



**ACUA**

Association of College  
& University Auditors

# Annual Membership Meeting

June 24, 2025

# ACUA Executive Committee



Laura Buchhorn  
President



Nikki Pittman  
Vice President



Eulonda Whitmore  
Secretary/Treasurer



Marion Candrea  
Past President

# ACUA Board Members At-Large



Will Hancock



Kara Kearney-Saylor



Amy Kozak



André McMillan



Jana Phelps

# ACUA 2024-2025 Committee Chairs and Sub-Committee Directors

<b>Executive Committee</b> Laura Buchhorn	<b>Investment &amp; Finance Committee</b> Eulonda Whitmore	<b>Recognition Committee</b> Monika Cami	<b>Membership Committee</b> Patrick McKinney	<b>Communications Committee</b> Joanna Rojas	<b>Tools &amp; Resources Committee</b> John Winn	<b>Professional Education Committee</b> John McDaniel Erica Smith	<b>Best Practices Committee</b> Agnessa Vartanova
<b>Nominations Committee</b> Marion Candrea	<b>Audit Committee</b> Trevor Williams	<b>Volunteer Sub-Committee</b> Kim Clingan	<b>Mentorship Sub-Committee</b> Earl Jackson	<b>College &amp; University Auditor Journal Sub-Committee</b> Kara Hefner	<b>Kick Starters Sub-Committee</b> Kristy Heffley	<b>AuditCon Sub-Committee</b> Katrina McNair	<b>Audit &amp; Accounting Principles Sub-Committee</b> Erin Egan
<b>Chair of Chairs Committee</b> Katie Bumgardner	<b>Advocacy Committee</b> Julia Hann	<b>Member Awards Sub-Committee</b> Monika Cami		<b>College &amp; University Auditor Journal Sub-Committee</b> Kara Hefner	<b>Risk Dictionary Sub-Committee</b> Jeff Hensley	<b>Audit Interactive Sub-Committee</b> John McDaniel	<b>Athletics/The Sideline Sub-Committee</b> Rachel Flenner
<b>Governance Task Force</b> Imad Mouchayleh	<b>Diversity &amp; Inclusive Leadership Committee</b> Anta Coulibaly	<b>Historian Sub-Committee</b> Toni Stephens		<b>Social Media Sub-Committee</b> Mary Krauss	<b>Resource Library Sub-Committee</b> Amy Smith	<b>Virtual Learning Sub-Committee</b> Wendee Shinsato	<b>Data Analytics Sub-Committee</b> Tiffany Yordan
				<b>Connect ACUA Sub-Committee</b> Jordan Ramsey			<b>Artificial Intelligence Sub-Committee</b> Muriel Foster Barry MacDougall

# ACUA Staff



Jose Segarra  
Executive Director



Lauren Keith  
Program Manager



Lauren Diekhoff  
Associate



Kesha Shah  
Accountant



Fitzgerald Webb  
Marketing  
Manager



Julie Elfand  
Sr. Director of  
Meetings

# ACUA's Core Values



# ACUA Core Values



## Integrity

We uphold the highest ethical standards to maintain trust and credibility with colleagues, members, and the institutions we serve.



## Open Sharing of Knowledge

We openly collaborate and share experiences to be an indispensable resource for higher education knowledge exchange, best practices, and networking.



## Mutual Trust and Friendship

We create a strong support network built on mutual trust and friendships that last a lifetime.



## Respect

We foster a culture of respect where everyone feels welcomed, included, and valued.



## Commitment to Excellence

We are committed to being the ultimate resource for higher education internal audit training and resources.



## Innovation

We embrace new ideas and creative approaches that drive positive change.

# ACUA Core Values

Governance  
Treasurer's Report



Webinars, Panel  
Conferences



Conferences



Strategic Plan

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Best Practices



## Commitment to Excellence

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We create a strong support network built on mutual trust and friendships that last a lifetime.

