | 0.439     | 0.389     | 0.356     |
| Liquidity Ratio<br>Total Liquidity<br>Long-term indebtedness                        | 0.417             |               |           |                                     |           |           |           |           |
|                                                                                     |                   | 175%          | 170%      | 132%                                | 128%      | 131%      | 134%      | 143%      |
|                                                                                     |                   |               |           |                                     |           |           |           |           |
| Debt Service Coverage Ratio<br>Net Revenues<br>Maximum annual debt service          |                   | 1.93          | 2.09      | 0.96                                | 0.40      | 3.36      | 0.86      | 1.72      |
| CFI                                                                                 |                   | 2.1           | 2.0       | 0.6                                 | -0.7      | 1.8       | 0.1       | 0.2       |
| DOE                                                                                 |                   | 2.7           | 2.9       | 2.4                                 | 2.2       | 2.8       | 2.0       | 1.9       |



# The Right Stuff

Primary Reserve

$$\frac{\text{Expendable Net Assets}}{\text{Total Expenses}}$$

Equity

$$\frac{\text{Modified Net Assets}}{\text{Modified Assets}}$$

Net Income

$$\frac{\text{Change in Net Assets without Donor Restriction}}{\text{Total Unrestricted Revenue}}$$

# Understanding the importance of financial information distribution

*– the Board, President, and Team*



# Financial Information Distribution

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“The result of information overload is usually distraction, and it dilutes your focus and takes you off your game.” – Zig Ziglar

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“We’re not in a world of information overload, we’re in a world of filter failure.” – Michael Lazerow

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“There is no such thing as information overload, just bad design. If something is cluttered and/or confusing, fix your design.” –Edward Tufte

# Financial Information Distribution



Too much data  
can be counter  
productive



Know your  
audience



Tailor the  
distribution  
consistent with the  
audience

# Question

Can you name seven  
(7) audiences you  
may have for  
financial information  
distribution.



# Financial Information Distribution

Board of  
Trustees

Cabinet/  
Leadership

Students/  
Parents

General  
Public

Auditor

President

Faculty/  
Staff

Alumni

Accreditation

Bank

# Financial Information Distribution



**Stakeholder Communication**



**Effective communication with stakeholders**



**Transparency and accountability**

# Seeing why often time is of the essence

*Setting up systems that work*



## Time is of the Essence

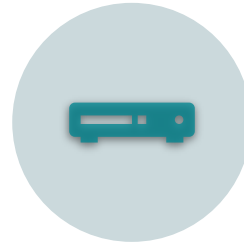
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*“Poor planning on your part  
does not necessitate an emergency on mine.”*

