MIS 3534 Fall 2014 – Strategic Management of Information Technology Day 6 – Cost of IT (II)

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### Today, we will discuss ...

- Who should control the budgets for IT spending in an organization?
- What should be an appropriate IT funding model?
- How to take competitive strategies into consideration in IT budget control?



## Who likes a BIG government?

- Which government spending do you want to cut?
- Why not military spending?
- Why not education?
- Why not highway?
- Why not border protection?
- Is there anything that has no reason to keep its spending?



http://bostinno.com/2013/02/26/what-is-the-sequester-sequester-cuts-impact-on-education/



### From now on...

• You need to abandon your assumption that a company is one entity or one actor.

 It is made up of many different entities and actors, each of which has different interests and motives.

• It's all about politics!





## IT Budget Process at IVK (1/2)

- Who provides the IT budget at IVK?
- Who *controls* the IT budget?
- On what basis do the business units at IVK pay for IT?
- Who at IVK knows how the internal IT prices are calculated?
  - Is that a problem? Why or why not?



http://zenportfolios.com/herverobic/2009/11/19/project-budget-control/



## IT Budget Process at IVK (2/2)

• The business units (BUs) provide and *control* the entire IT budget.

• The IT group provides the BUs with IT services, which the BUs "purchase" for price.

• The only one who knows how to devise the "internal prices" is Mr. Geisler. There is no transparency!



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## **Chargeback at Virginia IT Agency**





**Enterprise Handheld Service -Blackberry** 

### Description

#### **Blackberry Support Services**

This service rate covers VITA server services and Helpdesk support for Blackberry mobile devices (recurring monthly per device). VITA currently has multiple contractors providing Blackberry equipment and service in Virginia. Blackberry Enterprise is a complete wireless e-mail solution designed specifically for enterprise environments. With Blackberry, users get access to e-mail while on the road and IT departments get centralized administration of a secure solution.

#### Cost summary

Price type: Fixed Billing category: Monthly Cost basis: Per unit Total: \$15.38

Blackberry Enterprise integrates with a user's Microsoft Exchange or Lotus Domino mailbox without the need for secondary addresses or mailboxes. Translation software is available and can be obtained from each of the contractors for their specific service.

### Legacy Server Support



### Description

Servers that qualify as "Legacy" are in accordance with Appendix 12 to Schedule 3.3 Legacy Operations Framework. In summary, this monthly recurring charge applies to devices that were not transformed but require support. The devices will also incur the normal hardware support fee. Legacy Help Desk Support fee will also apply.

### Prerequisites

#### Cost summary

Price type: Fixed

Billing category: Monthly

Cost basis: per device covered

Total: \$615.15

### http://shop.vita.virginia.gov/Default.aspx

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### **Slush Funds of Mr. Davies**

• Why had Mr. Davies, the former CIO, had to set up "slush funds"?

• in order to fund for IT maintenance and upgrade work, which the business units refuse to pay for.

• How did he secure the slash funds?

For example, instead of charging \$16.15 per Blackberry support, he charged \$17.

• It is technically "embezzlement."

The accounting department is supposed to discover this in auditing, which they can't, since they do not know the internal pricing mechanisms either.



# Security Funding at IVK (1/3)

- Why is Mr. John Cho requesting an immediate funding on IT security?
  - What's the problem in IVK IT security?
  - How serious is it?
- Why has the request for IT security funding kept being denied?



http://www.foreclosureindustrynews.com/2012/04/27/admission-the-bank-spent-too-much-m oney-defending-foreclosure-lawsuit-no-cash-for-keys-for-you/denied-denied-denied/

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# Security Funding at IVK (2/3)

- The request for IT security funding is being denied because it has little *immediate customer benefits*.
  - By "customer," it means customers of the IT group the business units.
- Security breaches are *not likely but possible*. Unless threats are imminent, the BUs would not take this seriously.
- Because of the technical nature, the BUs are hard to understand the risks and consequences of security failures.
  - Mr. Davis did not do a good job in convincing the BUs. He speaks in "technology" languages.



