



# FISMA

Lions and Tigers

Jose Castilleja, ISSO  
Susan Ramsey, ISA, RE  
Dr. G. Robert Williams, CO

# Open Computing, Open Network, Open Data

*UCAR's mission is to empower our Member Institutions, our National Center, and our Community Programs by*

- Promoting research excellence*
- Developing fruitful collaborations*
- Managing unique resources*
- Creating novel capabilities*
- Building critical applications*
- Expanding educational opportunities*
- Engaging in effective advocacy*

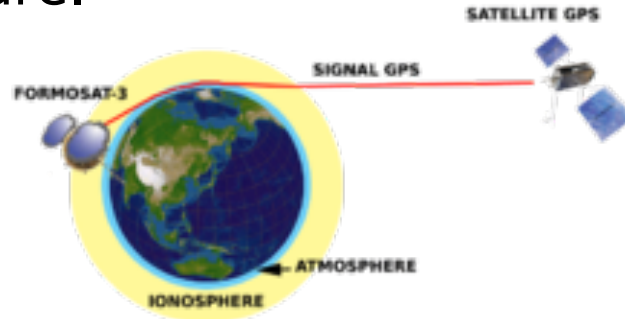
← Nothing in here mentions  
FISMA

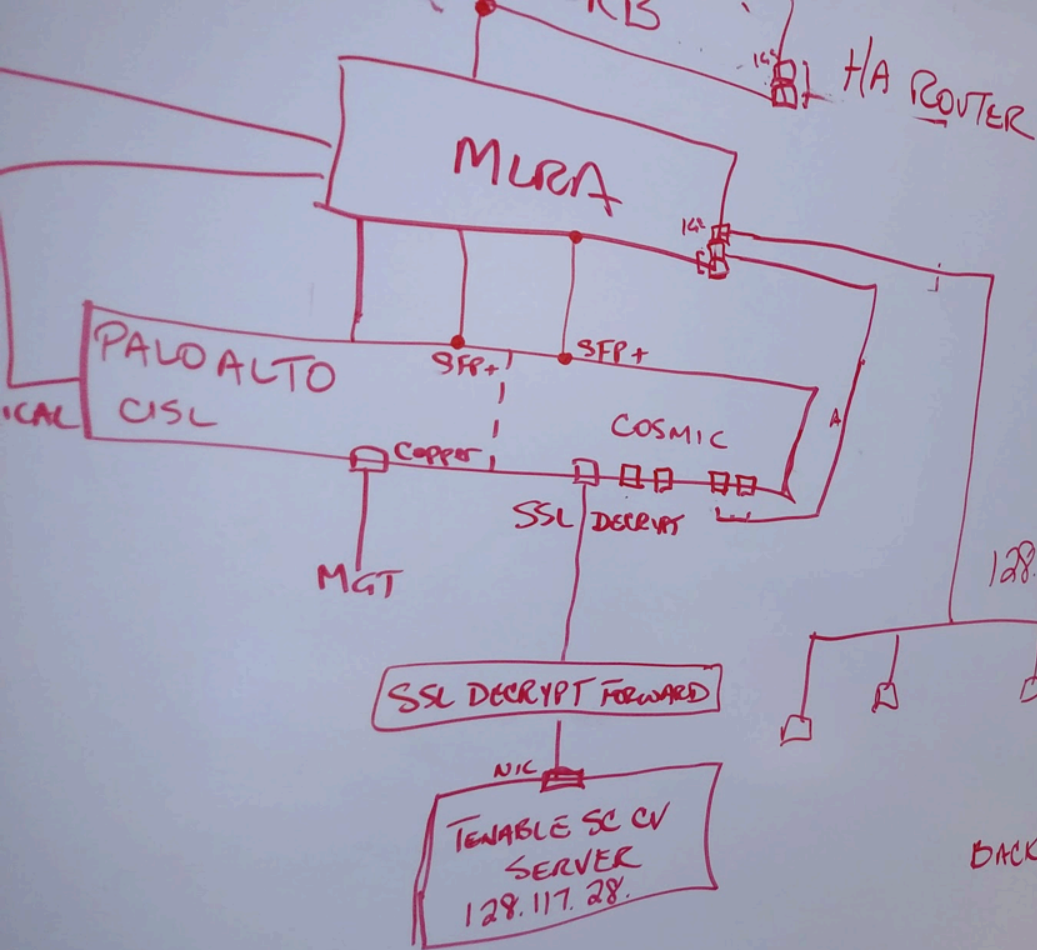
*NCAR's mission is*

- to understand the behavior of the atmosphere and related Earth and geospace systems*