Member Resources  
Strategic Partners



## Innovation

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# Governance Updates

# Strategic Partners Updates

Presented by

**Nikki Pittman**

Chief Audit Executive, University of Alaska

ACUA Vice President



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## Integrity

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# Governance Efforts

- ❖ Bylaws updates approved in April 2025
- ❖ Three-year Strategic Plan approved in March 2025
- ❖ Committee Charters approved in September 2024
- ❖ Policy Enhancement and Development in 2024 & 2025

## Focused purpose

- ❖ Elevate the volunteer experience
- ❖ Support long-term resiliency

# Governance Efforts

## ❖ Bylaws

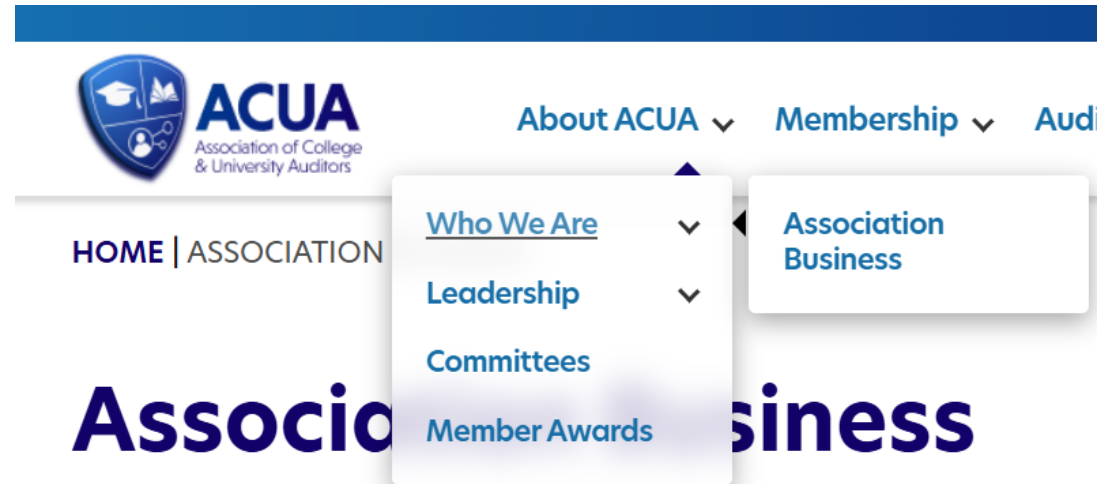
- ❖ About ACUA>Who We Are> Association Business

## ❖ Committee Charters

- ❖ Standardized template

## ❖ Policy Enhancement and Development in 2024 & 2025

- ❖ Standardized template



# Strategic Partners



## Innovation

We embrace new ideas and creative approaches that drive positive change.



❖ Multiple webinars and in-person sessions

❖ Diamond Sponsor Baker Tilly – Higher Education Leadership Survey and response outcomes



❖ Platinum Sponsor CLA – Wednesday afternoon sessions at AuditCon



❖ Gold Sponsor – Deloitte – Spring 2026 Higher Education Summit for Chief Audit Executives and Audit Directors



❖ Silver Sponsor - Eminere ISACA Certification courses



# ACUA Strategic Plan and Overview

Presented by

Laura Buchhorn

Audit Director, University of Texas at San Antonio

ACUA President



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# ACUA 2025 – 2028 Strategic Plan

**Goal #1** Strengthen **long-term sustainability** to foster a more resilient and successful organization.

## Respect

We foster a culture of respect where everyone feels welcomed, included, and valued.

**Goal #2** Nurture a **welcoming community** in alignment with our core values that foster a long-term commitment to ACUA.

**Goal #3** Maximize learning through **personalized development opportunities** and provide educational resources on emerging risks.

**Goal #4** Enhance the **member experience** by collaborating with industry SMEs across partnerships and peer organizations.



# 2025 – 2028 Strategic Plan



# ACUA's Financial History at a Glance

## 2023

- Ended 2022 with a decrease in Net Assets of (\$311,477)
- Increase in market conference expenses
- Significant unrealized loss on investments due to market conditions
- Investment in the transition to the new management company
- Heavy analysis and monitoring of conference expenditures
- Ended 2023 with a decrease in Net Assets of (\$16,423)

## 2024

- Restructured membership rates, which had not been adjusted in 10 years
- Change in Bylaws to allow for NHE membership
- Continued analysis and monitoring of conference expenditures
- Shift to a virtual spring conference in the Spring of 2024
- Ended 2024 with an increase in Net Assets of \$328,089

## 2025

- Invested in a new website and logo redesign and in strategic planning
- Increased strategic partnerships to thirteen
- Moved \$215,000 back to investments from cash that was moved in 2023
- Decided to host two in-person conferences in 2025 to further assess ACUA's financial ability and member appetite



