



DIGITAL ADVISORY

# Digital Advisory Services for Higher Education

Higher education institutions face a changing and increasingly competitive landscape, accelerated by COVID-19. Regardless of the causes, higher education institutions face a myriad of challenges, many of which are key drivers for digital transformation.



## Process Automation

We provide a wide range of process optimization services across the spectrum of functions at an institution. We conduct detailed discovery sessions to understand the current state of operations and identify opportunities to reduce excess cost, waste, time, and rework. From this understanding, we create a desired “future state” of operations enabling scalable growth and accelerating the achievement of organizational goals, objectives, and mission.

Working with higher education institutions, we prioritize opportunities (e.g., fiscal period close process) to create a logical order for process optimization and automation. We advise modernizing technology in particularly when the platform is incapable of attaining the future state of operations without significant cost or customization.

Functional areas commonly considered within a higher education technology environment include, but are not limited to:

- ▶ Core Financials
- ▶ Human Capital Management
- ▶ Student Information Management
- ▶ Student Learning
- ▶ Facilities and Asset Management



## Cost and Revenue Analytics

We develop cost and revenue analytics solutions helping institutions identify opportunities to be cost efficient, enhance revenues, and maximize mission attainment. Our offerings range from simplified, high-level models to compounded predictive models producing powerful cost and revenue analytics opportunities.



## Business Intelligence and Data Analytics

We enhance decision-making capabilities by creating a unified business intelligence strategy to identify and connect high-value data elements from across the institution. We help implement advanced analytics strategies using innovative platforms such as Alteryx while also applying platforms such as Tableau and Power BI to generate real-time visual dashboards. Additionally, we have an “out-of-the-box” Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (“IPEDS”) analytics solution that helps institutions benchmark against peer groups.



## Business Strategy and Digital Transformation

We work with institutional leadership with aligning IT strategic and tactical plans with the overall strategies, goals, and objectives. By conducting digital transformation readiness assessments, we help institutions identify their transformational capacity and readiness. A critical first step in the digital transformation journey is a thorough evaluation of your business and technical environment. We utilize a visual methodology, Technology Optimization Model, to help you visually understand your “current” state between both business and the technology.



## Digital Platforms

Higher education institutions use many disparate pieces of technology in the running of the institution. We will meet you where you are to determine industry leading opportunities while leveraging upgraded platforms to digitize every aspect of your institution. The objective is to:

- ▶ Strengthen your technology platforms;
- ▶ Reduce repetitive data;
- ▶ Enhance connectivity between platforms;
- ▶ Enable improved real-time access to information; and
- ▶ Enable comprehensive business intelligence deployment.

### About Cherry Bekaert

“Cherry Bekaert” is the brand name under which Cherry Bekaert LLP and Cherry Bekaert Advisory LLC, independently owned entities, provide professional services in an alternative practice structure in accordance with applicable professional standards. Cherry Bekaert LLP is a licensed CPA firm that provides attest services, and Cherry Bekaert Advisory LLC and its subsidiary entities provide tax and advisory services. For more details, visit [cbh.com/disclosure](http://cbh.com/disclosure).

© 2022 Cherry Bekaert LLP. All Rights Reserved. This material has been prepared for general informational purposes only and is not intended to be relied upon as tax, accounting, or other professional advice. Before taking any action, you should consult a professional advisor familiar with your particular facts and circumstances.



## CIO Advisory Services

Our CIO advisory services can ensure that your institution is current with emerging technologies and industry standards. We recommend the most appropriate, robust and cost-effective technology solutions including:

- ▶ Hardware and software platforms;
- ▶ Network infrastructure;
- ▶ Communications framework; and
- ▶ Data centers and cloud services.

We provide program and project management and oversight as needed. We also provide fractional CIO services for clients in need of a part-time or temporary CIO.



## IT Managed Services and Security Management

We assist institutions with efficient, cost-effective IT infrastructure and business applications by providing managed IT services. We help institutions understand their capabilities by conducting an analysis of the skills present on the IT team compared to the skills required by the institution, providing guidance on deployment of outsourced IT services as needed.

We also provide security management while evaluating the security on-premise and on the cloud/hosted institutional information technology assets and services.

## We Can Guide You Forward



### Anthony Pember

Director, Digital Transformation Services

[anthony.pember@cbh.com](mailto:anthony.pember@cbh.com)

757.228.7033



### Bob Misch

Principal, Digital Transformation Services

[bob.misch@cbh.com](mailto:bob.misch@cbh.com)

703.548.8346

[cbh.com/digital](http://cbh.com/digital)



**Cherry Bekaert**

Your Guide Forward