- to support, enhance, and extend the capabilities of the university community and the broader scientific community, nationally and internationally, and*
- to foster the transfer of knowledge and technology for the betterment of life on Earth*

# Enter the COSMIC-P/GD

COSMIC is a Community Division at NCAR that is funded by various organizations to process satellite data using **radio occultation** computation. I can't pretend to explain this, but they measure the way radio waves bend as they enter the atmosphere, and then they calculate amazing things based on how bendy they are.

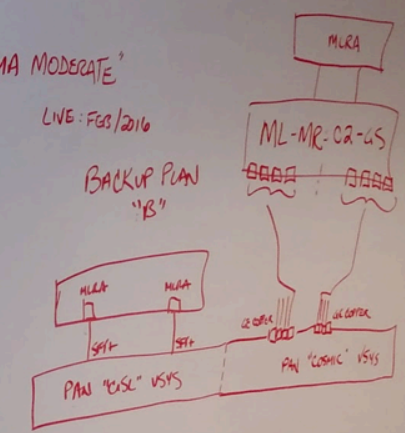




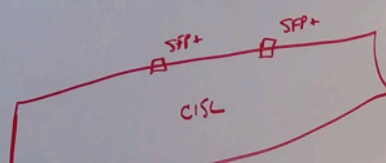
COSMIC - "FISMA MODERATE"

LIVE: Feb/2016

BACKUP PLAN "B"

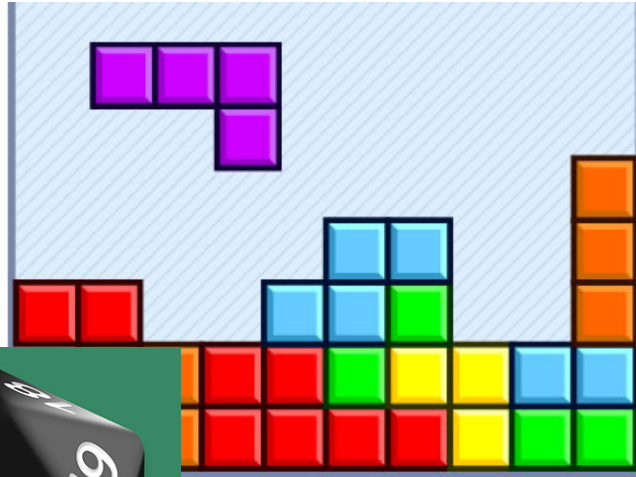


BACKUP PLAN "C"