# Chief Audit Executive Panel

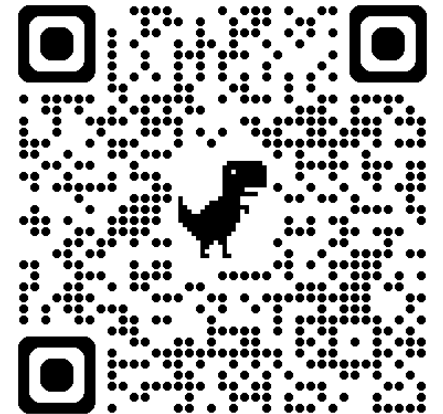
June 13<sup>th</sup> - Federal Directives

- ❖ Moderator - Julia Hann, University of North Florida
- ❖ Panelists
  - ❖ Leigh Goller, Duke University and Duke University Health System
  - ❖ Agnessa Vartanova, University of Colorado
  - ❖ Mike Bowers, Brown University
  - ❖ Bill Harrison, University of Arizona
- ❖ [Information on Federal Directives – ACUA](#)
- ❖ Connect ACUA – updates from the Advocacy Committee liaisons



## Open Sharing of Knowledge

We openly collaborate and share experiences to be an indispensable resource for higher education knowledge exchange, best practices, and networking.



# Treasurer's Report

Presented by

Eulonda Whitmore

Associate Vice President and Chief Audit Executive, Wayne State University

ACUA Secretary/Treasurer



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# Treasurer's Report



## Integrity

We uphold the highest ethical standards to maintain trust and credibility with colleagues, members, and the institutions we serve.

- ❖ Conducted by Christopher Clair, CPA
- ❖ 2024 Audited Financial Statements
  - ❖ Unqualified Opinion
- ❖ About ACUA>Who We Are> [Association Business](#)

### INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT

March 10, 2025

To the Board of Directors  
Association of College and University Auditors, Inc.

#### Opinion

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the Association of College and University Auditors, Inc. (a nonprofit organization), which comprise the statements of financial position as of December 31, 2024 and 2023, and the related statements of activities, functional expenses and cash flows for the years then ended, and the related notes to the financial statements.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Association of College and University Auditors, Inc. as of December 31, 2024 and 2023, and the changes in its net assets and its cash flows for the years then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.



# Audited Financial Statements Highlights

## ASSETS

<b>Current Assets:</b>	<b><u>2024</u></b>	<b><u>2023</u></b>
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 575,430	\$ 255,746
Accounts receivable - general	1,366	881
Investments	471,837	435,897
Prepaid software/website license fees	16,018	12,286
Prepaid insurance	1,197	1,162
Prepaid conference expenses	<u>19,535</u>	<u>22,472</u>
<b>Total Current Assets</b>	<b>1,085,383</b>	<b>728,444</b>
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b><u>\$ 1,085,383</u></b>	<b><u>\$ 728,444</u></b>

## LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS

<b>Current Liabilities:</b>	<b><u>2024</u></b>	<b><u>2023</u></b>
Accounts payable	\$ 19,614	\$ 28,032
Deferred revenue - strategic partnership agreement	---	25,000
Deferred revenue - meeting	4,945	---
Deferred revenue - dues	<u>252,741</u>	<u>195,418</u>
<b>Total Current Liabilities</b>	<b>277,300</b>	<b>248,450</b>
<b>Net Assets, Without Donor Restrictions</b>	<b><u>808,083</u></b>	<b><u>479,994</u></b>
<b>Total Liabilities and Net Assets</b>	<b><u>\$ 1,085,383</u></b>	<b><u>\$ 728,444</u></b>



