

College and University Auditors of Virginia  
2021 ANNUAL CONFERENCE  
May 12-13, 2021 ♦ Virtually from Blacksburg, Virginia

Conference Presenters

WEDNESDAY, MAY 12, 2021

**Pathways to Opportunity: The Virginia Plan for Higher Education**

Peter Blake, State Council of Higher Education of Virginia



Peter Blake has been SCHEV's director since January 2012. He served as interim director from April 2011 to January 2012. He has worked in Virginia higher education for more than 30 years, beginning at SCHEV as a research analyst. He left SCHEV in 1999 to join the staff of the House of Delegates Appropriations Committee. Mr. Blake became the deputy secretary of education for the Commonwealth of Virginia from 2002, and he served as secretary of education for Governor Mark Warner from 2005 to 2006. Before returning to SCHEV in 2011, he was the vice chancellor for workforce development services for the Virginia Community College System. He holds degrees in history and mass communications from Virginia Commonwealth University.

**Commonwealth Economic and Revenue Update**

June Jennings, Office of the Governor



June Jennings currently serves as the Deputy Secretary of Finance for the Commonwealth of Virginia. In her role, she is responsible for providing support to the Secretary of Finance in the oversight of the finance secretariat agencies. June played an integral role in establishing the Governor's Virginia Management Fellows Program, a management and leadership program which has been recognized by the state as best practice model for succession planning. In addition, June has been responsible for leading the finance secretariat's efforts on legislation.

Previously, she served as the State Inspector General. The Office of the State Inspector General was created in 2012 to investigate waste and identify inefficiencies in executive branch agencies. June was one of four agency Inspector Generals transferred to the new agency in 2012. She has over 30 years as a public servant in the Commonwealth of Virginia.

Ms. Jennings received her undergraduate degree in accounting from Radford University and is a certified public accountant. Ms. Jennings is a graduate of the Virginia Executive Institute and the Professional Executive Leadership School.

Ms. Jennings is an active member of the Association of Government Accountants and the Institute of Internal Auditors (IIA) and currently serves on the IIA Central Virginia Chapter Board of Governors.

## Auditing Title IX: A Partnership in Compliance

### Ashley Blamey, University of Tennessee at Knoxville



Ashley Blamey serves in a dual role as Title IX coordinator for the UT System and UT Knoxville. Serving in both capacities, Blamey facilitates critical communication between officials with UT System and all UT campuses. Enhanced communication and interaction across the University system enables more informed decision making and evaluation of practices by all UT campuses.

As system-level coordinator, Blamey is responsible for tracking best practices and legal developments; collaborating with other UT Title IX officials in policy evaluation and development; measuring program effectiveness; identifying optimal training, prevention and awareness building efforts and resources for implementation; and overseeing annual reporting on the frequency and nature of incidents and complaints.

As UT Knoxville coordinator, Blamey is responsible for coordinating campus efforts to comply with and carry out Title IX responsibilities including promptly, thoroughly and equitably investigating and resolving reports of prohibited conduct to eliminate prohibited conduct, prevent its recurrence and remedy its effects.

Blamey has a bachelor's degree in special education from East Tennessee State University and both master's and doctoral degrees in social work from UT Knoxville. She joined UT Knoxville in 2008 as its inaugural student case management specialist. Ashley was one of the founding members and the first president of the Higher Education Case Managers Association. She has served the campus as the director for the Center for Health Education and Wellness and assistant vice chancellor for student life. Blamey is currently the University's representative on the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine Action Collaborative to prevent sexual harassment in higher education. Under her leadership, UT Knoxville was awarded a grant from the U.S. Department of Justice to develop best practices related to education about and prevention of sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence and stalking. UT Knoxville continues to push the work forward as a current member of the NASPA Culture of Respect Collective.

