Seattle University

Tambellini Group Partners with Seattle University’s CIO to Bring New Perspectives and Insights

As CIOs work to implement and maintain complex technology infrastructures, Tambellini supports them with insight, recommendations, and encouragement.

TRAVIS NATION
CIO, Seattle University
BACKGROUND

In December 2021, Seattle University’s CIO, Chris Van Liew, stepped into a new role as vice president of Strategic Initiatives. Van Liew had established a relationship with the Tambellini Group throughout his tenure as CIO. Thus, when Travis Nation, previously associate CIO, became the new CIO of Seattle University, Van Liew advised him to engage with Tambellini.

While at a previous organization, Nation had worked with Vicki Tambellini when she supported his team with contract negotiations for a new ERP. He reports that Vicki Tambellini mentored his team, helping them navigate the procurement process and obtain the best value possible for the organization. While working on the project, Nation also leveraged Tambellini’s annual Market Trends and Leaders Report to investigate the US higher education financial management and human capital management systems market.

While Nation had experienced firsthand how Tambellini provides support for specific projects like selecting a new ERP system or negotiating a contract, he did not realize the extent of services. Nation says he “very quickly came to appreciate the Tambellini membership.”

“*The Tambellini Strategic Advisor gave me enough information and asked the right questions so that my first presentation to the trustees went very well … To me, that was worth its weight in gold.*”

SERVICES IN ACTION

Soon after beginning his new role as CIO of Seattle University, Nation met with a Tambellini Strategic Advisor for a scheduled check-in. At the time, Nation was preparing a presentation for a subgroup of university trustees. Nation notes that he shared his initial thoughts for the presentation with the Tambellini Strategic Advisor, who asked key questions and provided valuable feedback. The conversation helped Nation consider new perspectives and allowed him to bring his points together more cohesively. “He [the Tambellini Strategic Advisor] gave me enough information and asked the right questions so that my first presentation to the trustees went very well … To me, that was worth its weight in gold.”

Since then, Nation says that Tambellini has continued contributing to his learning journey as a CIO. Currently, Nation is employing Tambellini Advisory Services for an ERP assessment. He reports that Tambellini analyst engagements and resources in the Tambellini portal have also provided support as his team upgrades technology infrastructure in specific areas like housing and residence life.
CONCLUSION

Nation sees Tambellini Services as a low-cost way to mitigate risk for anyone new to the CIO role. “It’s great to have somebody outside the organization with a fresh perspective who I can be completely transparent with … It’s having that advisor, that sounding board.”

As CIOs work to implement and maintain complex technology infrastructures, Tambellini supports them with insight, recommendations, and encouragement. Nation reports that Tambellini’s services help him attain a “broad-brush” perspective on how Seattle University’s IT efforts align with wide-scale higher education technology trends and challenges.
TAMBELLINI MEMBER CASE STUDY

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS
The purpose of this report is to provide higher education institutions and solution providers with information about services available from the Tambellini Group.

The report is based on the experience of the Tambellini Group and Seattle University.

TERMS OF USE
The Tambellini Group offers no specific guarantee regarding the accuracy or completeness of the information presented, but The Tambellini Group makes every reasonable effort to present the most reliable information available. The Tambellini Group assumes no liability for errors, omissions or discrepancies in the information contained in this report.

The Tambellini Group, Tambellini Market InsightsSM, Peertelligent®, and The Tambellini Group logo are trademarks or service marks of The Tambellini Group, and may be registered in the US, other countries, or both. Other third-party trademarks or service marks are property of their respective owners.

DISCLAIMER
The Tambellini Group does not recommend or endorse any vendor solutions for higher education. The Tambellini Group is an independent research firm without sponsors or ties to vendors. The Tambellini Group provides selected information about vendors based on research. The Tambellini Group makes every effort to validate all of the information presented in this report and performs all research in good faith. The Tambellini Group relies on publicly available information, interviews with higher education institutions and vendor feedback in order to prepare and publish reports which contain timely and helpful points of interest.

By using information in this report, you acknowledge that you do so at your own risk. No information contained in this report shall create any warranty or liability. You should obtain any additional information necessary to make an informed decision prior to taking any actions related to the material in this report.

You assume all responsibility in connection with selecting a vendor solution, whether or not you obtained information about such solution through this report. The Tambellini Group and its officers, contractors and affiliates assume no (and hereby disclaims all) responsibility of any kind, for any advice, treatment or other services rendered by any vendor or for any other claims that may arise directly or indirectly from such advice or other services.

THIS REPORT IS PROVIDED ON AN “AS IS” AND “AS AVAILABLE” BASIS, AND IS INTENDED FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES ONLY. WHILE WE STRIVE TO PROVIDE THE MOST UP TO DATE INFORMATION AVAILABLE, THE REPORT MAY CONTAIN TECHNICAL OR OTHER INACCURACIES OR TYPOGRAPHICAL ERRORS, AND MAY BE CHANGED OR UPDATED WITHOUT NOTICE.

WAIVER OF WARRANTIES. THE TAMBELLINI GROUP MAKES NO REPRESENTATIONS OR WARRANTIES WITH RESPECT TO THE REPORT AND ANY AND ALL THE TAMBELLINI GROUP SERVICES PROVIDED TO YOU. THE TAMBELLINI GROUP HEREBY EXPRESSLY DISCLAIMS ANY AND ALL WARRANTIES, WHETHER EXPRESS, IMPLIED, OR STATUTORY, INCLUDING WITHOUT LIMITATION, ANY IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY, FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE, NON-INFRINGEMENT, AND ANY WARRANTIES CONCERNING THE AVAILABILITY, RELIABILITY, COMPLETENESS, AND/OR QUALITY WITH REGARD TO THE REPORT AND ANY AND ALL THE TAMBELLINI GROUP SERVICES PROVIDED TO YOU.

The terms in this report will be governed by and interpreted in accordance with the laws of the Commonwealth of Virginia, without regard to the conflict of laws and rules thereof, and may be amended only in a writing signed by The Tambellini Group.

©2022 The Tambellini Group. All rights reserved.

PHOTO CREDITS
Page 1: Seattle University campus, ©Seattle University, www.seattlue.edu