# Boundary Protection and...

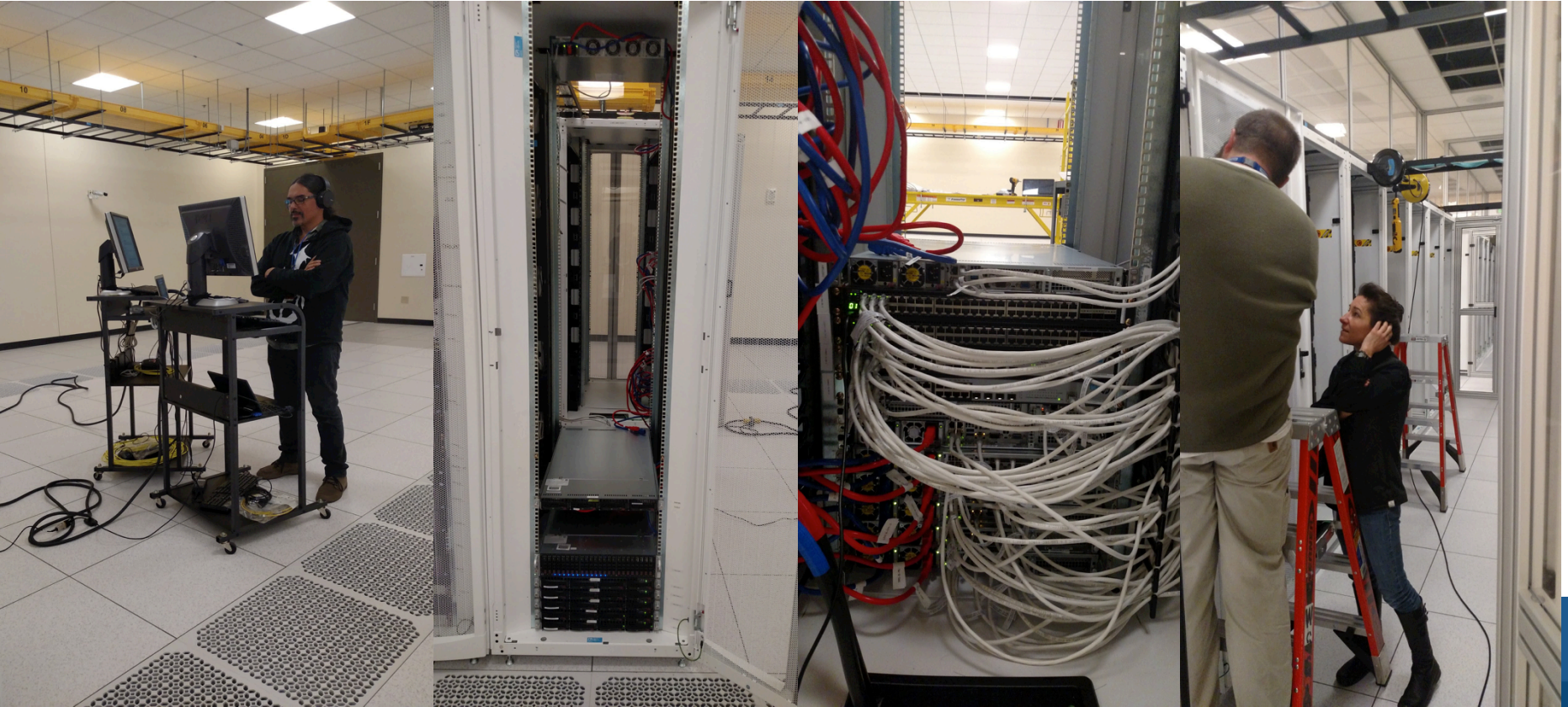
- AC-3 Access Enforcement
- AC-4 Information Flow Enf
- AC-5 Separation of Duties
- AC-12 Session Termination
- AC-14 Permitted Actions W
- or Authentication
- AC-17 Remote Access
- AC-17 (1) Automated Moni
- AC-17 (3) Managed Acces
- AC-19 Access C
- AC-22 Publicly
- RA-3 Risk Asse
- CA-7 Continuo
- CM-3 Configura
- CM-4 Security
- CM-6 Configura
- CM-8 Informati
- Inventory
- CM-10 Softwar
- CM-11 User Ins