# Audited Financial Statements Highlights

<b>Revenues:</b>	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>	<b>Expenses:</b>	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>
Program services			Program services	665,156	749,218
Conferences and seminars			Supporting services - management and general	<u>337,115</u>	<u>285,504</u>
Annual/AuditCon	\$ 612,864	\$ 534,899	<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b><u>1,002,271</u></b>	<b><u>1,034,722</u></b>
Midyear/Audit Interactive	<u>201,714</u>	<u>155,001</u>	<b>Increase (decrease) in Net Assets Without Donor Restrictions</b>	<b>328,089</b>	<b>(16,423)</b>
	814,578	689,900	<b>Net Assets, Without Donor Restrictions, Beginning of Year</b>	<b><u>479,994</u></b>	<b><u>496,417</u></b>
Supporting activities			<b>Net Assets, Without Donor Restrictions, End of Year</b>	<b><u>\$ 808,083</u></b>	<b><u>\$ 479,994</u></b>
Membership dues	356,197	208,092			
Interest and dividend income (net of fees)	8,808	7,271			
Unrealized gain (loss) on investments	16,158	33,980			
Realized gain on investments	10,975	17,784			
External outreach - strategic partnership fees	110,000	57,000			
Electronic and print media	12,869	3,763			
Other revenue	<u>775</u>	<u>509</u>			
	515,782	328,399			
<b>Total Revenues</b>	<b>1,330,360</b>	<b>1,018,299</b>			

# Investment and Finance Committee

- ❖ Discussed current market conditions with ACUA's Financial Advisor
- ❖ Currently reviewing our investment strategy
- ❖ Currently updating policies for succession planning purposes.



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# Highlights from the Membership Committee

Presented by

Jana Phelps

Chief Audit Executive, Kansas State University

ACUA Board Member at Large



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# Membership Committee



## Innovation

We embrace new ideas and creative approaches that drive positive change.

- ❖ Launched the New Member webinar series on June 3. We are planning monthly webinars leading up to AuditCon with regularly occurring webinars to follow.
- ❖ Achieved a retention rate of 98% of members from 2024!
- ❖ Surpassed total membership numbers from 2024
- ❖ Surpassed 2025 budget projections for membership revenue

# Member Resources

## Step-by-Step Renewal Videos *Membership > Join and Renew*

### Membership Renewal Videos

ACUA values your commitment to the organization and active participation as a member. As you look to renew the membership every year, you can use the videos below as resources. The videos describe step by step what you need to do to renew your membership. At the end of the steps, you should receive an email from our membership database with a receipt or invoice for processing.

After viewing the videos, visit [portal.acua.org](https://portal.acua.org) to start the membership renewal process.

If you encounter any problems along the way, please feel free to contact ACUA at [info@acua.org](mailto:info@acua.org).



New Member Guide  
*updated April 2025*



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## NEW MEMBER GUIDE

A ONE STOP SHOP TO GET TO KNOW ACUA



### JOIN CONNECT ACUA

Join the conversation on hot topics, audit plans and more! Start a thread or respond to another on **Connect ACUA**.

- Visit the Connect ACUA homepage.
- Click 'Login' in the top right-hand corner.
- Sign in using your ACUA Portal credentials.
- Navigate to the circle in the top right-hand corner and drop down the arrow.
- Select 'profile' and tell us about yourself!

Contact [info@acua.org](mailto:info@acua.org) for any issues.



### ATTEND A CONFERENCE

ACUA is proud to host **two annual conferences** designed for higher education auditors. Join us in the Spring and Fall to earn even **more NASBA-approved CPE** and **network** with other HigherEd risk professionals!

Submit a proposal to present or register to attend - either way we can't wait to see you there!

[www.acua.org](http://www.acua.org) > Training and Events > Conference



### ATTEND A MONTHLY WEBINAR

Obtain **NASBA-approved CPE** and expand your Higher Education knowledge each month with our virtual webinar series - **FREE** to members!

Current **NASBA status**, webinar **schedules** and past webinar **recordings** are accessible on our ACUA Website under 'Training & Networking' > Webinars.

<https://acua.org/webinars>

### SET UP AN ACUA ACCOUNT

Business first, fun later - Set up your **ACUA Portal account** to access member only resources!

- Visit the ACUA homepage ([acua.org](http://acua.org))
- Click "Login" in the top right-hand corner
- Select the second tab, "Set Up an Account"
- Follow the on-screen instructions and you are ready to go!

Contact [info@acua.org](mailto:info@acua.org) for any issues.



### JOIN THE MENTORSHIP PROGRAM

Are you new to HigherEd auditing? Perhaps you are a HigherEd expert?

Apply to participate in our mentorship program as a mentor or mentee as we aim to provide **one-on-one support and guidance** to those looking to develop their careers.

<https://acua.org/community/mentorship-program/>



### BECOME A VOLUNTEER

ACUA is a **volunteer led and operated** organization. Without our volunteers, we would be... well - nowhere!