## Robotics Process Automation (RPA) at Virginia Tech

### Melinda West, Virginia Tech



Melinda West is the interim university controller since June 2020. Over the past 20 months, Ms. West has headed a working group within the university finance division to explore process automation using robotics. With increasing interest in security and compliance, Ms. West is also responsible for overseeing the university's compliance with the Payment Card Industry Data Security Standard, Red Flags Rule, Gramm-Leach-Bliley Act, and NACHA. Ms. West holds a Master of Business Administration degree and is a Certified Public Accountant. Joining the university in 1996, she has also served as the University Bursar, Assistant to the Vice President for Finance, Senior Internal Auditor and Accounting Manager for General Receivables and Loans. She began her professional career at the Auditor of Public Accounts conducting external audits of state entities, including colleges and universities for the Commonwealth of Virginia.

THURSDAY, MAY 13, 2021

## Auditor of Public Accounts Update

### Eric Sandridge, Auditor of Public Accounts:



Eric M. Sandridge is the Director of Higher Education Programs for the Virginia Auditor of Public Accounts. His responsibilities include management of the office's Higher Education Programs Specialty Team and project management oversight for various agencies and institutions of the Commonwealth. He also coordinates required federal audits at the Commonwealth's institutions of higher education and NCAA Agreed Upon Procedures engagements. He is a member of the National State Auditors Association (NSAA) Audit Standards and Reporting committee and NSAA Single Audit committee. He earned a BBA in Finance and Master of Science in Business Analytics from the College of William and Mary and is a CPA, CISA, and CGFM.

## Office of the State Inspector Update

### Ben Sutphin, Office of the State Inspector General



Ben Sutphin has over 30 years of experience auditing for the Commonwealth of Virginia. Mr. Sutphin has worked as an auditor for the Auditor of Public Accounts, the Virginia State Police, the Division of State Internal Audit, the Virginia Department of Transportation, and, presently, for the Office of the State Inspector General. Mr. Sutphin received a BBA with a focus in Accounting from Radford University and is a Certified Public Accountant, a Certified Internal Auditor, a Certified Information Systems Auditor, and a Certified Inspector General Auditor. Mr. Sutphin is also a Past President of the Southwest Virginia Chapter of the Institute of Internal Auditors and a former representative on the IIA North American Customer Relations Committee covering all of Virginia, Washington DC and Baltimore, Maryland.

### G. David Garrison, Office of the State Inspector General



David joined OSIG Performance Audit in April 2014 and will soon have 30 years of service with the Commonwealth of Virginia. He has assisted in various performance audits of the Department of Medical Assistance Services (DMAS), Department of Social Services (DSS), Virginia Department of Emergency Management (VDEM), Disability Determination Services (DDS), and Chemical Inventory Management at Higher Education Institutions. He is also the Survey Monkey coordinator for OSIG.

Prior to joining OSIG, he was a member of the internal audit department at Virginia State University (VSU) for 12 years. He was involved in Hotline investigations, investigated potential NCAA infractions, developed and presented items for Board meetings, and assisted in the risk assessment process and development of the annual audit plan. David is a Certified Inspector General Auditor (CIGA) and a Virginia Contracting Associate (VCA).

## IT Security in Decentralized Higher Education

### Al Cooper, Virginia Tech



Al Cooper graduated from Virginia Tech with a bachelor's degree in Business Information Technology and a master's degree in Information Technology. He has been with the university for over 20 years, leading Business and Management Systems (BAMS) since 2005. In that role he leads a comprehensive team ensuring information technology systems and support fulfill the needs and requirements of executive leadership and their senior leadership teams. These areas include the President's senior management area, the Provost's Office (including the vice provost areas), and the Chief Business Officer's enterprise. Al has significant experience in programming, IT support database design, and IT security in a distributed environment. His other interests include business process improvements, new technology integration, and identification of risks and design of corrective plans to secure our computing infrastructure.