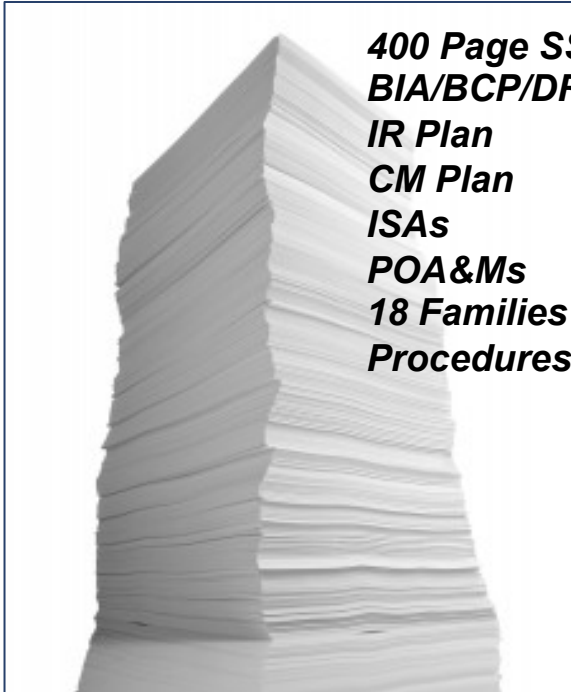
- y Maintenance
- emediation
- us Code Protection
- ation Systems Monitoring
- by Alerts, Advisories and Directives
- ote Access
- able Events
- udit Review and Reporting
- Identification and Authentication
- raphic Module Authentication
- l of Service Protection
- lary Protection

- SC-8 Transmission Confidentiality and Integrity
- SC-10 Network Disconnect
- SC-13 Use of Cryptography
- SC-17 Public Key Infrastructure Certificates
- PM-5 Information System Inventory
- IR-[1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8] Incident Response All

# The Fun Part



# The Hard Part



**400 Page SSP**  
**BIA/BCP/DR Plans**  
**IR Plan**  
**CM Plan**  
**ISAs**  
**POA&Ms**  
**18 Families of Policies and Procedures**



# External Assessment

PRICKLY CITY

BY SCOTT STANTIS





# 1. Really Document Your System

- Asset Inventory
- Service/Port Inventory
- Software Inventory
- Baseline Configuration
- Audit Metrics, and Why You Collect Them
- Man man – just print it out

## 2. Get Executive Sponsorship

- Set expectations
- Change management
- **Conflict management**

*“...you’re taking away my creativity!!”*

*“...I can’t be root any more?”*

*“You mean I have to file a ticket to open a port on the firewall????”*



NCAR

FISMA: Lions and Tigers

*air · planet · people*

# 3. Build a Solid Team

- Hire a fearless FISMA Consultant
- Hire or borrow a technical writer, or three
- Select teammates with integrity
- ... and stamina
- ... and a sense of humor



## 4. Pull Your Executives Into the Audit

Lie.

Make them sign Official Documents.

Tell them you have donuts. Or Starbucks.

Just get them involved.

# 5. Negotiate the Scope of Your SSP

Categorize


**SELECT**

Implement

Assess

Authorize

Monitor



*When NIST says "select", they mean "select". "Tailor Out" as as much as you can. Practice saying "That control is out of scope for this audit."*

## 6. Read Not Just 800-53, but 800-53a

Practice the audit questions. We got dinged on XX-01 on every control family because although we “disseminated” all the policies, we did not have it explicitly documented **how** the organization disseminated the policies, nor who was responsible for said dissemination.

*Really! We disseminate by carrier pigeon!!!!*



# 7. Negotiate the Scope of Your SAP

Our fearless Compliance Officer saved our bacon on this one.

We wanted different colors.  
And we hate pie charts.  
No pie charts.