Write an article for the ACUA Journal or become a member of one of our 10+ committees. ACUA has something for everyone!

<https://acua.org/who-we-are/committees/>

### BROWSE OUR EXCLUSIVE HIGHER ED RESOURCES!

- Visit our **Committees** page to browse our current volunteer opportunities
- Keep an eye out for **Announcements & Upcoming Events**
- Submit an article or topic to be featured in ACUA's **College & University Auditor Journal**
- Write a **Kickstarter** or submit a topic
- Present or proctor at an **ACUA Conference**
- Lookup other HigherEd professionals in the **Member Directory**
- Browse our Exclusive ACUA Resources including:
  - **ACUA Member Shared Resource Library**
  - **Kickstarters & Data Analytic Guides**
  - **The Risk Dictionary**
  - **College & University Journal**
  - **Information on Federal Directives**
  - **Career Resources**

[WWW.ACUA.ORG](http://WWW.ACUA.ORG)

[INFO@ACUA.ORG](mailto:INFO@ACUA.ORG)



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# Highlights from the Professional Education Committee

Presented by

André McMillian

Chief Audit Executive, University of Delaware

ACUA Board Member at Large



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# Professional Education Committee

- ❖ Launched AuditCon early
- ❖ Increased the number of CPE hours for Auditcon by adding three hours of optional CPEs
- ❖ Launched the IIA Quality Assessor Certificate during AuditCon
- ❖ Reestablishing the host committees
- ❖ Continue to partner with Bostrom to continuously enhance the Rhythm registration process for ACUA CPE events



# AuditCon

by ACUA



Louisville, KY | September 14-18, 2025

- ❖ Registration is Open
- ❖ Early Bird Rate ends August 1<sup>st</sup>
- ❖ IIA QAR Certification course
- ❖ Additional Wednesday afternoon sessions
- ❖ Kentucky Derby Museum



# Highlights from the Best Practices Committee

Presented by  
Amy Kozak

Chief Audit and Compliance Officer, University of California, Santa Cruz  
ACUA Board Member at Large





# Best Practices Committee

## Commitment to Excellence

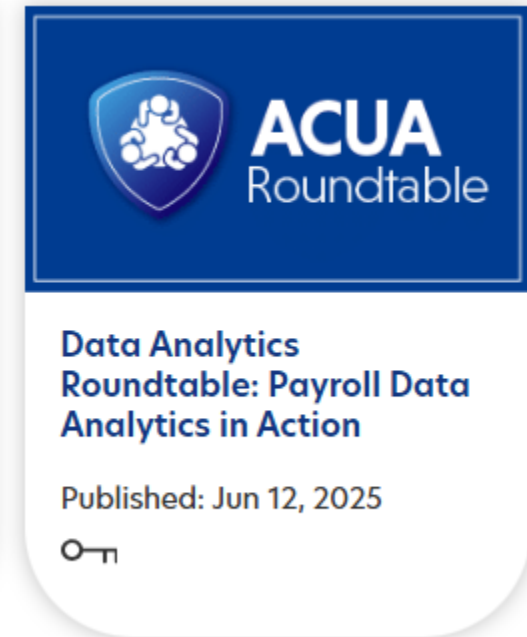
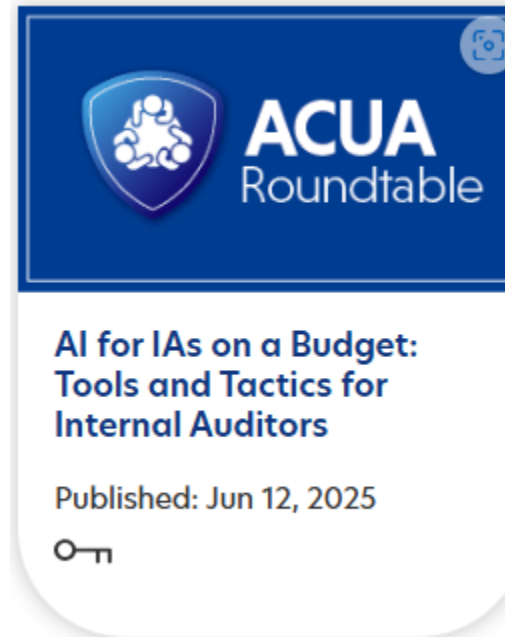
We are committed to being the ultimate resource for higher education internal audit training and resources.

