December 2023



Mr. Paul Tyler, Chief Audit Executive The University of Texas at San Antonio

In August 2023, The University of Texas at San Antonio (UTSA) internal audit (IA) function, the Office of Auditing and Consulting Services (OACS), completed a self-assessment of internal audit activities in accordance with guidelines published by the Institute of Internal Auditors (IIA) for the performance of a quality assessment review (QAR). UTSA OACS engaged an independent review team consisting of internal audit professionals with extensive higher education and healthcare experience to perform an independent validation of OACS' QAR self-assessment. The primary objective of the validation was to verify the assertions made in the QAR report concerning OACS' conformity to the IIA's *International Standards for the Professional Practice of Internal Auditing* (the IIA *Standards*) and Code of Ethics, Generally Accepted Government Auditing Standards (GAGAS), and the relevant requirements of the Texas Internal Auditing Act (TIAA).

The IIA's *Quality Assessment Manual* suggests a scale of three ratings, "generally conforms," "partially conforms," and "does not conform." "Generally conforms" is the top rating and means that an internal audit activity has a charter, policies, and processes that are judged to be in conformance with the *Standards*. "Partially conforms" means deficiencies in practice are noted that are judged to deviate from the *Standards*, but these deficiencies did not preclude the IA activity from performing its responsibilities in an acceptable manner. "Does not conform" means deficiencies are judged to be so significant as to seriously impair or preclude the IA activity from performing adequately in all or in significant areas of its responsibilities.

Based on our independent validation of the QAR performed by OACS, we agree with OACS's overall conclusion that the internal audit function **"Generally Conforms"** with the Institute of Internal Auditors' *International Standards for the Professional Practice of Internal Auditing* and Code of Ethics, as well as with OACS' conclusions regarding GAGAS and TIAA requirements. Our review noted strengths as well as opportunities for enhancing the internal audit function.

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The review team appreciates the cooperation, time, and candid feedback of executive leadership, stakeholders, and OACS personnel.

Very truly yours,

Baker Tilly US, LLP

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