

THE UNIVERSITY OF NEW MEXICO

Board of Regents' Audit and Compliance Committee Quarterly Meeting August 19, 2026 – Meeting Minutes

Regent Committee Members Present: Jack Fortner, Christina Campos, Paul Blanchard (Quorum)

Other Attendees: Dr. Steve Goldstein, Terry Babbitt, Teresa Costantinidis, Francie Cordova, Bonnie White, Duane Arruti, Andrew Jacobson, Daniel Jones, Ariadna Vazquez, Susan Rhymmer, Ajay Gupta (CLA), Dave Strzyzewski (CLA), Emily Morelli, Victor Griego, Chien-chih Yeh, Jeremiah Sanchez, Michelle Verity, and other members of the University community.

Chair Fortner called the meeting to order at 9:02 AM. Regent Campos confirmed there was a quorum. A roll call vote was conducted and by unanimous consent, the meeting went into Executive Session at 9:03 AM. By unanimous consent, the meeting returned to Open Session at 9:35 AM.

ACTION ITEMS:

Adoption of Agenda

The Committee considered the agenda for August 19, 2026, meeting.

Action: The Committee approved the agenda.

Approval of May 19, 2026, Meeting Minutes

The Committee considered the minutes of May 19, 2026, Audit and Compliance Committee meeting.

Action: The Committee approved the minutes.

Executive Session

The Committee entered Executive Session pursuant to the applicable provisions of the New Mexico Open Meetings Act to discuss matters permitted under the agenda.

Following Executive Session, the Committee returned to Open Session.

Certification of Executive Session

The Committee certified that only those matters described in Agenda Item IV were discussed during Executive Session.

Action Items Following Executive Session

Approval of Hospital Audits

The Committee considered approval of the P-Card Audit and Physical Security Assessment.

Action: Upon motion duly made and seconded, the Committee unanimously approved the P-Card Audit and Physical Security Assessment.

Internal Audit Risk Assessment and Three-Year Internal Audit Plan and External Quality Assessment

The Committee considered the proposed risk assessment and three-year audit plan for Internal Audit and External Quality Assessment.

Action: Upon motion duly made and seconded, the Committee unanimously approved the Internal Audit Risk Assessment and Three-Year Internal Audit plan and External Quality Assessment.

IT Risk Assessment

The Committee considered approval of the IT Risk Assessment.

Action: Upon motion duly made and seconded, the Committee unanimously approved the IT Risk Assessment.

INFORMATION ITEMS:

INTERNAL AUDIT DIRECTOR'S STATUS REPORT

Victor Griego, Internal Audit Director

Mr. Griego provided an update on Internal Audit operations and staffing, the status of the FY25 and FY26 audit plans, complaints, the External Quality Assessment, and external audits and reviews.

Internal Audit Operations and Staffing

Mr. Griego reported that Internal Audit has selected an internal auditor who is expected to begin within the next two weeks. The department has also selected a student intern. He noted that the department provides internship opportunities to students interested in pursuing a career in internal audit.

Audit Plan Status

Mr. Griego reported that of the 11 audits included in the FY25 and FY26 audit plans, six have been completed and presented, while five are currently in the planning or fieldwork stages.

Current fieldwork includes audits of university-wide Contracts and Grants, the UNM Gallup Branch, and the Department of Biology. Planning is underway for the IT Disaster Recovery audit and the College of Nursing audit.

Complaint Status

Mr. Griego reported that during FY26, Internal Audit received 62 complaints through EthicsPoint. Of those cases, 15 were substantiated. Substantiated allegations may result in a formal report and recommendations and, when appropriate, additional action.

For FY27, Internal Audit has received 29 complaints to date. Two have been completed, 23 are in planning or fieldwork, and four remain to be assigned.

External Quality Assessment

Mr. Griego reported that the External Quality Assessment has been completed. Internal Audit will work toward implementing the recommendations resulting from the assessment and anticipates conducting another assessment in approximately three years.

External Audits and Reviews

Mr. Griego reported that seven external audits and reviews had been completed by the New Mexico Economic Development Department, with no findings resulting from those audits.

Five additional audits and reviews are currently in process. These engagements are in the early stages of the audit process, and therefore there is limited information available to report at this time.

Committee Discussion

No questions were raised by the Committee.

MAIN CAMPUS CHIEF COMPLIANCE OFFICER STATUS REPORT

Francie Cordova, Chief Compliance Officer

Ms. Cordova presented an overview of the Main Campus Chief Compliance Officer's FY26 work plan and FY27 priorities.

EthicsPoint Data

Ms. Cordova reported that the University received more than 1,800 complaints through the EthicsPoint reporting hotline during the prior fiscal year. Approximately 1,000 complaints involved civil rights matters, with the remaining complaints relating to various areas across the University.

