

# THE AUDIT REPORT

**MESSAGE  
FROM  
THE VICE  
PRESIDENT  
FOR AUDIT  
PAGE 1**

**THE FUTURE  
OF THE  
DIVISION OF  
AUDIT  
PAGE 2**

**STAFF  
HIGHLIGHTS  
PAGE 12**

**BUILDING A  
STRONGER  
FAMU  
TOGETHER**



# CONTENTS

**01**  
**Message from The  
Vice President for  
Audit**

**04**  
**Partnering for  
Success: Working  
Together for a  
Brighter Future**

**06**  
**Alumni Network:  
The Power of  
Connections**

**08**  
**Leveraging the  
Brand**

**10**  
**Building Bridges:  
FAMU's Role in the  
Local Community**

**12**  
**Staff Highlights**

**15**  
**Resources**

**02**  
**The Future of the  
Division of Audit  
(DoA)**

**05**  
**Crisis  
Management**

**07**  
**Service Excellence**

**09**  
**Game Page:  
Word Scramble**

**11**  
**Transforming Our  
Campus: New  
Developments at  
FAMU**

**14**  
**Division Updates**

# A MESSAGE FROM THE VICE PRESIDENT FOR AUDIT



## Looking Back and Moving Forward: FAMU's Bold Journey into the Future

As we reflect on the remarkable history of Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University, pride fills the air. Since its founding in 1887, FAMU has grown into a powerhouse of academic achievement, innovation, and community impact. This year, we celebrate yet another milestone, FAMU's exciting leap to #81 in the US News and World Report's "2024-2025 Best Colleges" rankings for National Universities!

This incredible jump demonstrates FAMU's relentless drive to provide top-tier education and create lasting change.

Our journey doesn't stop there. FAMU's rise to #81 and previous ranking of #91 underscore the university's dedication to student success and academic excellence. This momentum is captured in the ambitious 2022-2027 Strategic Plan, "Boldly Striking," which serves as our roadmap to the future. With five strategic priorities, Student Success, Academic Excellence, Leverage the Brand, Long-Term Fiscal Health and Sustainability, and Organizational Effectiveness and Transformation FAMU is

positioning itself as a national leader in higher education. Each of these goals builds upon FAMU's vision of producing competitive graduates, groundbreaking research, and transformative innovation.

### Pioneering a NEW Approach to Risk Management

Change is often the spark that ignites progress, and the recent strategic separation of Enterprise Risk Management (ERM) from the DoA is a prime example.

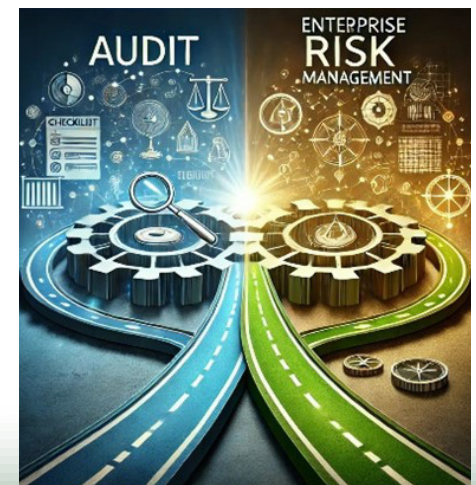
With ERM now residing in the Office of the Chief Operating Officer, FAMU is pioneering a new approach to risk management, one that is deeply integrated into the daily operations of the university. This shift enables the DoA to focus more sharply on its core mission while ensuring that risk management is proactive, dynamic, and embedded in the university's DNA. This realignment is more than a structural change; it's a declaration that FAMU is ready to face the future with confidence and resilience.

Additionally, we are pleased to share that our Audit Manager, Trystal Wright, has been promoted

to Audit Director.

As we look ahead, FAMU's focus is laser sharp! With a clear mission to leverage its brand and strengthen fiscal health, the university is well on its way to achieving the prestigious Carnegie R1 classification. Organizational effectiveness and transformation are at the heart of this mission, driving FAMU to continually empower communities through innovative teaching, cutting-edge research, and dynamic public service.

FAMU's inspiring journey reminds us that honoring our rich history is a powerful motivator for charting bold new paths.



