INTRODUCTION AND INSTRUCTIONS

The Institute of Internal Auditors Research Foundation (IIARF) is the global leader in providing research and knowledge resources to enhance the internal audit profession.

The IIARF continually monitors the needs of the internal audit profession and its stakeholders to identify high priority topics for future projects. These high priority topics can either become research projects or educational products.

**Research projects** focus on discovering new information about the internal audit profession, using academic research methods such as surveys, focus groups, interviews, case studies, literature review, data analysis, and so on. Whenever possible, research projects should include implications or applications for practitioners.

**Educational products** are designed to provide information that internal audit practitioners can use on the job. Educational products often include “how-to” information, tools, best practices, and so on. (A research component can support the educational product.)

**Author’s choice proposals** may also be submitted for topics that are not directly related to the posted RFPs. These may be submitted for research or educational topics, and proposals will be evaluated at least once a quarter. The number of projects selected for funding will depend on the quality and number of proposals received and the amount of funds requested and available.

The following request for proposal is for a **priority research project**, and a global scope is encouraged.

The review process normally lasts 4-6 weeks, but may take longer.

Return your proposal as a Microsoft Word document or PDF via e-mail to research@theiia.org.

**ALL RESPONSES TO THIS REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL ARE DUE NO LATER THAN APRIL 18, 2014.**

If additional information is needed, please contact The IIA Research Foundation:

Tel: +1-407-937-1356  
E-mail: research@theiia.org

Thank you for your interest in The Institute of Internal Auditors Research Foundation. We look forward to working with you.
### Prioritize Topic Title

**Data Analytics Framework for Internal Auditing**

### Topic Summary

The objective of the project is to design a data analytics framework ranging across a wide spectrum of concepts (such as financial risk, compliance and fraud) to help internal audit functions to broaden risk coverage and to enhance audit efficiency.

### Product Type

Choose one: [X] Research Report (applied)

### Problem the Research Will Address

Today’s audit leader struggles with creating an integrated efficient approach to data mining that maximizes the impact and value the audit department delivers.

### Primary Audience/Secondary Audience

**Primary audience:** Internal audit leadership (Not just head of audit)  
**Secondary audience:** Academic community teaching practical application of data analytics/mining and IT audit leadership.

### Research Objectives

- Create a comprehensive data analytics model that directs resources to the highest risk within the organization.
- Show readers how to use the intelligence gathered through the data analytics model to achieving combined audit objectives in the areas of a) risk management, b) continuous monitoring of compliance, c) fraud and d) organizational efficiency.

### Practical Applications for the Audience

- Audit leadership will be in a position to develop and apply a strategic analytics framework which incorporates data analytics techniques efficiently to accomplish multiple audit objectives.
- Academia will be able to educate on the capabilities and practical application of a data mining framework.

### Topics/Issues

- Proposals should include:  
  - At least all of the topics listed. OR  
  - The researcher’s selection of options and/or additional topics

1. How to use the data analytics framework to accomplish multiple audit objectives.
2. How to increase the value created through internal audit work.
3. How to enhance internal audit efficiency through the use of data mining and analytics.
4. Elimination of duplicated data mining and analysis efforts across audit and other functions.
5. The framework should be adaptable to multiple organizations, e.g. sources/inputs to the framework; the different facets of the framework.
6. The different facets of the framework should correlate (overlap/work together) to enable analysis efficiency.
7. The report should explain how to determine the optimal effort needed to maximize the framework (e.g. too much/too little analysis or incorrect data focus).
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Methodology</th>
<th>Options include a survey, focus groups, and/or case studies.</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Survey/Interview</td>
<td>If surveys or interview guides are used in the project, a complete first draft must be included with the proposal. Researchers should also provide supporting documentation for other methodologies, such as data analysis or literature reviews.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Guide Requirements</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Sample Type</td>
<td>CAEs, internal audit leadership and academics</td>
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<tr>
<td>Researcher Qualifications</td>
<td>Extensive understanding of internal audit and data analytics. Strong writing skills.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Timeframe</td>
<td>9 months</td>
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<tr>
<td>Length of Document</td>
<td>70 – 90 pages</td>
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<tr>
<td>Distribution Method</td>
<td>Book / electronic book</td>
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<td>Resources to Consult</td>
<td>TBD</td>
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INTERESTED RESEARCHERS AND AUTHORS, PLEASE PROCEED TO THE NEXT SECTION, PROPOSAL SUBMISSION GUIDELINES
PROPOSAL SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

The Institute of Internal Auditors Research Foundation (IIARF) is the global leader in providing research and knowledge resources to enhance the internal audit profession.

Proposals should outline how the requirements of the RFP will be met. Proposals should not exceed five pages exclusive of the summary page and appendices described below, and should be organized as follows:

1. Proposal Summary Page
   a. Name of the priority topic being addressed
   b. Product type (education, applied research, or theoretical research)
   c. Proposal title. (This title should be specific to the proposal, not the same as the name of the priority topic.)
   d. Date proposal was submitted
   e. Primary researcher’s name, contact information, and credentials.
   f. Proposal abstract. (This should be one to two paragraphs, including research need, primary audience, methodology, and a description of the primary deliverable.)

2. Project Description
   a. Research questions (and hypotheses if applicable)
   b. Application/implications for internal auditors
   c. Topics/issues
   d. Methodology. (Explain how the proposed methodology will answer the research question. Include drafts of surveys or interview guides in appendices.)
   e. Sample size and description

3. Research Team and Budget Description
   a. Proposed research team members with a brief description of their roles and qualifications. (Describe research capabilities and/or academic qualifications related to the topic. An internal auditor should be on the research team.)
   b. Timeframe and budget (Give an itemized budget and tell who receives funds.)
   c. Researcher writing sample. (Provide a list of previously published material and a PDF or link to a sample that would be comparable to the intended deliverable.)

4. Deliverable Description
   a. Length of book or report
   b. Primary and secondary audience
   c. Other possible content uses

5. Appendices
   a. First draft of the interview guide, survey questions, and/or analysis methodology (if applicable)
   b. Curriculum vitae (CV) for each researcher (3 pages maximum)
   c. Previous researcher affiliation with The IIA (previous research or educational products produced, volunteer participation, chapter officer, etc.)

Submit proposals by April 18, 2014, via e-mail to: research@theiia.org

Further information: research@theiia.org, Tel: +1-407-937-1356, Fax: +1-407-937-1101