



ASSOCIATION OF COLLEGE & UNIVERSITY AUDITORS

Advancing Auditing in Higher Education

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Howdy, Friends!

You have one of the hardest working Board of Directors on the planet. I don't just believe that, I see it day in and day out. Rarely does a week go by that I am not part of an email chain, phone call, or web meeting where our Board members are interacting and making decisions that guide this organization forward. It is simply amazing to be a part of this special group of people.

Prior to each of our conferences, the Board conducts in-person meetings to review how the Association has been doing, reflect on where we are at, and make strategic choices on where we are headed. As part of the March board meeting, the Board brought in an outside facilitator to lead us through a strategic evaluation. My hope is that the product from this effort will affect not just the current board, but successive boards to come.

While it is still early to share much practical detail, I wanted to share some of what the Board identified as our Association's strengths.

- A deep set of industry knowledge
- Engaged and passionate volunteers
- A culture of community
- An infectious energy
- Engagement with other partners and sponsors
- A focus on value

When I read this list, I cannot help but smile and be a little boastful. Over the many years of being a part of this Association, I can say without hesitation that these qualities are what keep me coming back to ACUA. I also know it is what sets us apart from other associations and groups. You can go a lot of places to get your educational needs met, but with ACUA you can learn from the higher education industry's best while belonging to a group of people who truly can become your extended family.

No doubt the Association has some opportunities to improve. In partnership with the Executive Office Staff, the Board will spend the summer putting concrete steps toward actionable items, both immediate and longer term, to best address these opportunities. However, I am endeavoring to ensure we do not mess with the secret sauce, which is the strengths mentioned above, while trying to pursue ACUA's next great innovations.

I hope you have heeded the call and have found a place to add your expertise and energies to our Association. If not, reach out to me! Together we will find the right place for you to jump in and volunteer.

Happy Auditing!

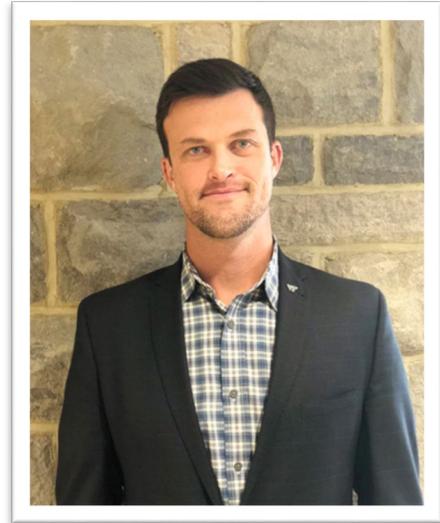
Justin T. Noble
ACUA President
Assistant Chief Audit Executive
Texas Tech University System

ACUA CORE VALUES

INTEGRITY • OPEN SHARING OF KNOWLEDGE • MUTUAL TRUST & FRIENDSHIP • RESPECT • COMMITMENT TO EXCELLENCE • INNOVATION

Volunteer Spotlight: Brian Daniels

Brian Daniels is currently Director of Internal Audit at Virginia Tech but will become the Chief Audit and Compliance Officer for the University of Tennessee System in June. He has been a member of ACUA since 2005. Brian has served as a member of the ACUA Audit Committee, conference proctor, and conference presenter. He recommends proctoring as “a fantastic way to get started in case anybody is looking to get that first plug in to the organization.” Currently, Brian serves ACUA in many capacities as a Board Member-at-large, member of the website redesign taskforce, and as Chair of the Membership Committee, which is responsible for promoting and maintaining active membership. As Chair, he oversees the ACUA mentorship program, which will enter its’ third cohort in the summer of 2019, so stay tuned.



ACUA: Why did you become an ACUA volunteer?

Brian: I felt that I was extracting benefits from the organization, but not contributing. My first gig was to volunteer to work on the Membership Committee for Patti Snopkowski, now of Oregon State University.

ACUA: What is your favorite ACUA memory?

Brian: My favorite productive memory was taking part in an initiative to redesign the dues structure to better align the institutional pricing with the total benefit derived. That was rewarding as it at least felt like we were helping out smaller and less-resourced shops. Otherwise, I would say there are innumerable memories from conferences and getting to know colleagues from every corner of the country and beyond. I have been fortunate to develop strong networking connections with folks from all over the countries, and now I have a mental rolodex of folks to call upon for assistance or to bounce ideas off of.

ACUA: What have you learned as an ACUA volunteer/member?

Brian: There is no better organization out there to further an Internal Audit career in the higher education space. My ties to ACUA constantly remind me that I have lucked in to the best possible career, combining my interests and skills in a way that allows me to add value to a larger organization with a mission I can fully support.

ACUA: What is the best piece of advice you have ever received?

Brian: There is no finish line; keep learning, growing, and changing or the world will leave you behind.

ACUA: What are your hobbies/interests outside of audit?

Brian: I enjoy running marathons and woodworking, but rarely at the same time. Also, my current hobbies are driven by the activities of my kids, which also doubles as the social life for my wife and me.