# The *FUTURE* of the DOA

**By Deidre Melton, Deputy Chief Operating Officer and AVP for Enterprise Risk Management**

In a time when universities face increasing complexities and challenges, the Division of Audit (DoA) at FAMU is stepping up with a bold vision for the future. Through strategic realignment, technological innovation, and a deep commitment to excellence, DoA is poised to be a catalyst for change, driving FAMU toward new heights of success.

## **A Bold Embrace of New Global Standards**

The world of internal auditing is undergoing a revolution, with the Institute of Internal Auditors' new Global Internal Auditing Standards setting the stage for greater transparency, accountability, and impact. While the new standards go into effect in January 2025, DoA has already embraced these standards not just as a requirement, but as an opportunity. By aligning with these forward-thinking principles, DoA is enhancing its ability to provide insights that matter, insights that will guide FAMU's leadership in making decisions that shape the university's future. This commitment to excellence is more than just adherence to standards; it's about setting a new benchmark for what internal audit can achieve.



## **Upholding Integrity with the Green Book Standards**

Integrity is the foundation upon which trust is built, and at FAMU, DoA is unwavering in its commitment to upholding the highest standards of integrity. DoA plans to implement the revised Green Book standards for investigations is a testament to this commitment. These standards serve as a blueprint for conducting investigations that are thorough, fair, and legally sound. By adhering to these rigorous standards, DoA is ensuring that FAMU remains a beacon of ethical leadership in higher education and will help pave a path forward to have the investigative function accredited by the Commission for Florida Law Enforcement Accreditation.

## **Harnessing the Power of Technology: Workiva Implementation**

In today's fast-paced world, technology is the key to unlocking new possibilities, and FAMU's DoA is harnessing its power to transform the way it operates. The implementation of Workiva, a state-of-the-art audit management software, is revolutionizing DoA's processes. Workiva's capabilities in artificial intelligence, automation, collaboration, and reporting are empowering the audit team to work smarter, not harder. This technological leap is enabling DoA to focus on what truly matters, delivering insights that drive meaningful change.



## Empowering the Team: Realignment of Roles and Responsibilities

People are the heart of any organization, and at FAMU, DoA is committed to empowering its team to achieve greatness. A recent realignment of roles and responsibilities has been undertaken to ensure that every team member is positioned to excel. By aligning individual strengths with specific assignments, DoA is maximizing its collective potential. This isn't just about efficiency; it's about fostering a culture of excellence where every team member is inspired to contribute their best work. Together, we are forging a path toward a future where DoA's impact is felt across the entire university.



## Building a Culture of Awareness and Continuous Improvement

At the core of FAMU's mission is a commitment to continuous improvement, and DoA is playing a crucial role in building a culture that reflects this value. Through expanded awareness and training activities, DoA is educating the university community about the importance of internal controls, fraud, and risk management. These efforts are not just about meeting obligations; they are about empowering every member of the FAMU family to take ownership of their role in the university's success.

## Aligning with Boldly Striking: Consulting for Strategic Success

FAMU's Boldly Striking strategic plan is a vision for the future, a future where the university leads in innovation, impact, and student success. DoA is aligning its consulting projects with this visionary plan, focusing on areas that will drive FAMU's strategic objectives forward. Whether it's enhancing operational efficiency, improving student services, or strengthening financial resilience, DoA's consulting efforts are directly contributing to the realization of FAMU's bold ambitions. This alignment is not just strategic; it's transformational, ensuring that DoA is a vital partner in the university's journey to greatness.



As FAMU looks to the future, the impact of DoA will be felt across the university, inspiring a culture of accountability, integrity, continuous improvement, and positive change. Together, they are building a future where FAMU not only meets the challenges of tomorrow but boldly strides ahead.

# Partnering for Success: Working Together for a Brighter Future

By Erica Thames

At the heart of a thriving university, like FAMU, lies a dynamic network of departments working together to promote educational excellence, institutional integrity, and community impact. Among these, the role of internal auditors is pivotal, not only in safeguarding FAMU's assets but also in enhancing the university's reputation and supporting its mission as a leading HBCU. By fostering strong partnerships with administration, faculty, staff, and students, internal auditors can transform traditional auditing from a compliance requirement into a powerful tool for innovation and operational efficiency.