## Financial Aid in the Time of COVID and Beyond: The Timely Topics Facing Your Financial Aid Office

### Beth Armstrong, Virginia Tech



Beth Armstrong serves as the Director of University Scholarships and Financial Aid at Virginia Tech, a position she has held since 2013. She has worked in financial aid for over 20 years and has worked for four-year public universities in Arizona and Indiana - in addition to Virginia Tech. Unlike many of her financial aid peers, she did not begin her financial aid career as a student staff member. Financial aid piqued her interest after college when she obtained a job at a student loan guarantor where her favorite position was serving as a policy analyst. Beth earned her Bachelor of Arts and Master of Science in Higher Education Administration from Indiana University.

## Hot Topics Breakout Sessions

### Directors - Sheila Alves, Virginia State University



Ms. Sheila Alves is the 2020-2022 College and University Auditors of Virginia (CUAV) President and Chief Audit Executive of Virginia State University. She has over 25 years of combined experience in internal and external audit in the government, banking, manufacturing, and higher education industries. Prior to joining VSU, Sheila was Virginia Information Technologies Agency's (VITA) Chief Audit Executive for over 10 years, a Senior IT Examiner with the Federal Reserve Bank and was responsible for performing IT examinations in the Fifth District which includes MD, D.C, VA, WV, NC, and SC. She has also worked for MeadWestvaco (now WestRock) as the IT Audit Supervisor where she performed IT and operational audits, project management reviews, and supervised and trained IT auditors. While working for Wachovia, she held the position of Assistant Vice President and Internal

Audit Officer where she performed project management reviews, information technology audits that included data center, ATM, financial and mortgage applications, bank operations and participated on the merger team for branch operations. She has supervised and trained auditors and has performed audits domestically and abroad. Sheila is a graduate of California Polytechnic State University (Cal Poly), San Luis Obispo, California with a Computer Science degree from the

School of Engineering and completed Banking School at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. She is a Certified Information Systems Auditor (CISA), Certified Internal Auditor (CIA), and Certified Fraud Examiner (CFE). She is a Platinum Member of Information System Audit and Controls Association (ISACA) and a member of the Institute of Internal Auditors (IIA) and Association of Certified Fraud Examiners (ACFE). She considers her superpowers her problem solving, listening and strategic skills and contributes them to her engineering background. She gives back to the engineering community by mentoring students through her affiliation with the Richmond Joint Engineer's Council (RJEC) and as a lifetime member of the National Society of Black Engineers (NSBE).

#### **Healthcare - Star Durbrow, University of Virginia**



Star is an internal audit leader with over 20 years of broad-based internal audit experience in healthcare and public sector organizations. Prior to joining UVA in August 2020, she served for 12 years as a Senior Manager at Crowe Healthcare Risk Consulting, leading internal audit programs at several healthcare systems. She has extensive experience performing a broad range of audits, including program performance, fiscal management, compliance with healthcare regulations, hospital operations, internal controls, and information management. She holds an MBA from Golden Gate University and a BFA from New York University, and she has achieved professional recognition as a Certified Internal Auditor (CIA), a Certified Information Systems Auditor (CISA) and Certification in Healthcare Compliance (CHC).

#### **Information Technology - Michael Dean, Virginia Tech**



Michael Dean has been a Principal IT Auditor with Virginia Tech since 2016. He is responsible for leading and completing IT-focused and risk-based audits, training and assisting staff IT auditors, and providing support and technical guidance to investigative and non-IT audit staff. Michael has over 20 years of experience in the audit and IT audit field, including tenures in the Texas State Auditor's Office and two Texas CPA firms. He earned a bachelor's degree in English literature from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and a master's degree in Public Affairs from the Lyndon Baines Johnson School of Public Affairs at the University of Texas at Austin. Michael is a Certified Internal Auditor, a Certified Information Systems Auditor, a Certified Government Auditing Professional, and a Project Management Professional. He is a member of the Institute of Internal Auditors, ISACA, and the Association of College and University Auditors.

#### **University - Dan Reid, Philip Stavropoulos, and Ralph Traylor, University of Virginia**



Dan Reid, Senior Auditor Specialist, joined the University of Virginia Audit Department in 1997. With over 30 years of internal audit experience, he is currently responsible for performing financial, compliance, and operational audits. He is a Certified Fraud Examiner (CFE).