### Show me the money!

• Suppose that the CEO and the business unit heads are asking

- why do we have to fund in an IT system for our new homeequity loan business? (Cost : \$1 million)
- why do we have to fund in an security upgrade project? (Cost : \$ 1 million)
- Suppose that they are saying that they have only \$1 million and will choose either one only.
- Which one will they choose?

They will likely choose the first one, since it has immediate benefits such as new revenues and greater competitiveness.

The second one is like an insurance.



# Security Funding at IVK (3/3)

• Suppose that business unit heads completely understand the urgent need for IT security fund.

- Suppose that they completely understand the risks and consequences from IT security failures?
- Will they pay for IT security *willingly*?



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# Do you know why? (1/2)

• Do you know why there is no group assignment in this course?

- because of free-riders
- In an individual assignment, the credits from all your efforts go to yourself.
- In a group assignment, the credits from your efforts are shared by your group members.
  - Iess incentive to work hard in a group assignment
- Free-riders in fact behave rationally in an economic sense.



# Do you know why? (2/2)

- Do you know why you have to pay taxes? For what?
  - for public services such as police, fire department, public roads
- If citizens are asked to donate any amount to a fire department, most of them will contribute zero dollar.
  - Free-riders in fact behave rationally in an economic sense.



### **Tragedy of the Commons**



### If all owns one thing together, everyone will overuse it and nobody takes care of it.

http://spinachinourteeth.wordpress.com/2011/11/11/the-tragedy-of-the-commons-reconsidered/

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# **Public Good**

- A good or service that has the non-excludability and non-rivalry properties
  - By non-excludability, meaning that one cannot be excluded from using the good
  - By non-rivalry, meaning that anyone's consumption does not prevent others' consumption
- Any example? National defense, fresh air and water, public roads, public safety, library, public park, and free-to-air television
- Who should pay for public goods? How?
  - Nobody is willing to pay for it.
  - A government pays for it by taxing consumers (citizens).



### **Public Goods vs. Private Goods**

	Excludable	Non-excludable	
Rivalrous	Private goods food, clothing, cars, personal electronics	Common goods (Common-pool resources) fish stocks, timber, coal	
Non-rivalrous	<b>Club goods</b> cinemas, private parks, satellite television	Public goods free-to-air television, air, national defense	

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Excludability

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## Prisoner's Dilemma (1/2)

• If both of the two suspects keep their mouth shut, they go to prison for one year. If both confess, they go for 2 years.

 If one confesses and the other does not, the former go free and the latter gets locked up for 3 years.

	Suspect B		
Suspect A		Keep mouth shut	Confess
	Keep mouth shut	-1, -1	-3, 0
	Confess	0, -3	-2, -2

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## Prisoner's Dilemma (2/2)

- In the absence of coordination between the two suspects,
- No matter what Suspect B does, it is Suspect A's best interest to confess, and vice versa.
- In equilibrium, both of the suspects will confess and end up in going to jail for two years,
  - even though they could have cooperated with each other and gone for one year by keeping both mouths shut.
- Prisoner's Dilemma : Individuals' rational, selfish actions result in consequences that are less optimal than cooperation and coordination.



# **Prisoner's Dilemma at IVK (1/2)**

- Revenue of each business unit is \$10m. Cost for security is \$6 million.
- Risk from the unsecured system to each business unit is worth \$5m. Risk from the secured system is \$0m.





### **Prisoner's Dilemma at IVK (2/2)**

- In the absence of coordination between the business units,
- No matter what Business Unit B does, it is Business Unit A's best interest not to pay for security and to be a *free-rider*, and vice versa.
- In equilibrium, both of the BUs will not pay for the security and choose to take the chances of security threats,
  - even though they could have cooperated with each other and secured the system by paying half.



### **Public Goods at IVK**

• IT security and IT infrastructure are public goods at IVK, just like police and public roads.

 We cannot say "We'll secure Loan Operations but not Business Development." Everyone has to be protected.

• Even when senior managers in the business units at IVK are aware well and completely of IT security matters, they will not willingly fund IT security.

Then, what's the solution?

A CIO or a CEO has to *tax* the business units for the security, and the CIO controls for it.