## 8. Don't Distract the Auditors

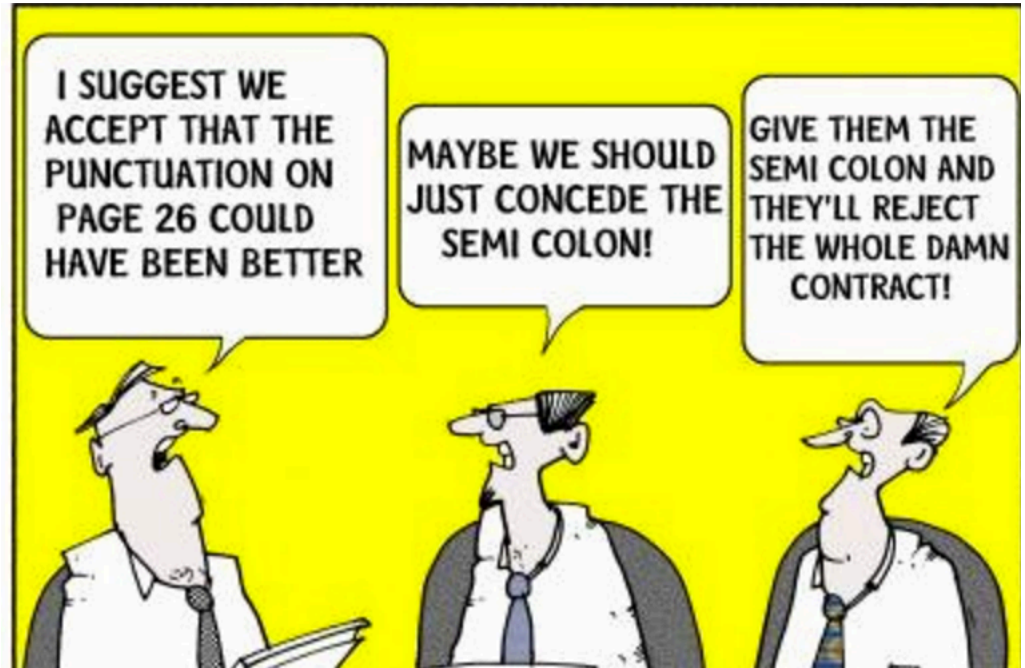
A 400-page SSP is really boring, especially when you've read  $\frac{3}{4}$  of it a dozen times. I joked and laughed and had a good time during the audit interviews. I'm pretty sure it backfired in that they forgot to record some pieces of evidence. This meant we had to basically conduct the interviews again.

**Keep the auditors on task, politely and firmly**

*Look!!! Squirrel!!!*

# 9. Negotiate Your SAR

At least try talking them down...high to moderate... moderate to low....



# 10. Compliance is Not Security

Wednesday September 27, 1995



HERE ARE THE RESULTS  
OF MY ISO 9000  
AUDIT OF YOUR  
COMPANY.



S. Adams E-mail: SCOTTADAMS@AOL.COM

YOUR EMPLOYEES ARE  
LARGELY UNTRAINED  
AND - I COULDN'T  
HELP NOTICE - FAIRLY  
UNATTRACTIVE.



9/27 © 1995 United Feature Syndicate, Inc.(NYC)

HOWEVER, THEY  
ARE ALSO  
HIGHLY SKILLED  
LIARS, SO  
YOU PASSED  
THE AUDIT  
EASILY.



WE SUCCEEDED  
WHERE IT  
COUNTS !!!

# Because I Know You Want the Tech Stack

## Base Platform:

- 20 servers
- 4 Brocade switches
- 2 Palo Alto 3060/5060 NFWs
- Silicon Mechanics HW
- CentOS 6
- KVM

## Continuous Monitoring:

- Tenable Security Center (Nessus, Log Correlation Engine)
- Nagios
- ClamAV
- Cron
- Palo Alto Application and Threat
- Palo Alto URL Filtering

