

Newsletter – Academic Year 2023-2024

Note from the IAC Director:

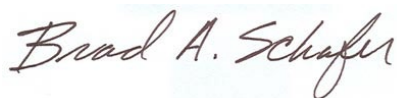
I am so grateful for the opportunity to connect with students, faculty, and practicing professionals. We had another great year, and I am convinced that together we are building an even stronger profession.



We had an incredible number of professionals giving of their time and talent coming to classes, providing career coaching advice, and participating in multiple student networking events. To make all this possible, I thank all our stakeholders who have made a financial commitment to the growth of the Internal Audit Center. We work hard to be good stewards of the financial resources provided by the KSU administration, The IIA Global Headquarters, The IIA Atlanta Chapter, many corporations, professional service firms, and individuals.

The partnership of all the stakeholders of the Internal Audit Center (students, professionals, KSU, and IIA locally and globally) is vibrant. In the following pages, we provide an update of the many activities of the center during the 2023-2024 academic year. I hope you enjoy reading this newsletter. Please contact me to engage in the upcoming year.

Cordially,



Brad Schafer, Ph.D., CIA
Director, KSU Internal Audit Center

On Campus Engagement

IAEP Certificates

Internal Audit and related courses are thriving at KSU. To earn the Internal Audit Educational Partnership (IAEP) Certificate, students must complete five courses including Accounting Information Systems, Auditing and Assurance, Accounting Data Analytics, Fraud and Forensic Accounting, and Internal Auditing. We issued 93 IAEP Certificates this year. In 2023-2024, 73 students successfully completed the necessary undergraduate courses to earn the IAEP Certificate awarded by the Institute of Internal Auditors. Additionally, 20 students completed the Master of Accounting specializing in Audit/Advisory and earned their IAEP Certificate.

IA/Advisory Student Day

In September 2023, Kennesaw hosted the 18th Annual Internal Audit/Advisory Student Day and Career Fair. 26 firms and over 80 students attended the event. Five schools around Georgia were represented. Students had the opportunity hear from a panel pictured (left to right) Annie Korty, Crystal Hall, Karen Wolrab, Kim Brown, and Noel Adams.



Then, students had the opportunity to network with professionals in a career fair style format. The amazing 26 organizations included: Axis Capital, BlueLinx, Clayton Holmes, GE, Genuine Parts, Graphic Packaging, Janus, Mativ, Mohawk, Mueller, Norfolk Southern, Rollins, Southwire, WestRock, The IIA Global Headquarters and IIA Atlanta Chapter, KSU Internal Audit, Cobb County, BDO, CRI, Deloitte, EY, Frazier& Deeter, KPMG, Moore Colson, Protiviti, and Rausch Advisory.

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IA Awareness Day

Kennesaw hosted the 5th Annual IA Awareness Day in March 2024. This was an opportunity for KSU students (majoring in accounting, finance or information systems) to learn more about career paths in Internal Audit/Advisory. Additionally, there were 3 other colleges represented at this event. Over 80 students heard professionals share their experiences within Internal Audit,



listened to former students promote the courses for the IAEP certificates and connected with 21 organizations including: AGCO, Axis, Genuine Parts, Inspire Brands, Janus, Mohawk, Rollins, Synovus, WestRock, Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta, Cobb County, KSU, BDO, CRI, Deloitte, EY, Frazier & Deeter, Forvis, KPMG, Moore Colson, and Protiviti.



Internal Audit Student Organization

The Internal Audit Student Organization has continued as a registered student organization on campus. This is an opportunity for students to explore, share, and develop their interest in Internal Auditing. We have a minimum of one meeting per school year. This year our meetings took place in conjunction with the IA/Advisory Student Day and the IA Awareness Day.

Graduate Classroom Engagement

Many professionals are engaged with the MAcc audit/advisory classes. The MAcc students heard how the profession is leading in the area of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion from Nataly Marks (KPMG), Carley Ferguson (Mohawk Industries), and Bill Stahl (Inspire Brands). Ian Almeida (Coca-Cola) and Cade Stanfield (Deloitte) judged the Internal Audit class case competition. Doug Daley (UPS) judged student presentations in the Seminar in Auditing.

In Fall 2023, students presented their internal audit reports for the Never Give Up Foundation case. The winning team impressed the judges with a broad list of value-added activities and their professionalism. They strived to take what they

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learned in class about Internal Audit and the IPPF standards set by the Institute of Internal Audit and apply it in a competitive setting. The first-place team included Anna Harlow, Margaret Klements, Molly Hester, and Austin Pitts.