- ❖ Best Practice Committee Survey
- ❖ The Audit & Accounting Principles Sub-committee roundtable discussion in February about the wins and challenges of implementing the IIA Global Internal Audit Standards.
- ❖ The Athletics (Sideline) Sub-committee has been monitoring the House Settlement

# Best Practices Committee

## ❖ The Data Analytics Sub-Committee and Artificial Intelligence Sub-Committee Roundtables

### ❖ Audit Tools > ACUA Resources



# Highlights from the Recognition Committee and Tools and Resources Committee

Presented by  
**Will Hancock**

Internal Audit Manager, Auburn University  
ACUA Board Member at Large



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# Recognition Committee

- ❖ Partnered with Bostrom to celebrate ACUA volunteers during National Volunteer Week.
- ❖ Collaborating with Bostrom and the Board to improve data collection, paving the way for new methods of recognizing volunteers and award recipients.
- ❖ Developing a digital archive to preserve and showcase artifacts from ACUA's rich history.

# Tools and Resources Committee

- ❖ Over 70 Kickstarters have been published to the new website, with nine planned for release in 2025.
- ❖ The ACUA Resource Library has been redesigned to align with the new website and is continuously updated with new files submitted through Connect ACUA.
- ❖ The Risk Dictionary team is actively working on a redesign to enhance usability and integrate it more effectively with other ACUA tools.
- ❖ ACUA's tools and resources will be featured in the August New Member webinar.

# Highlights from the Communications Committee

Presented by

Kara Kearney-Saylor

Internal Audit Director, University at Buffalo

ACUA Board Member at Large



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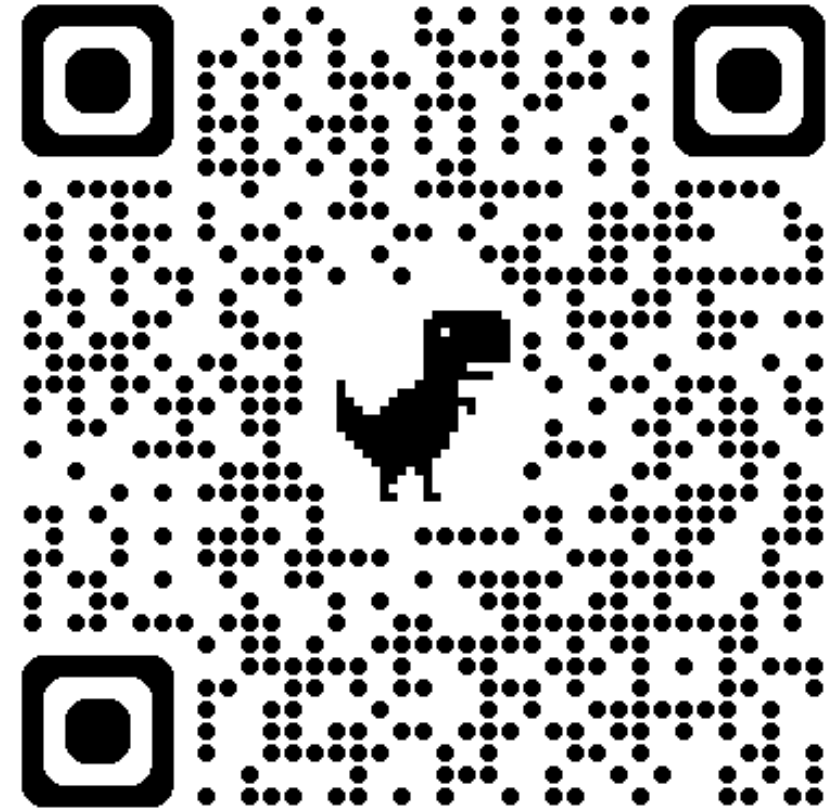
# Stay Informed

- ❖ To deliver timely, relevant content to ACUA Members, the ACUA Journal is transitioning to a more dynamic, blog-style format featuring monthly articles.
- ❖ Audit Tools > College and University Auditor Journal