## Enhancing Innovation

FAMU has long been a leader in innovation, from advancing groundbreaking research to supporting entrepreneurship within the community. The Division of Audit (DoA), working closely with various departments, can help strengthen this innovative culture. For example, through collaboration with FAMU's Office of Information Technology Services, internal auditors can provide valuable insights on data analytics and cybersecurity, enhancing data-driven decision-making and protecting critical university assets. By introducing best practices from the auditing world, such partnerships can streamline university operations, introduce cost-effective solutions, and optimize the allocation of limited resources, allowing FAMU to stay competitive in higher education.

## Increasing Efficiencies in Research and Operations

FAMU's ambitious research goals, particularly as it strives to become a Carnegie R1 institution, require strong internal controls to ensure grant management and administrative processes are efficient. By working with faculty and administrators in the Division of Research, can help identify and resolve bottlenecks in the research process, whether it's improving grant management or

automating procedures that reduce administrative burdens. These improvements enable faculty to dedicate more time to impactful research, positioning FAMU to excel in research productivity while maintaining compliance with regulatory standards.

## Collaborative Engagements for Institutional Growth

Collaboration doesn't stop at the campus borders. Through partnerships with other universities in the State University System of Florida or other HBCUs, we benchmark against peer institutions, share best practices, and influence policy decisions at the state level. Engaging in these networks not only strengthens FAMU's internal operations but also helps the university stay ahead in the ever-evolving higher education landscape.

The role of internal audit at FAMU underscores the importance of partnership with the broader university community. By driving innovation and efficiency, the DoA team helps safeguard FAMU's integrity while supporting its mission to provide high-quality education and service. As FAMU continues to navigate the complexities of higher education, especially during this period of growth and digital transformation, embracing collaborative auditing practices will be vital to building a more resilient, efficient, and successful institution.

# Crisis Management: From Chaos to Control

By Trystal Wright

In today's fast-paced world, universities must be prepared to handle crises that could disrupt operations and impact stakeholders. Effective crisis management can mean the difference between swift recovery and prolonged disruption. According to Ashley Davis, FAMU's Director of Emergency Management, "Crisis management at public universities requires a whole-community approach that integrates risk assessment, interdepartmental coordination, effective communication, ongoing training, resource management, and a strong commitment to resilience. The FAMU Department of Emergency Management is dedicated to ensuring the university is prepared for crises and recovery from adverse incidents. Remember, 'See Something, Say Something,' and keep your FAMU ALERT information updated."

Universities face unique challenges that require a tailored approach to crisis management. By following best practices such as developing a comprehensive crisis management plan, establishing a dedicated crisis management team, and learning from past incidents, institutions can build resilience and strengthen long-term preparedness.

Similarly, a poorly managed response to a large-scale protest in 2019 exposed communication gaps and a lack of stakeholder engagement. Afterward, the university revised its crisis response plan, established a crisis management team, and enhanced communication protocols. These measures ensured more effective handling of future protests.

Effective crisis management requires preparation, coordination, and clear communication. By adopting these best practices and learning from past experiences, universities can confidently navigate crises, ensuring the safety of their community and the continuity of their operations. In an ever-changing world, being prepared is not just important, it's a responsibility.

## Best Practices for University Crisis Management:

- 1. Maintain Open and Clear Communication Channels:** Communication is critical during a crisis. Staff and faculty should know how to receive and share accurate information. Timely updates through emails, internal portals, and social media help prevent rumors and keep everyone informed.
- 2. Understand Roles and Responsibilities:** Every staff and faculty member should be aware of their specific role in the university's crisis management plan. Whether it's evacuating students, managing communications, or coordinating resources, knowing what to do ensures a quick and effective response.
- 3. Participate in Regular Crisis Drills and Training:** Consistent training and simulated crisis drills keep the university community prepared. Faculty and staff should engage in these exercises to stay familiar with crisis protocols and practice how to respond in real-life scenarios.



# Alumni Network: The Power of Connections

By Rasheedat McKay

At FAMU, we are more than just a university, we are a family, bound by our shared history and driven by our collective ambition. One of the most remarkable aspects of this family is our vibrant alumni network. With over 80,000 graduates across 14 schools and colleges, the FAMU alumni network is a dynamic force that continues to play a crucial role in building a stronger FAMULY.

