Q&A for RFP #WR-102915
Total Effort Process Consultant
November 10, 2015

1. Regarding Section 1.3 - 3) Assist in development of an internally created total professional effort software system for tracking and reporting faculty effort.

At what stage of development does the internally created total professional effort software system for tracking and report faculty effort currently exist? We currently do not a software system to track total professional effort. We do have a system that reports clinical effort, but is not really used and would not be viewed as an option.

2. Regarding Section 1.3 - 3) a. Responsibilities include developing the design and architecture for the software.

Is the internally created total professional effort software system for tracking and report faculty effort a custom-developed solution and not a commercial off-the-shelf solution? We currently do not have a software system to track total professional effort. At this point, we do not think there is a product on the market that meets our expectations. We feel that a custom application would be the recommended platform.

3. What business reporting software is used currently at UTSW (e.g., OBI)? Is the intent of UTSW to leverage this software for this project? We are in the process of selecting a vendor for implementation of an enterprise-wide reporting solution. We are also developing a data warehouse. A total professional system is not in the scope of these ongoing projects. The reporting solution could be used to support the mission-based costing reports.

4. Is there a current system that will be replaced that is utilized for some of the requested functionality outlined in the RFP? If so, what is it? Would data be converted from the old system to the future new system or rather would it be newly created? Is there an interface between the current system and PeopleSoft? We currently do not a total professional effort software system.

5. What is UTSW’s identity management system (IDM)? What is the workflow for user IDs to flow from IDM to other systems or applications? We use forefront IDM. Typical integrations are LDAP and SAML/Shibboleth. Our policy is to have an IT project manager assigned to any project, which has IT integration.
6. How is user access provisioned (e.g., access to functionalities based on job functions)? Multiple user access roles will be needed to be created for the software system. User roles include but are not limited to: Super Users (Provost Office and Other Key Leaders), Departmental Administrators & Chairs (Sign off/approval, input), Departmental staff (input and submit to administrators), individual faculty (edit personal information).

7. Is IT management centralized or decentralized (e.g., managed separately by department)? The consultants would work with the central IT/IR teams.