# Time is of the Essence



Month end close



FYE Projection



Develop a calendar



Systemization

# Time is of the Essence

## MAY MEETING

- FYE Projections
- Faculty Salaries
- Staff Salaries

## MARCH MEETING

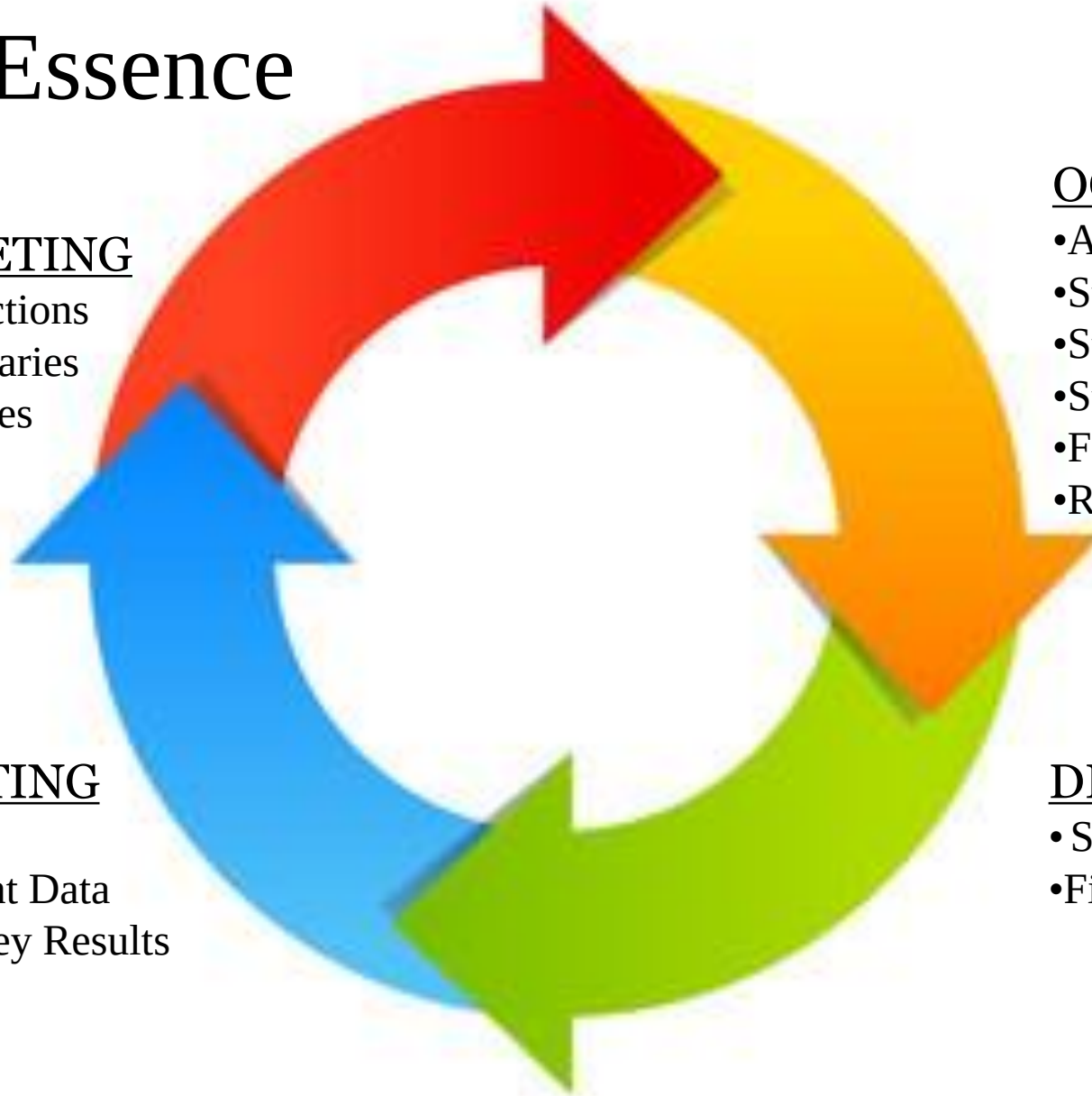
- Budget
- Student Placement Data
- Satisfaction Survey Results

## OCTOBER MEEETING

- Audit
- Student Enrollment
- Student Quality
- Student Diversity
- Faculty/Staff Diversity
- Retention

## DECEMBER MEETING

- Strategic Indicators
- Financial Ratios



# Financial Information Distribution



**Set clear reporting deadlines and stick to them**



**Automate routine reporting tasks to save time**



**Regularly review and optimize reporting processes**

# CFO Colleague

Budgeting & Forecasting (COMP4cast®)

Marginal Revenue Analysis

Administrative/Financial Services Assessment

Interim CFO

Accounting, Analysis, and Audit Support

CFO Coaching/Mentorship

Best Practices

Turnarounds

Accreditation

Dining Program Optimization



# Free!

- COMP4cast® and instructions
- Program Development Analysis
- Thirty (30) Benchmarks

[www.cfocolleague.com/downloads](http://www.cfocolleague.com/downloads)

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- CFO Colleague Newsletter
- Email “subscribe” to [jan@cfocolleague.com](mailto:jan@cfocolleague.com)