Our alumni are making waves in virtually every field, from entertainment to sports to business. FAMU graduates like Will Packer, the Hollywood producer behind blockbusters such as *Girls Trip* and *Think Like A Man*, continue to bring national recognition to the university. Just as impressive is recent graduate Xavier Smith, whose inspiring journey from FAMU's football field to the NFL's Los Angeles Rams highlights the strength of the Rattler spirit. These notable alumni represent the power of hard work, perseverance, and the connections they built during their time at FAMU.



Provost Allyson Watson beautifully captured this sentiment, saying, "Recognizing our alumni who have graduated from across the 14 schools and colleges is vital for fostering a sense of community and belonging within our institution. By actively reaching out to alumni in various disciplines, we create valuable opportunities for current students to connect with successful graduates. Our homecoming activities feature guest speakers who share their insights and experiences, inspiring students and enriching our campus culture."

The Division of Academic Affairs plays a key role in alumni networking by organizing homecoming events and outreach at National Alumni Association gatherings, where alumni share their experiences and open doors for the next generation of Rattlers. As Taytiana Smith, Second Vice President of the Student National Alumni Association shared, "I understand the profound value that connections between current students and FAMU alumni bring. These relationships offer students access to mentorship, networking opportunities, and career guidance, while alumni have the chance to give back and stay connected to the university's thriving legacy. By fostering these connections, we bridge the gap between past and present generations of Rattlers, ensuring that the FAMU community remains strong and united. Together, we uplift one another and continue the tradition of excellence that defines Florida A&M University."

The Division of Academic Affairs plays a key role in these efforts, organizing homecoming events and outreach at National Alumni Association gatherings, where alumni share their experiences and open doors for the next generation of Rattlers. FAMU alumni don't just give back; they help propel the university forward. Their donations, mentorship, and ongoing involvement contribute directly to scholarships, program enhancements, and student success. Whether it's through a scholarship fund, a speaking engagement, or a simple word of encouragement, every contribution helps build a brighter future for our university.

The strength of FAMU's alumni network lies in its unique ability to bridge the past, present, and future. As alumni invest their time, expertise, and resources back into the university, they not only strengthen the Rattler community but also ensure its legacy of excellence continues to thrive. Together, we are building a stronger, more connected FAMU, a university where generations of Rattlers inspire and uplift each other, shaping a future that is brighter for all.



## Service Excellence: Elevating the Rattler Experience

What does Service Excellence mean at FAMU? It's our commitment to creating the best possible experience for everyone we interact with, students, faculty, staff, alumni, business partners, and the community. To make this happen, we're launching a new initiative centered around four key pillars: Courteous, Responsive, Collaborative, and Professional. These values shape how we deliver quality service and build lasting, positive relationships.

### Let's explore how each pillar impacts our FAMU community:

**Courteous:** *Building a Welcoming Campus*  
Courteousness isn't just about being polite, it's about creating an environment where everyone feels valued. Whether you're helping a student navigate their academic journey, supporting a faculty member, or greeting a visitor on campus, every interaction matters. By leading with kindness and respect, we foster trust and build a culture of caring. At FAMU, courtesy helps create a space where people feel heard, appreciated, and connected.

**Responsive:** *Meeting Needs with Speed and Accuracy.*  
In today's fast-paced world, quick and effective service is key. Our Responsiveness pillar ensures we promptly address the needs of our community. Whether it's answering a question or resolving an issue, being responsive shows that we value people's time and concerns. This builds trust, strengthens relationships, and helps us meet and exceed expectations.

**Collaborative:** *Breaking Down Barriers*  
Service Excellence thrives on teamwork. The Collaboration pillar emphasizes the power of working together to achieve the best results. By sharing knowledge and resources, we can break down silos and create a unified approach to problem-solving. This fosters a more connected and efficient university, where everyone contributes to success.

**Professional:** *Upholding Standards of Excellence*  
Professionalism is the cornerstone of trust. By maintaining high standards, we show our dedication to continuous improvement and accountability. Professionalism ensures that every interaction is consistent and reliable, reinforcing our commitment to delivering top-quality service. This builds credibility and enhances FAMU's reputation.



