

IIA 2017-18 Global Chairman of the Board

... *J. Michael Peppers, CIA, QIAL, CRMA, CPA*

J. Michael “Mike” Peppers is Chief Audit Executive (CAE) for The University of Texas System, one of the largest public university systems in the United States. In his role, he oversees the internal audit function for a university system that has an annual operating budget of \$17.9 billion and serves more than 228,000 students at eight universities and six health science centers.

Over a 30-year career that began in public accounting, Peppers has led progressive internal audit activities at major not-for-profit organizations in higher education and health care. Previously, he was Vice President and Chief Audit Officer at The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center, Director of Audit Services at The University of Texas Medical Branch, Inspector General at the University of South Florida, and a Senior Auditor for Price Waterhouse.



Reflecting a lifelong commitment to serving the internal auditing profession, Peppers has held numerous volunteer board and leadership positions. He is on The Institute of Internal Auditors (IIA) Executive Committee of the Global Board of Directors, currently serving as Chairman for 2017-18. Previously, he was Senior Vice Chairman of the Global Board for 2016-17. He also served on The IIA’s North American Board (2010-14, Chairman 2012-13), and International Internal Audit Standards Board (2006-10).

He served as President of the Association of College and University Auditors (2001-02). He is a member of the University of Houston Accounting Advisory Board, was recipient of the Association of College and University Auditors Outstanding Professional Contributions Award, and was recognized as a Distinguished Faculty Member in The IIA’s volunteer faculty program.

Peppers is a Certified Internal Auditor (CIA) and a Certified Public Accountant (CPA) and has a Certification in Risk Management Assurance (CRMA) and Qualification in Internal Audit Leadership (QIAL). Peppers earned a bachelor's and a master's degree in accountancy at the University of South Florida.

For his chairman’s year theme, Peppers chose **#PurposeServiceImpact**. The hashtag is a nod to social media’s ability to connect people on an issue. Peppers challenges internal auditors to unite around the profession’s core principles by keeping **#PurposeServiceImpact** center stage. “If we understand our purpose, how our purpose supports the lives of others, and if we commit to providing informed, objective and ethical service, we will make a difference,” Peppers said. “We will have an impact.”