### **Mr. Barton's Decision**

• What's the consideration and decision of Mr. Barton in terms of IT budget funding and controls?

- He wants to control the *entire* IT funding.
- He will be able to fund the belated IT security and maintenance projects.



http://rapgenius.com/1397920/Action-bronson-mike-vick/Cash-we-slidin-in-they-always-call-me-safe-kid



### **One Neck in the Noose**

- What does Maggie, Mr. Barton's girlfriend/consultant, mean by "one neck in the noose"?
- What will happen if Mr. Barton controls the entire IT budget but things go south?
  - Mr. Barton takes all the responsibility for any failure.



http://www.colourbox.com/image/gallows-hanging-rope-knot-tied-noose-and-soap-bar-image-1585308



### **Another Issue in Mr. Barton's Decision (1/4)**

 What would be other problems if Mr. Barton controls the entire IT budget and the business units pay nothing for the IT services?

- He might not make an informed decision every time, since he might be overwhelmed by the amount of decisions he has to make.
- Fellow business executives will challenge his decisions, since he is neither their boss nor "an expert" in IT yet.



# **Another Issue in Mr. Barton's Decision (2/4)**

- Suppose that you pay income tax and can live in any house you want for free! (Your government provides housing for you.)
  - Everyone will want to live in a bigger house.
- Suppose that the utilities in your apartment are included in a monthly rent?
  - Everyone will use electricity, water, and heats like they are free.



### **Another Issue in Mr. Barton's Decision (3/4)**

- What would happen if Mr. Barton controls the entire IT budget?
  - Every BU will demand more IT services than they need.
- What should be "private goods" in IVK's IT system? Who should pay for them?
  - Application systems, PC, or PDA for individual business units
  - The BUs have to pay for them.



# **Another Issue in Mr. Barton's Decision (4/4)**

Is there any middle ground between the current model and Mr.
Barton's decision?

- IT services that are used by an business unit (private goods) are paid by that business unit.
- IT services that are shared by the entire IVK (public goods) are controlled and funded by the CIO.



http://www.glogster.com/eduardov214/undefined/g-6mg4se30onom8gke9ggt8a0

### **Organizational Structure at VWoA**





### **VWoA IT Project Approval Process**



Enterprise Goal Area	Rank
Customer Loyalty	1
New Vehicle Value	2
Stable Business Infrastructure	3
Pre-Owned Vehicle Business	4
Optimize the Supply Flow	5



Actual Data Withheld



# **IT Funding Process in VW America (1/4)**

- Both IT and the business units together are involved in the IT funding decision process.
- Proposed IT projects are grouped into three categories.
  - Stay in Business Qualify
  - Option-Creating Investment Compete
  - Return on Investment in-between
- Funding decisions to proposed projects are driven by
  - expected ROI and business value (e.g. customer value, new vehicle value)
  - importance to strategic goals of VWoA.



# IT Funding Process in VW America (2/4)

 "Of the roughly \$60 million available overall, <u>\$16 million</u> had been set aside to fund "stay in business" initiatives, <u>most of them</u> <u>infrastructure projects under the discretion of CIO Matuloyic</u>" (p. 8)

because infrastructure projects are public goods.

"Through the lenses of the business architecture and the new process, it appeared that several projects favored by business units did not have sufficient enterprise value to make the funding cut."
(p. 8)



http://www.vw.com/en/corporate/nav/corporate.html



## **IT Funding Process in VW America (3/4)**



- How would you evaluate the IT funding process at VWoA? Is it better than the current process at IVK? How?
- What would be the problems in this funding process?



## **IT Funding Process in VW America (4/4)**



- This is more transparent than the IVK process. Everyone can agree with decisions (may not be happy though).
- This is slower and time-consuming. Unable to develop and deploy a new IT system quickly



### **Next Week**

• IT Governance

Read the <u>IT Adventure Chapter 9</u> and write a brief of up to 200 words.

- Sign up for presentation
  - IT Adventure Chapter 9

 Nolan and McFarlan – "Information Technology and the Board of Directors," Harvard Business Review

• Bring "Accenture" cases next week.