At its core, the Service Excellence initiative is about more than just improving individual interactions, it's about creating a culture that elevates the entire FAMU experience. By embodying these four pillars in our everyday work, we can build a brighter, more efficient, and connected university for everyone.

Let's embrace Service Excellence and set the standard for what it means to be a part of the **FAMUly!**

# LEVERAGING the **FAMU** Brand

By **Crissy Brown**

At FAMU, we are building a stronger, more dynamic institution by strategically positioning our brand for long-term growth and impact. As we move through 2024, the goals outlined in the 2022-2027 Boldly Striking strategic plan have guided us in enhancing our reputation and reaching new heights. The focus on leveraging our brand centers around three key goals, each critical to FAMU's continued success:

## **I. Fostering a University-Wide Customer-Centric Culture**

At the heart of FAMU's mission is a commitment to academic and operational excellence, achieved by fostering a customer-centric culture that prioritizes the needs and experiences of students, faculty, staff, and the broader community. Over the past two years, FAMU has integrated new technologies, streamlined processes, and implemented training programs designed to enhance customer service. This approach empowers our staff to be more responsive and effective, creating an environment that supports both academic success and operational efficiency. The positive outcomes of these initiatives are reflected in improved student satisfaction, retention rates, and stronger relationships between departments.



## **2. Increasing International Recognition**

In 2024, FAMU will continue to rise as a global leader in academia, research, and cultural exchange. Through partnerships with international institutions, collaborative research projects, and hosting global forums, we have increased our visibility on the world stage. Our faculty's groundbreaking research and innovative teaching methods are receiving widespread attention, further elevating FAMU's reputation as a top-tier research institution. A significant

development this year includes the recent \$112.4 million research funding awarded to FAMU at the conclusion of the 2023-2024 academic year, as a record-breaking achievement, which underscores our leadership in research excellence. These grants have reinforced FAMU's position as a hub for cutting-edge research and innovation. Additionally, the increased recruitment of international students and scholars has diversified our campus, enriching the cultural experience for everyone at FAMU and amplifying our global impact.

## **3. Cultivating and Diversifying the Network of Advocates and Supporters**

A strong network of advocates and supporters is essential to advancing FAMU's mission and strategic priorities. Over the past two years, FAMU has expanded its reach by engaging alumni, corporate partners, philanthropists, and governmental leaders. FAMU has launched targeted campaigns to cultivate relationships with new stakeholders while strengthening ties with existing supporters. These efforts have resulted in increased financial contributions, enhanced career opportunities for our students, and broader support for FAMU's programs and initiatives. The recent research grants awarded by federal agencies and private organizations are prime examples of this strengthened network. By diversifying our network, we ensure that FAMU's mission continues to thrive with a foundation of robust, committed advocates.

FAMU's commitment to leveraging our brand has positioned us to achieve lasting success. By fostering a customer-centric culture, increasing international recognition, and cultivating a diverse network of supporters, FAMU is well on its way to securing its place as a leading institution in the global academic and cultural landscape. Together, we are building a stronger FAMU, one that will continue to strike boldly for generations to come.

# FAMU

## Word Scramble



Try to unscramble the words in this worksheet.  
When you are unable to find the correct word, you can  
have a look at the clue.

**Good Luck!**

- 1. CXEENLLECE** \_\_\_\_\_  
FAMU's standard of achievement and distinction
- 2. RELTUUC** \_\_\_\_\_  
Shared traditions and values within the FAMU community
- 3. IALMNU** \_\_\_\_\_  
Graduates who continue to support their alma mater
- 4. NWORETK** \_\_\_\_\_  
A system of connections for mentorship and opportunities
- 5. FRRADOW** \_\_\_\_\_  
Direction of progress and innovation for FAMU's future
- 6. TRFOMSARN** \_\_\_\_\_  
To make a significant change or improvement
- 7. RENPIARTHSP** \_\_\_\_\_  
Collaboration between FAMU and external organizations
- 8. FUUETR** \_\_\_\_\_  
What FAMU continues to build with each generation
- 9. SCCUSES** \_\_\_\_\_  
The achievement of goals, especially at FAMU
- 10. MTIACP** \_\_\_\_\_  
The powerful effect FAMU has on students and society

# Building Bridges:

## FAMU's Impact on Our Community

By Nancy Shepherd

*"We are caught in an inescapable network of mutuality, tied in a single garment of destiny. Whatever affects one directly, affects all indirectly."* — Martin Luther King Jr.