LinkedIn

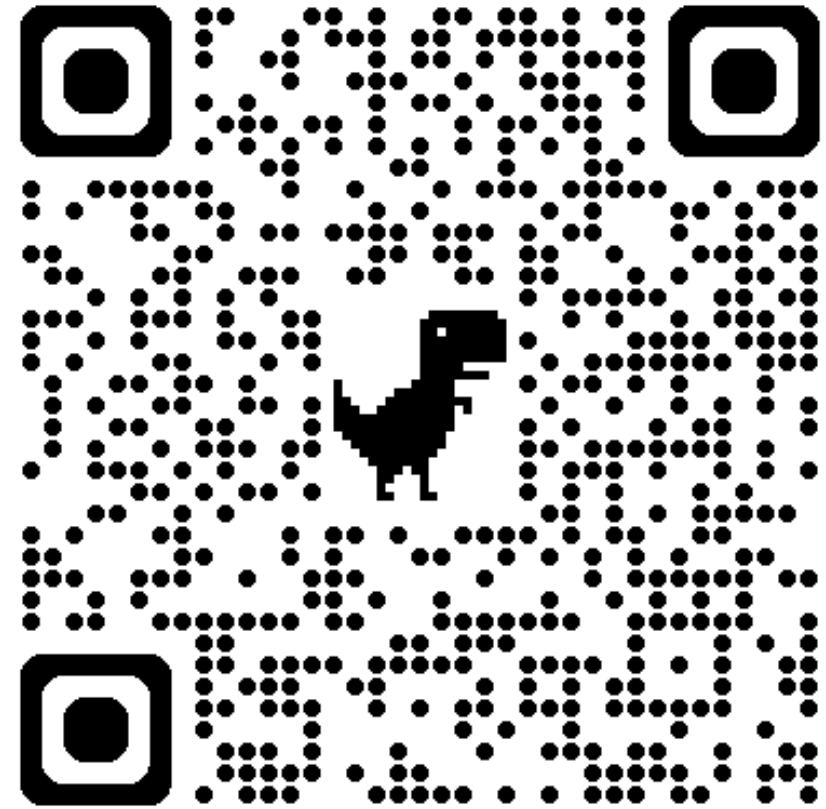
<https://www.linkedin.com/company/acua-highered/>



# Follow ACUA



Instagram  
[@ACUA.HIGHERED](https://www.instagram.com/ACUA.HIGHERED)



Facebook  
<https://www.facebook.com/ACUA.HigherEd>

# On the Horizon

Presented by

Laura Buchhorn

Audit Director, University of Texas at San Antonio

ACUA President



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# Virtual Spring Conference 2026

- ❖ Dates to be determined

# Audit Con 2026

- ❖ New Orleans,  
Louisiana
- ❖ September 27-  
October 1, 2026
- ❖ Sheraton New Orleans  
on Canal Street



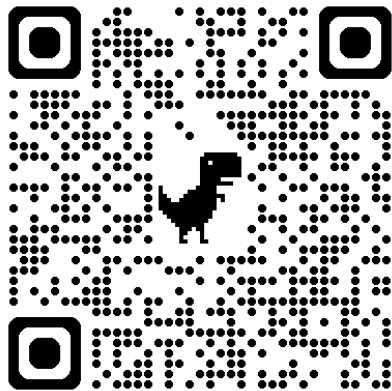


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# Webinar: 10 Cybersecurity Questions Higher Ed Organizations Should Be Able to Answer



Threats from cybersecurity are pervasive and relentless – and higher ed organizations need to have a plan and policies in place to protect themselves from an attack. This session will review what data is important and the security training staff should receive. In addition, higher ed leaders should be aware of how vulnerabilities are addressed within their organization. Attendees will learn if they are ready for an attack and what an attacker could do in their environment. Participants will also learn how to respond to a security incident.

Join us  
Thursday

## After attending this webinar, participants will be able to...

1. Recognize common threats and social engineering techniques
2. Identify online behaviors that can lead to increased exposure
3. Learn where the organization can focus valuable risk-mitigation resources
4. Develop and refine a framework of knowledge to plan future security efforts

**Delivery Method:** Group Internet  
**Field of Study:** Information Technology  
**Advance Preparation:** None  
**Prerequisites are required:** No  
**Cost:** \$25 for non-members  
**Recommended CPEs:** 1

Reminder to Vote  
Vice President  
Secretary / Treasurer  
Two Board Members at Large

Institutional Representatives – please check your email for  
your ballot



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# Thank you for Joining Us!

The slide deck will be posted at  
About ACUA> Who We Are>  
[Association Business - ACUA](#)



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