## Configuration Management:

- Puppet
- Subversion
- Redmine

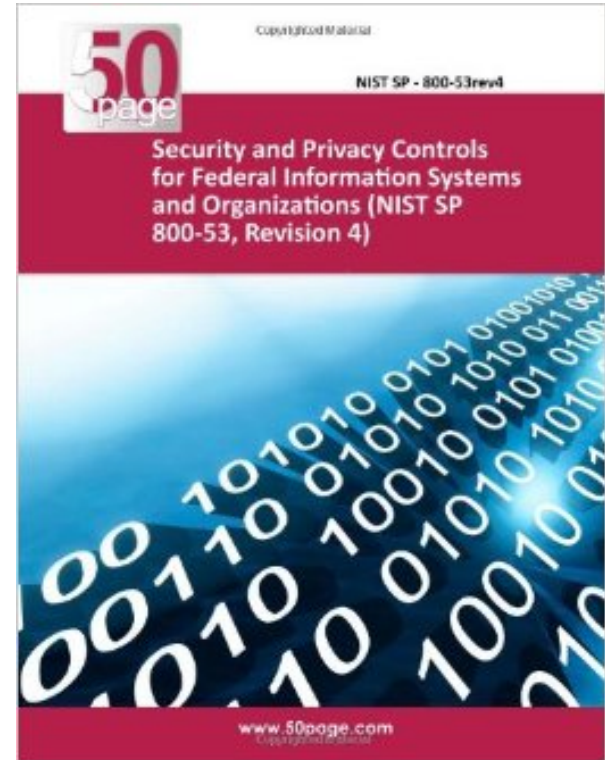
**Staff Count: 1.75**

# Seriously

Yes, there is room to improve things. Regardless, 800-53 is totally worth the read.

Where we go from here:

- All UCAR FISMA “Low”
- RMF
- Continuous Monitoring



How I learned to stop worrying  
and love

**HIPAA**

And So Can You

Anurag Shankar, Center for Applied Cybersecurity Research, Indiana University

2000: Lilly Foundation funds the Indiana Genomics Initiative (INGEN). The Research Computing division at Indiana University (which is part of IU's central IT shop) is tasked with empowering genomics research at the School of Medicine.

2000: Yours truly goes out to hawk  
IU's advanced cyberinfrastructure to  
the doctors.

There are no takers. Why?  
HIPAA.



When they ask “Are you HIPAA compliant?” we don’t know. So they don’t come.

Things simmer and cook.

2007: The management decides to build it so they will come.

A HIPAA project is launched.

2008: Yours truly is tasked with  
figuring it all out.

There are no peers to be found.  
I go try to learn what I can.

# HIPAA

- Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act

It's about the ability to take your health insurance with you when you change jobs.

2008: HIPAA says to manage risk using reasonable and appropriate safeguards consistent with resources available. The safeguards are broadly defined to be flexible.

Well, this seemed quite reasonable.

2008: The task at hand is no less than to make our entire research cyberinfrastructure HIPAA compliant.

How to go about it?

Question #1: Who should be involved?

= everyone who may  
complain later that we  
didn't do it right.

= Central IT management and administrators, Counsel, University HIPAA compliance office, Internal Audit, School of Medicine CIO, faculty, IT staff

We put them on an oversight committee - wisest move we ever made.



2008: Came up with a homegrown, HIPAA-specific process, involving risk management and a LOT of documentation. Took 1.0 FTE for a year (initial effort), 0.25 for ongoing.

2009: We were deemed “capable of handling PHI”.

2012: Other rules and regs began to appear on the horizon, e.g. FISMA, as well as many other central IT systems needing compliance.

HIPAA specificity had to go.

2013: Developed a comprehensive, NIST based risk management framework to simultaneously handle HIPAA and FISMA.

Still in use. Happy to provide consulting and templates.

2016: After nearly a decade of  
HIPAA-natizing later, what are my  
thoughts?

HIPAA is eminently doable. In fact,  
you are doing (most of) it already.

# HIPAA Humor

(North Dakota Dept of Health)

2

- **HIPAA-Ectomy** - the removal of individual identifiable health information from records
- **HIPAA-Glycemia** – a low level of understanding of the HIPAA regulations
- **HIPAA-Phobia** – a morbid fear of HIPAA regulations
- **HIPAA-Thermia** – the unexplained chill that is running down the back of anyone associated with HIPAA