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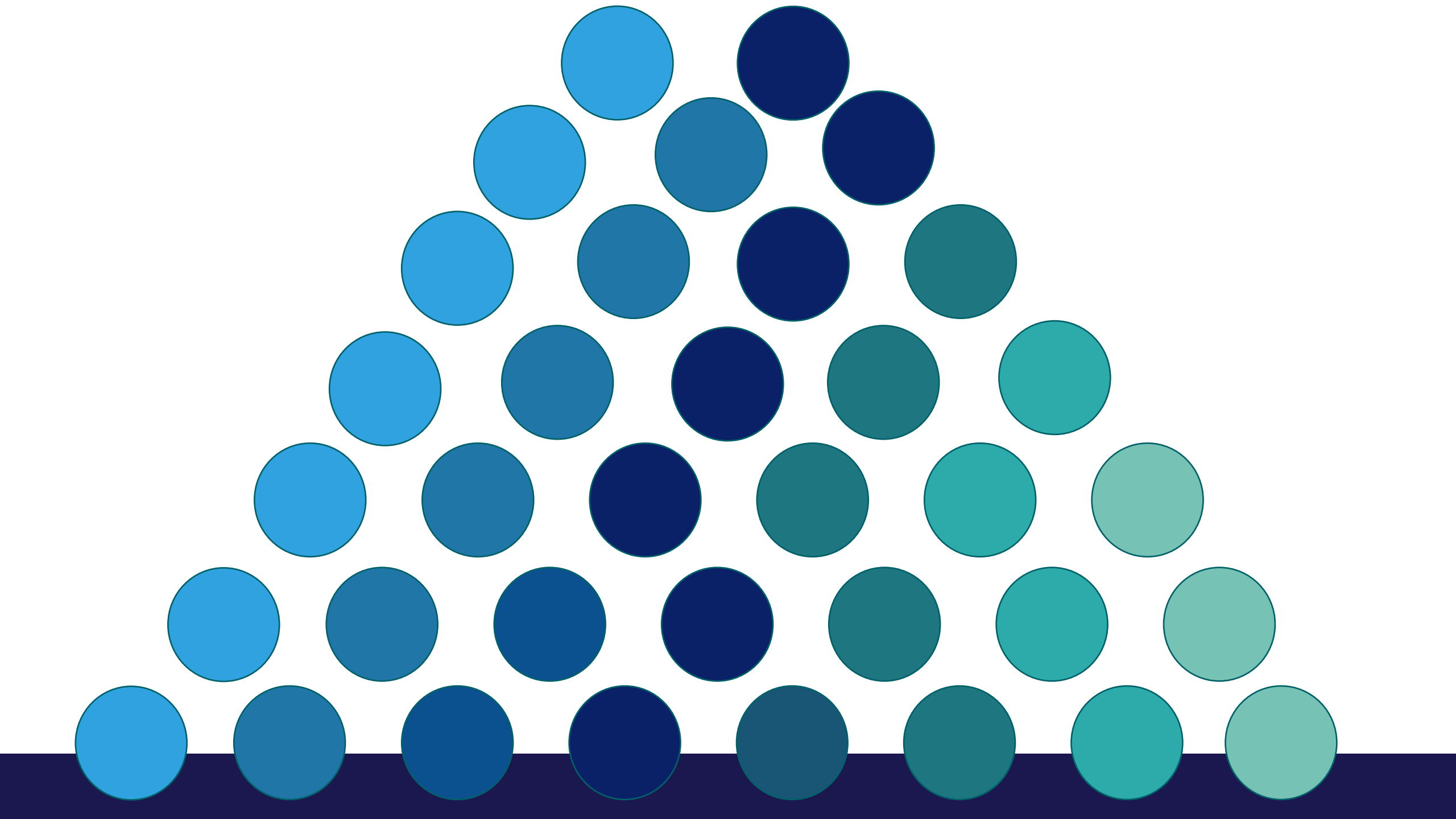
Email [jan@cfocolleague.com](mailto:jan@cfocolleague.com)



