2020–21 NACUBO Fellows Program
Greg Argueta currently serves as the assistant vice president for accounting and financial reporting at the University of Texas at Dallas. In this role, he is responsible for financial reporting, payroll services, accounts receivable, and the general accounting functions for investments, sponsored programs, state appropriations, and fixed assets. Argueta focuses on organizational culture to build strong teams and deliver excellent service. His leadership has resulted in a significant expansion of reporting capabilities, improved policy driven internal controls, and effective professional development initiatives.

Argueta has more than 11 years of higher education administration experience and started his career in business capital financing. Prior to his current role, he served as director of accounting and financial reporting, where he concentrated on financial policy development and leveraging technology to implement effective business practices. Argueta is a TASSCUBO Accounting Principles Committee member and a NACUBO Future Business Officer alumnus. He earned a Bachelor of Business Administration in Finance from the University of North Texas and a Master of Business Administration from the University of Texas at Dallas, and he is a certified public accountant.

Eric Barger is the associate vice president for finance and controller at University of Portland, a private, Catholic university in Portland, Oregon. Barger took on this role 11 years ago after an 18-year career in finance and accounting in the health care industry. His capable team manages the university’s accounting, student accounts, and payroll functions as well as treasury, tax, grant, and endowment management. Under Barger’s leadership, the University of Portland has brought its endowment management in-house, instituted a new purchasing system generating $300,000 per year in revenue share, relaunched a dormant $8 million student loan fund, and issued a new $92 million debt offering. During his tenure at University of Portland, Barger has also worked as an adjunct instructor, teaching health care finance and accounting at Pacific University in Oregon, and serves on multiple not-for-profit boards. He earned his two undergraduate degrees and an MBA from the University of Portland and is a certified public accountant in the state of Oregon.
Denise Brown-Cornelius is the assistant vice president for business affairs at Bellarmine University, where she has worked since 2007. In this role, she has direct responsibility over budget, payroll, student account services, treasury services, including endowment reporting, sponsored programs, purchasing, accounting, and tax compliance. She leads all financial compliance reporting and audit functions for the university. Brown-Cornelius is a dedicated finance professional with experience in overall financial administration, including implementing, reviewing, and maintaining internal controls that provide a positive financial impact. She serves on the audit, finance, and investment committees of the university’s Board of Trustees. During her tenure at Bellarmine, she led the finance team through the successful implementation of a new university ERP system and served on the university strategic planning committee, including co-chairing the affordability and financial sustainability subcommittee. She also serves on the Board of Directors for Highlands Court, an apartment community for senior citizens adjacent to Bellarmine’s campus. Before joining Bellarmine, she served as director of tax services for Strothman and Company in Louisville, Kentucky. Brown-Cornelius holds an undergraduate degree in accounting from Bellarmine University and a Juris Doctor from the University of Louisville Brandeis School of Law. She is also a licensed certified public accountant. Since 2009, she has served as the instructor for tax and estate planning in the financial planner certificate program at Bellarmine University.

Tom Fusciello is the assistant vice president of construction, facilities, and operations for Trinity College in Hartford, Connecticut, where he has served in various capacities since 2006. He currently oversees seven departments with over 200 employees and has seven direct reports. He is a highly collaborative and engaging leader with a strong focus on results. Fusciello is part of a team that reports directly to the CFO. In his position, he works directly with senior leadership with all members of the president’s cabinet and also serves and presents to various committees of the Board of Trustees. Prior to his career in higher education over the past 14 years, Fusciello worked in the private and corporate sector for more than 16 years. Tom earned an MBA with a concentration in Finance from the University of Connecticut and a BS in Industrial Technology from Central Connecticut State University.
Julie Hopwood serves as the associate vice president for business and auxiliary services at Ball State University. In this role, Hopwood is responsible for auxiliary revenue contracts, dining services, university catering, conference services and special events, alumni center operations, sports/athletics facilities, recreation services, performing arts venues, purchasing services, central stores and receiving, inventory control, printing services, central mail, bulk mail, university bookstore, trademarks and licensing, risk management, and environmental health and safety. Hopwood leads a team of over 650 university professional, staff, and service employees, and 1,000 student employees. She also has responsibilities for Division of Business Affairs strategic planning coordination, implementation, reporting, measuring, and tracking, as well as communication, internal stakeholder engagement, policy and procedure, and sustainability, under the leadership of the vice president for business affairs and treasurer. Hopwood previously served as the senior advisor to the president at Ball State University and the University of Maine. She most recently received her Executive Master in Sustainability Leadership (EMSL) from Arizona State University. Hopwood also earned her MPA from Southern Illinois University, Edwardsville, MS from Syracuse University S.I. Newhouse School of Public Communications, and JD from University of Idaho College of Law.