The EthicsPoint data was presented as an informational item. Ms. Cordova offered to provide additional information or discussion regarding specific data points at a future meeting.

Staffing

Ms. Cordova reported that the office currently has 16 FTE, including four investigators in the Equal Opportunity area. Two investigator positions are currently vacant, and the office is actively interviewing candidates to fill the positions.

The office has also added two employees supported through reserve funding. One is assisting with Clery crime-data classification and reporting, and the other is serving as a pregnancy accommodation specialist.

Minors on Campus and Youth Protection

Ms. Cordova provided an update on efforts to strengthen protections for minors participating in academic and athletic programs on university property.

The University has strengthened its youth protection policy and implemented an electronic platform, Lobo Youth, to centralize background checks and related documentation. The system will provide improved oversight and allow for auditing of required documentation.

Policy Updates

Ms. Cordova reported that UAP 2720 – Equal Opportunity, UAP 2740 – Sex Harassment, including Sexual Assault, and UAP 2745 – Clery were signed by President Stokes on July 13, 2026, and are now implemented. The University also adopted a Digital Accessibility Policy, which was signed on June 5, 2026. Implementation of the policy is now underway.

Ms. Cordova provided an update on the draft Conflict of Interest/Conflict of Commitment policy. The policy is currently under review by President Goldstein and is expected to proceed to public comment and constituent review during the fall.

FY27 Work Plan

Ms. Cordova outlined the office's priorities for FY27, including aligning procedures, documents, templates, and training with the newly adopted Equal Opportunity policies; implementing the Digital Accessibility Policy; advancing the Conflict of Interest/Conflict of Commitment policy and electronic disclosure platform; and conducting risk assessments.

The office is working with a consultant to assess frequently used University websites and platforms for digital accessibility compliance and is developing templates to support accessibility in the development of new websites and learning platforms.

Ms. Cordova also reported that the office is monitoring developments in federal regulations and executive orders that could affect University policies and compliance requirements, including potential changes involving Title VI, Title IX, and Clery.

Committee Discussion

A Committee member asked about the distinction between Title VI and Title IX. Ms. Cordova explained that Title VI includes protections related to national origin and religion, as well as areas of overlap with other federal requirements. She noted that the University is monitoring potential federal requirements related to Title VI coordination.

The Committee had no further questions.

STATUS OF AUDIT RECOMMENDATIONS

Chien-Chih Yeh, Internal Audit Manager

Mr. Yeh presented the follow-up report on the status of prior audit recommendations. He reported that at the May 2026 Audit and Compliance Committee meeting, there were 16 pending recommendations. Since that meeting, half of the recommendations have been implemented by management and verified by Internal Audit.

Implemented Recommendations

Mr. Yeh reviewed several recommendations that had been implemented, including recommendations related to Project ECHO, the Office of the Medical Investigator, the University-wide Non-Standard Payments Audit, Community Health Worker Initiatives, and the President's Travel and Entertainment Audit.

For Project ECHO, management successfully implemented a new system to review and certify employee effort for the July through December 2025 period. Internal Audit verified the implementation and determined that the recommendation had been implemented.

For the Office of the Medical Investigator, recommendations addressing additional supervisory positions and vendor performance monitoring were reviewed. Management established a formal vendor monitoring program

addressing vendor quality and billing, and Internal Audit determined the applicable recommendations had been implemented.

For the University-wide Non-Standard Payments Audit, management implemented a revised standard operating procedure and an exception report designed to identify critical errors in non-standard payment processing. Internal Audit determined the recommendation had been implemented.

Mr. Yeh reported that recommendations related to the Community Health Worker Initiatives audit had also been reviewed, with implemented recommendations verified by Internal Audit.

For the President's Travel and Entertainment Audit, the root cause was identified, and procedures were revised by the Controller's Office. Internal Audit determined the recommendation had been implemented.

Recommendations Pending Verification or Further Action

Mr. Yeh explained that some recommendations have been implemented by management but are still undergoing verification by Internal Audit. Other recommendations are not yet due or require additional corrective action.

Of the seven Community Health Worker Initiatives recommendations, four remain partially implemented. Internal Audit will revisit those recommendations once additional information and documentation have been provided.

Mr. Yeh also provided an update on five recommendations from the UNM Athletics Audit, which were approved at the May 2026 Committee meeting. Internal Audit determined that additional information and documentation are needed to verify implementation. Management requested an extension of the original June 30, 2026, completion date to December 2026.

Internal Audit will revisit the recommendations once the requested information and documentation are provided and will report back to the Committee.

Committee Discussion

No questions were raised by the Committee.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:55 AM.

Approved:



Audit and Compliance Committee Chair

Date:

10/21/2026