Tallahassee's Civil Rights Heritage Walk, at the corner of Jefferson and Monroe Streets, honors over 50 civil rights activists who made history during the 1960s lunch counter sit-ins and the 1956 bus boycott. Among them were many from the FAMU community, especially its students.

Today, FAMU continues to make a difference, with students often leading the charge. Through the Volunteer and Service Learning Program, FAMU connects students with local volunteer opportunities and provides training to help shape tomorrow's leaders. With over 300 student clubs and an active Greek community, the university is home to countless volunteer and charitable events. One standout is FAMU's Student Community Garden, where students grow fresh produce to support peers and the Southside community, helping combat food insecurity.

FAMU's collaboration with the local community extends to improving health, education, and the economy. The College of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences Institute of Public Health operates four pharmacies in underserved neighborhoods. In March 2024, FAMU received a \$9 million grant from the U.S. Department of Education to boost K-12 student outcomes through the Unlimited Potentials Local Community program.



FAMU's Research and Extension Center also supports local farmers and students through agricultural research and outreach.

FAMU's influence also enriches Tallahassee's cultural life. The internationally famous Marching 100 band thrills the community during Homecoming each fall, drawing thousands of spectators. In spring, the FAMU-sponsored Harambee Festival highlights African-American culture, with inspiring performances by the Gospel Choir and Jazz Quartet. The Meek-Eaton Black Archives Research Center and Museum preserves and celebrates the history and traditions that shape our community.

President Beard's 100-day plan reinforces FAMU's commitment to community involvement, including monthly service events bringing together students and faculty. FAMU's strong tradition of service continues to leave its mark on the university and the wider community alike.





# TRANSFORM our Campus: New Developments at FAMU

By Bill Knight

Exciting things are happening at FAMU, where a new development promises to significantly elevate the campus experience for students. FAMU has officially broken ground on a state-of-the-art, 700-bed residence hall that will provide students with modern housing and foster a stronger sense of community. Set to open by fall 2025, the new facility, located at the intersection of Osceola Street and South Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard, represents a pivotal step in FAMU's continued commitment to enhancing student life.

This new residence hall is not just about creating additional living spaces, it's about cultivating an environment where students can thrive both academically and socially. With student enrollment on the rise, FAMU has recognized the need to expand its on-campus housing options, and this dormitory is the latest effort in a broader initiative to increase bed capacity to over 4,000 in the coming years. Funded by a \$97.5 million loan through the US Department of Education's Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCU) Capital Financing Program, the project also demonstrates FAMU's dedication to long-term, strategic growth. The loan, payable over 30 years, reflects the university's forward-thinking approach to improving its infrastructure to meet the needs of a growing student body. "When we think about student success, housing is an important aspect of that," noted Kristin Harper, Chair of FAMU's Board of Trustees.

The new residence hall, designed with student engagement in mind, will feature two four-story buildings that house 350 double-occupancy rooms, each with shared bathrooms.

The design will mirror the modern amenities found in the FAMU Towers, offering comfortable and collaborative living spaces. But it's not just about the rooms, the project will also include 195 parking spaces and a landscaped courtyard area, helping to alleviate some of the ongoing concerns about parking on campus while providing outdoor spaces for students to gather and relax.

What makes this development particularly exciting is its potential to transform the campus atmosphere. Modern, well-designed housing is more than just a place to sleep; it's a key element in student retention, engagement, and overall satisfaction. By providing students with a vibrant living environment, FAMU is not only addressing a practical need but also creating a foundation for academic success, collaboration, and personal growth.

And this is just the beginning. FAMU has ambitious plans for the future, including the construction of a 500-bed residence hall and an 800-bed mixed-use apartment complex. These developments will accommodate an ever-growing student population while offering more diverse living options to suit the different needs of undergraduates and graduates alike. As FAMU continues to evolve, these new housing projects will play a crucial role in shaping the student experience. Future generations of Rattlers will benefit from an enriched campus life where they can learn, connect, and thrive in a supportive environment. With its eye on the future, FAMU is not just building dorms, we are building a community.



