# Positioning for Recovery in Tough Budget Times



Steven W Matson
University of North Carolina
at Chapel Hill



## Taking Advantage of Ongoing Efforts

- Two major initiatives underway when economic crisis hit
  - An ERP project
  - Efficiency study by an outside consultant
- UNC is taking advantage of each to position for recovery







## Time Line

- 2006 Carolina begins an ERP project to connect various business systems
- 2008 (spring) Study by an outside consultant of business processes is envisioned
- 2008 (fall) Bain group begins a lengthy study of business processes at UNC-CH
  - Study focuses on procurement, IT, HR and finance
- 2008 (fall) Economy tanks
- 2009 (spring) Report of Bain group released
- 2009 (fall) Implementation of Bain group recommendations begins [Carolina Counts]



# Bain Project Objective and Guiding Principles

#### **Objective**

 Identify options to improve operating cost structure through more efficient operations to facilitate long term growth within boundaries of guiding principles

#### **Guiding Principles**

- Options must comply with regulatory, statutory and policy environments
- Academic quality must be maintained
- Carolina's reputation must be preserved
- Must sustain sound internal control and compliance
- Costs must be evaluated against relative value they generate in return



## Potential Options (examples)

Area	Opportunity/Options	Estimated Annual Value	Estimated Timing
Organizational Structure	<ul><li>Reduce organizational levels</li><li>Establish policies to maintain flattened organization</li></ul>	\$ 3 – 12M	1-2 years
Procurement	<ul> <li>Invest in adequate systems for data capture</li> <li>Restructure procurement organization to invest in strategic support of distributed units</li> </ul>	\$40 – 50M	2-5 years
Information Technology	<ul> <li>Consolidate 'hidden' IT         infrastructure to school or         division level</li> <li>Invest in central capabilities         and resolve trust hurdles to         facilitate migration of IT         services to ITS</li> </ul>	\$12-19M	2-3+ years



## Next Steps

- Chancellor leads selection of options
- Establish program management, process and tools to lead and track change initiatives
  - The Carolina Counts program
- Identify and assign sponsors and owners for initiatives to drive change
- Bain company will ultimately return to help measure progress



## The Graduate School

- The ERP project is allowing us to streamline operations
  - Moving to a paperless office
  - Better communication between 'systems' may lead to re-assignment of staff
- Implementation of some of the goals of the Bain study
  - Taking advantage of retirements to re-organize
  - This is improving our efficiency