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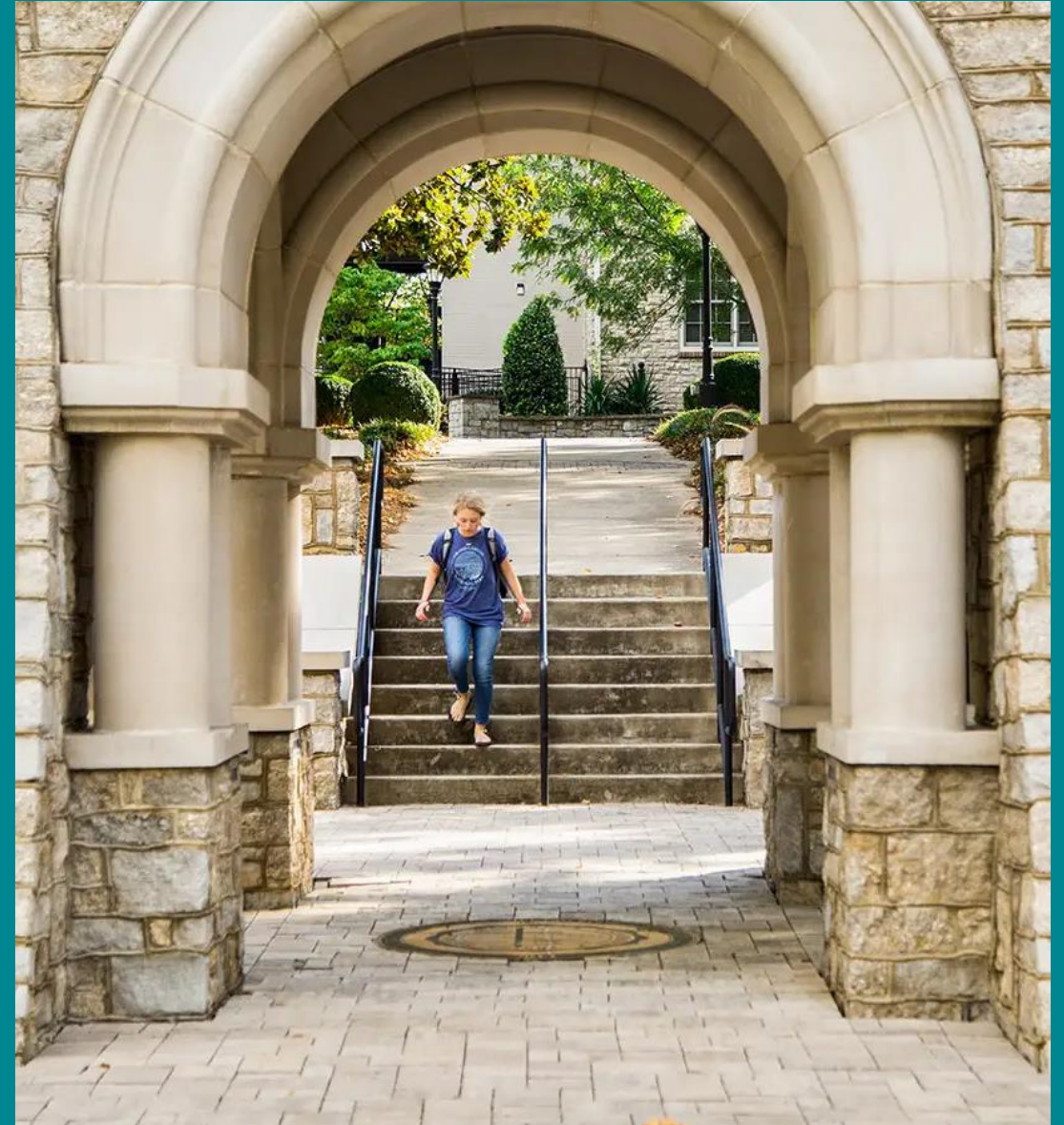
## Thank you!



PRE-HEADER

## Content & Photo

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PRE-HEADER

## Content & Photo

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# Two Column Layout

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  - Duis aute irure dolor in reprehenderit in voluptate velit esse cillum dolore eu fugiat nulla pariatur.
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  - Duis aute irure dolor in reprehenderit in voluptate velit esse cillum dolore eu fugiat nulla pariatur.

# Comparison Layout

## Comparison Headline

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## Comparison Headline

- Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet, consectetur adipiscing elit, sed do eiusmod tempor incididunt ut labore et dolore magna aliqua.

# Three Column Layout

## Column Headline

- Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet, consectetur adipiscing elit, sed do eiusmod tempor incididunt ut labore et dolore magna aliqua.

## Comparison Headline

- Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet, consectetur adipiscing elit, sed do eiusmod tempor incididunt ut labore et dolore magna aliqua.

## Column Headline

- Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet, consectetur adipiscing elit, sed do eiusmod tempor incididunt ut labore et dolore magna aliqua.



# Question

What are some of the oversight difficulties we might experience with scenario planning?

