

CAMPUSNEWS

Emory's chief audit officer leads internal audit awareness efforts



Bryan Meltz

Gov. Sonny Perdue proclaimed May 6-12 Internal Auditor Awareness Week in Georgia, thanks in part to the efforts of Bill Mulcahy (above left).

BY KIM URQUHART

May 6-12 marks the first observance of Internal Auditor Awareness Week in Georgia, recently proclaimed by Gov. Sonny Perdue. Instrumental in gaining this statewide recognition for the contributions of internal auditors was William Mulcahy, chief audit officer for Emory's internal audit division.

Mulcahy, president of the Institute of Internal Auditors Atlanta Chapter, explained that the move is part of the international professional association's "advocacy program to raise the level of awareness of what internal auditors do."

Internal auditors help their organizations meet their objectives by monitoring risks and ensuring that the controls in place are adequate to mitigate those risks, explained Mulcahy, a long-time member of the Emory community who has served as chief audit officer since 1994. Internal auditors serve — along with an organization's board, executive management and external auditors — as a "cornerstone" of corporate governance, ensuring that their businesses comply with new legislation and regulations.

At Emory, Mulcahy oversees the internal audit functions for the University and Emory

Healthcare. Mulcahy and his staff have helped to implement relevant compliance efforts under the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002, including assisting in the launch of Emory's institution-wide financial attestation process for improved financial governance practices, and are leading the University's implementation of the recently-adopted Emory Trust Line (1-888-550-8850), a confidential method for reporting fraud and misconduct.

"Mulcahy's implementation of a fraud awareness program combined with an enhanced focus on improving Emory's internal control environment has contributed greatly to Emory's vision of an ethically engaged financial steward," said Mike Mandl, executive vice president for finance and administration.

His leadership also has played a valuable role in service to the internal audit community. His involvement within the IIA Atlanta Chapter has improved chapter relations, activities and membership, and has increased his ongoing interactions with chief audit executives across Atlanta.

Mulcahy explained that he incorporated elements of Emory's Excellence Through Leadership program and applied it to the IIA Atlanta Chapter. "In my inaugural

speech as president, I set out five goals for the internal audit community in Atlanta," Mulcahy said. That was June 2006. Nearly a year later, the Atlanta chapter has accomplished each of those goals.

Among them: Atlanta earned the bid to host the association's premier event, the 2010 IIA International Conference, expected to draw 3,500 to 4,500 auditors from all over the world. Atlanta was also awarded the IIA Southeastern Regional Conference to be held this September, and in July, Mulcahy will be traveling as the Emory representative to the IIA International Conference in Amsterdam, the Netherlands. He is currently guiding the organization toward its next goal: to become a top-five, internationally recognized Platinum IIA chapter.

Through his leadership in the IIA, and the networking opportunities it affords, Mulcahy brings the best internal audit practices to Emory. His efforts further Emory's focus on "contributing excellence," Mandl said. During Internal Auditor Awareness Week, for example, Mandl will share Emory's leading-edge enterprise-wide risk management process with chief auditors from Duke, Vanderbilt, Northwestern and MD Anderson Cancer Center.

UNIVERSITYNEWS

Emory faculty spotlighted at D.C. National Press Club

Emory President Jim Wagner and a slate of Emory's best known and most provocative scholars were out in force April 25 at the National Press Club for a half-day of talks on issues challenging America and the world. Audience members included both the news media and Washington area alumni.

At a breakfast address titled "A Time for Courageous Universities," Wagner examined how and why society depends on universities to display courageous leadership in a time of passionate disagreements and differences.

Following Wagner's talk, three faculty panels took up current controversial issues of perennial interest: choices and tipping points in American health care, the shifting political tectonics of the American electorate in 2008, and American values in a changing world.

In the political panel, Alan Abramowitz, Alben W. Barkley Professor of Political Science, looked at forces he says will shape the 2008 election. He predicted a repeat of the extremely close races of 2000 and 2004 "because of very strong party loyalties."