Undergraduate Internal Audit Class

Fred Masci finished his 5th year teaching the Internal Auditing course. Fred is stepping down from teaching the IA course to allow for more world travel, but he will continue to be a great career coach in the School of Accountancy. Fred, thank you for all the great education you brought to hundreds of KSU students! Many professionals shared their expertise with the students this academic year as guest to Fred's classes including:

Doug Mims, Devin Coker, Chandler Mott, Carr, Riggs & Ingram (CRI),
Carley Ferguson, Mohawk Industries,
Shannon Collins, EY,
Brenda Crawford and Eric De Oliveira, KSU Internal Audit,
Pat Noll, General Manager of Corporate Audit, Delta Air Lines,
Taron Ragan, Microsoft,
Nataly Marks, KPMG,
Lori Kaczynski, Graphic Packaging International

Mentoring / Coaching meetings

KSU MAcc students were given the opportunity to connect with a professional coach/mentor and were asked to meet throughout the school year. We had many professionals volunteer for this opportunity. All students involved benefited from having conversations with leaders in our profession. The students and I thank all who volunteered and all the following who engaged.

<u>Mentor</u>	<u>Organization</u>
Barry Ballow	The Coca-Cola Company
Steve Brown	Booz-Allen Hamilton
Doug Daley	UPS
Jennifer Dawson	Genuine Parts
Carley Ferguson	Mohawk Inc.
Aaron Gagnon	McKinsey
Nataly Marks	KPMG
Pat Noll	Delta

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Off Campus Engagement

IIA Atlanta - The Atlanta Conference

Six Kennesaw State University students volunteered at The Atlanta Conference (TAC) 2023. The student volunteers included Daniel Seymour, Colby Daubert, Alex McRaney, Julia, Jocelynn, Allie Cash (left to right in picture). They also networked with many professionals at the event.



IIA Atlanta Case Competition



The Kennesaw State University team competed at the Bill Mulcahy IIA Atlanta Auditing & Advisory Case Competition. The case addressed the topic of implementing generative artificial intelligence (Gen AI). We are very proud of the KSU team placing 2nd. The members of the winning team pictured with Dr. Schafer were

Molly Hester, Alex McRaney, and Anna Harlow.

2024 IIA Global Student Conference

Kennesaw State University had three students attend The IIA Global Student Conference held in Orlando, Florida. The KSU team included Jamirah Fernandes, Alex McRaney, and Anna Harlow pictured with IIA Atlanta Chapter Academic Relations Chair, Carley Ferguson. These students attended various sessions and learned more about Internal Audit. They networked with many professionals at the event



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and competed in a case competition. Each KSU student was placed separately on one of 13 teams with students from universities across the world. Jamirah Fernades and her team placed second. Brad Schafer and Carley Ferguson served on a panel discussing how educators and IIA Chapter professionals can engage to grow the profession.

2024 AAA – IS Midyear meeting

The AAA-IS Section asked for the KSU Internal Audit Center to assist with two sessions at their midyear meeting in Atlanta. We are grateful to Delta Air Lines for presenting with Dr. Schafer on



technology advances across their business and the skills needed for entry level professionals. The second session included an amazing opportunity for faculty to hear from four Fortune 500 Chief Audit Executives. Thank you to Barry Ballow (The Coca-Cola Company), Jennifer Dawson (Genuine Parts Corporation), David Underwood (Intercontinental Exchange), and Carley Ferguson (Mohawk Industries).

Impact

Research Rankings

KSU ranks 69 overall worldwide in the past 6 years in academic publications in the top 12 journals. Within the areas of auditing and education, KSU ranks 4th in education scholarship and 20th in auditing (source 2023 BYU rankings).

Direct financial support in grants and Scholarships

We are grateful that the IIA Global Headquarters and the Internal Audit Foundation's grant for \$8,500 was awarded for the 2023-2024 year. Jamirah Fernandes has been selected for the Graduate Student Assistant position. Jamirah did a great job in all aspects of the position. She is pictured with Rausch Advisory at the



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2023 Scholarship awards banquet. Upon graduation, Jamirah will join the profession at KPMG.

Thank you to the many individuals and organizations who financially support our program at KSU!

John French, Axis Capital
 Brad Knight, BDO
 Latona Thomas, Cobb County
 Brenda Hofmann, Coca-Cola
 Doug Mims, CRI
 Brenda Crawford, KSU - IA

Brad and Jennifer Schafer, KSU
 Bill Stahl, Inspire Brands
 Aaron Gagnon, McKinsey
 Carley Ferguson, Mohawk Ind
 Doug Daley, UPS
 Lori Kaczynski, Graphic Packaging

In addition to donations to the KSU Internal Audit Center, we thank the IIA Atlanta Chapter for their support through the Bill Mulcahy Internal Audit Memorial Scholarship (Elana Gonzalez), Rausch Advisory (Jamirah Fernandes) and Carr, Riggs & Ingram (Allie Cash) for their named scholarships. The 2023 recipients are listed in parentheses.

On behalf of the grateful students, thank you to all those who are involved in supporting financial scholarships to students.

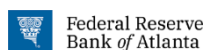
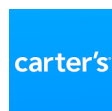
The future is bright. Please support the program as we continue to elevate the program and profession.

<https://giving.kennesaw.edu/online-giving/coles-college.php>

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Stakeholder Corporations



Stakeholder Firms



Stakeholder Government



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