# STAFF HIGHLIGHTS

## AuditCon 2024 — Atlanta, GA

AuditCon 2024, hosted by the Association of College and University Auditors, brought together internal auditors from higher education institutions to discuss emerging trends and best practices in the field. Our entire audit team was able to attend the conference this year. The conference featured a range of sessions, including workshops, panel discussions, and keynote presentations, focusing on key topics such as risk management, compliance, and the integration of technology in auditing processes. Attendees had the opportunity to network with peers, share insights, and explore innovative strategies to enhance audit effectiveness. Overall, AuditCon 2024 served as a valuable platform for advancing the profession and addressing the unique challenges faced by auditors in academia.



**Erica Thames,**  
Investigations Manager



**Trystal Wright,**  
Audit Director



**Nancy Shepherd,**  
Lead Senior Auditor

## Three of our team members served as speakers at ACUA AuditCon for the following workshops:



**Speaker:** Trystal Wright

**Topic:** Harnessing the Power of AI for Audit Planning & Testing

**Summary:** In this session, attendees explored how artificial intelligence (AI) is transforming audit methodologies by enhancing efficiency and effectiveness. Participants learned about AI-driven algorithms that analyze large datasets to identify patterns and assess risks with remarkable precision. The session highlighted real-world case studies demonstrating the significant impact of AI on audit practices, including improvements in audit planning, resource allocation, and risk assessment strategies. Auditors gained practical insights into best practices for integrating AI into their workflows, empowering them to deliver greater value and insights to their organizations.



**Speaker:** Nancy Shepherd

**Topic:** Fulfilling the Spirit and the Letter of 2024 Uniform Grant Guidance Updates

**Summary:** On April 4, 2024, the U.S. Office of Management and Budget released a pre-publication version of a significant update to the Uniform Grant Guidance, which is pending final publication in the Federal Register. This update aims to reduce administrative burdens while enhancing transparency, access, and public outcomes. The session covered the contents of the update within the broader context of evolving trends in Federal grant management policy, including concepts of accountability such as verification, control, performance, and risk management. Participants reviewed the latest changes and discussed proactive strategies for anticipating future modifications to the Uniform Grant Guidance, drawing from practices already established at the Federal level. This session provided valuable insights into how these trends may impact grant management moving forward.



**Speaker:** Erica Thames

**Topic:** Unveiling the Ethical Maze: Navigating Auditors Through Higher Education's Moral Quandaries

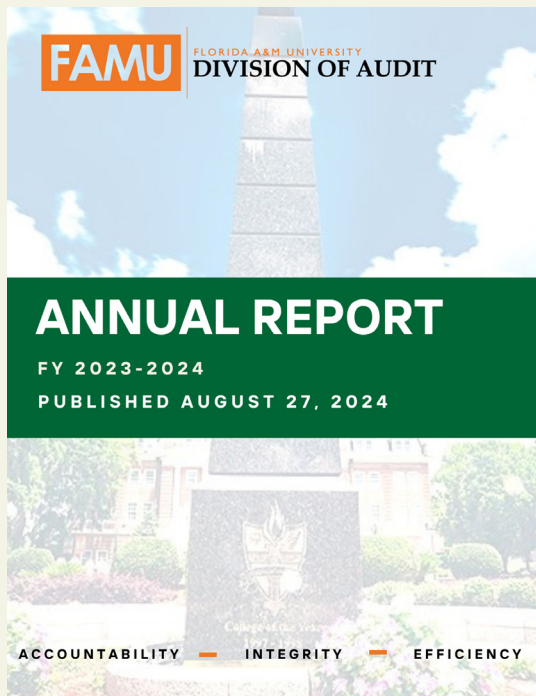
**Summary:** This session was a thought-provoking session that explored the complex ethical challenges faced by auditors in higher education. Participants delved into the intricacies of ethical decision-making, uncovering various moral dilemmas encountered in daily operations. Through engaging discussions and real-life case studies, attendees gained valuable perspectives on navigating ethical gray areas and upholding integrity within institutions. The session emphasized the importance of ethical principles, leadership, and professional codes of conduct, equipping auditors with the skills to effectively address ethical challenges while promoting accountability and a culture of integrity. Overall, it provided a comprehensive understanding of how ethical decision-making impacts the reputation of higher education institutions.