"Divided America: The Ferocious Power Struggle in American Politics" was the topic for Merle Black, Asa G. Candler Professor of Political Science, whose just-published book details how regional political struggles will play a key role in the election. Andra Gillespie, assistant professor of political science, talked about Barack Obama as one of the new cohort of black elected leadership who reflect the growing diversity of the electorate and have the potential to amass more political power than their predecessors.

Drew Westen, professor of clinical psychology, gave a preview of his forthcoming book, "The Political Brain: The Role of Emotion in Deciding the Fate of the Nation." He explained that "partisan minds are closed and closed early," referring to his neuro-imaging studies showing that voters "turn off all reason and turn on all emotion" once their minds are made up about political candidates.

Health policy faculty examined aspects of current health policy in a panel moderated by WHSC CEO Michael M.E. Johns. Arthur Kellermann, chair of emergency medicine, spoke on the crisis in emergency care. The ER, he said, cannot continue to serve as a national safety net for health care.

Michelle Lampl, anthropologist and associate director of the Predictive Health Initiative, highlighted the new health care paradigm at Emory that focuses on health maintenance, prediction and prevention as solutions to the health care crisis and focus on expensive disease treatment.

Marla Salmon, dean of nursing (whose presentation was covered by the Atlanta Journal-Constitution), discussed the critical national and international nursing shortage. Ken Thorpe, chair of health policy and management in the Rollins School of Public Health, described new state health care plans and the push for national health care reform in the 2008 election. If health care reform is to succeed, he says, it must involve both the insured and the uninsured.

The panel on American values included a talk by Woodruff Professor of Law and feminist legal expert Martha Fineman on the need to make human rights and human dignity the paradigm for reform in family law, rather than allowing fundamentalist religious interpretations of family drive public policy. Senior Vice Provost Claire Sterk, Charles Howard Candler Professor of Public Health, talked about America's role in exporting its own cigarette smoking epidemic into a world pandemic. Provost Earl Lewis wrapped up the session with a talk on how universities can play a leading role in furthering higher education's values of accessibility, affordability and accountability.

For more on Emory Day at the National Press Club, go to www.news.emory.edu/NPC/program.shtml.

—Elaine Justice

STRATEGIC PLANNING

Wright Caughman named VP for clinical and academic integration

Wright Caughman has been named vice president for clinical and academic integration in Emory Woodruff Health Sciences Center. He also will continue as director of The Emory Clinic and as executive associate dean for clinical affairs, positions he has held for the past three years.

In his new role Caughman will be responsible for managing Woodruff Health Sciences Center's Vision 2012 strategic plan for transforming health and healing. He will direct four core strategies of the plan: implementing the Emory Clifton Corridor and Emory Midtown master facility plans; developing and promoting key multidisciplinary centers of excellence; promoting a high-performance, patient-focused service culture; and ensuring maximal integration of the translational research,

educational and training missions within the fabric of the Health Science Center's clinical programs.

Caughman also will direct implementation of the strategic plans for the centers of excellence in the Health Sciences Center, which initially will include the Comprehensive Center for Neuroscience, the Heart and Vascular Center, the Emory Transplant Center, the Winship Cancer Institute and the Emory Center for Respiratory Health. He also will work closely with the leaders of the Emory Predictive Health Initiative, as well as other interdisciplinary centers and programs.

"Wright Caughman is a proven leader with the vision and courage to succeed at the challenging task of implementing our strategic plan across the Health Sciences Center," said Michael M.E. Johns, executive vice president, health affairs and CEO,

Woodruff Health Sciences Center. "Dr. Caughman's commitment to our vision of transforming health and healing, his broad knowledge of the health sciences at Emory, and the respect he has earned from his colleagues make him the ideal candidate to carry out this mission."

Caughman joined the dermatology faculty at Emory in 1990 after serving as medical officer and principal investigator in the dermatology branch of the National Cancer Institute of the National Institutes of Health. In addition to teaching and working as a staff physician at The Emory Clinic, Grady Memorial Hospital and the Veterans Affairs Medical Center, he was director of research in Emory's Department of Dermatology for four years before becoming department chair.

—Holly Korschun