# DIVISION UPDATES

**Division Restructure:** At the September Board of Trustees meeting, the Board approved the Division of Audit Charter to remove the Enterprise Risk Management (ERM) function and established a separate ERM Charter, reflecting the transition of ERM out of our Division and into the Office of the Chief Operating Officer. Additionally, the Audit and Compliance Committee has been renamed the Audit, Risk, and Compliance Committee to align with these changes. [View full Board of Trustees Meeting Presentation Here.](#)

**Work Plan Progress:** Florida Board of Governors (BOG) Regulation 4.002 requires the Chief Audit Executive (CAE) to prepare an annual report summarizing our activities for the preceding fiscal year (FY) and report management’s progress toward implementing corrective actions. Click Image below to access the full report:

## Annual Report for FY 23-24

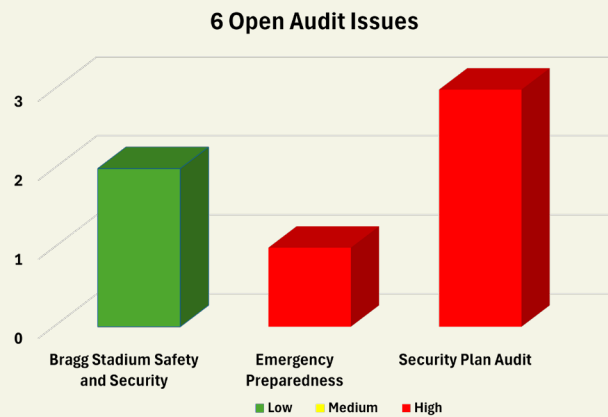


[View full Annual Report Here.](#)

## Internal Audit Activities

Audit Work Plan		
Project	Projected Completion	Status
Financial Aid Audit	Quarter 1	Reporting
Athletics Financial Review: Spring 2023	Quarter 1	Reporting
Gramm Leach Bliley Act	Quarter 1	Reporting
Foreign Influence Audit	Quarter 1	Planning
Athletics Financial Review: Spring 2024	Quarter 2	Planning
Performance-Based Funding Data Integrity Audit	Quarter 3	Planning

## Status of Corrective Actions for Open Audit Issues Since June 2023



## Advisory Activities

Advisory Work Plan		
Project	Projected Completion	Status
Academic Affairs: Faculty & Student Experience	Quarter 1	Reporting
Campus Safety & Security	Quarter 2	Planning

## Investigation Activities

Investigation Status	Count
Received Cases	18
Open Cases	9
Closed Cases	18



# RESOURCES



## **Need to file a complaint or make a report to the DoA?**

You can reach DOA by emailing us at [DivisionofAudit@famu.edu](mailto:DivisionofAudit@famu.edu) or by phone at **850-412-5479**.

Complaints can also be submitted via the University's Compliance and Ethics website which allows anonymous reporting.

Click on [THIS LINK](#) to file an Ethics report.

## **Additional DoA Resources**

- [The Audit Charter](#)
- [Audit Reports](#)
- [ERM, Training, & Other Resources](#)

**We look forward to hearing from YOU!**

## **Did you enjoy reading...**

The Division of Audit's The Audit Report Magazine? Click [here](#) to find previous issues on the Division of Audit's website.

## **Fraud Education and Resources**

Want to know more about how to prevent, detect and address fraud within the University or in your day to day life?

Check out some of the resources listed below:

- [Association of Certified Fraud Examiners](#)
- [AGA Fraud Resources](#)
- [FAMU Division of Audit](#)
- [FRAUD Magazine](#)
- [Institute of Internal Auditors Fraud Resources](#)

**ACCOUNTABILITY-INTEGRITY-EFFICIENCY-FAIRNESS-OBJECTIVITY-PROFESSIONALISM**

“WE **STRIKE** AND **STRIKE** AND **STRIKE** AGAIN!”

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