Jason Hornberger serves as senior associate vice provost for finance at the University of Kansas (KU). His areas of responsibility include budget, payroll, student account services, accounting services, procurement, accounts payable, university payment card program, and shared service centers. Hornberger played a key role in developing a new budget model at KU. The resource allocation methodology of KU’s new budget model will align resource allocation with university strategic priorities. Hornberger earned an MBA with special emphasis in finance from the University of Missouri–Kansas City. He earned a Bachelor of Science degree from Kansas State University with dual emphasis in accounting and finance, and he is a certified public accountant. Hornberger previously served as assistant vice provost for business services in KU’s Office of Student Success, and as assistant director in KU’s Budget Office. Prior to joining the University of Kansas, Hornberger spent 15 years in the corporate sector, including 10 years at Sprint Corporation. He held a variety of finance positions at Sprint in internal audit, international finance, and network finance. He spent the first five years of his career in banking as an auditor and commercial loan analyst. Hornberger is a reviewer for the Higher Learning Commission and has been active in the Central Association of College and University Business Officers (CACUBO). Hornberger also serves as treasurer on two local non-profit boards—KU Friends of the Theatre and the Bishop Seabury Academy School.
**Teresa Krafcisin** is the senior associate vice president and controller at Loyola University of Chicago, one of the largest Jesuit Catholic universities in the United States. In her role, Krafcisin and her team have responsibility for the integrity and quality of the university’s financial reporting and tax compliance, financial systems and shared services, and student accounts. Krafcisin also works with senior leadership serving the audit committee of the university’s Board of Trustees. Throughout her career, Krafcisin has established a reputation for being a results-focused leader and mentor who aligns financial and business metrics to support an organization’s strategy. Krafcisin started her career with Ernst & Young and has held senior financial roles in both publicly traded and not-for-profit organizations in a variety of industries, including assignments in Europe and South America. Krafcisin earned her BBA degree in public accounting from Loyola University of Chicago and holds an MBA in finance and international business from the University of Chicago Booth School of Business. Krafcisin is a registered certified public accountant (Illinois). Krafcisin and her family live in Woodstock, Illinois, where they are stewards of a 38-acre conservation easement.

**Raysa A. Leer** is the executive director for business affairs at the University of the District of Columbia, where she manages the review and enhancement of institutional operational policies, procedures, and processes to drive efficiency and improve productivity. Working closely with the chief operating officer and university administrators, she serves as a strategic process improvement sponsor, leveraging new technology to streamline operational activities while also promoting institutional community adoption. Prior to her appointment as executive director, Leer served as the director of administration and finance at the University of the District of Columbia Community College in the Office of the Chief Community College Officer, managing all financial operations of the college, including strategic resource planning, budgeting, accounting, reporting, and grant oversight. Additionally, she worked with university leadership on budget forecasting and formulation for the institution at large. Leer started working in finance in higher education at Andrews University, a small, private college in Michigan, in the Office of Accounts Payable. In addition to her NACUBO membership, Leer’s is also a member of the Society for College and University Planning (SCUP). She earned two Bachelor of Arts degrees in Anthropology and Spanish from the University of Michigan—Ann Arbor and a Master of Business Administration degree in management from the University of the District of Columbia.
Stephen W. Mackey is the associate vice president for finance at California State University, Monterey Bay (CSUMB). With over 20 years in higher education, Steve has held positions in departments, colleges and schools, central administration, and academic affairs, with responsibilities ranging from finance, human resources, operations, policy, and compliance to health care revenue cycle. In his current role, Mackey oversees the campus budget, finance, business support services, and administrative service management. He also serves as the campus audit liaison, is a member of the California State University Financial Officers Association, serves on the President’s Committee on Equity and Inclusion, and is a member of the finance and audit committees for the CSU Monterey Bay Corporation. In his free time, Mackey enjoys studying management and leadership, traveling with Sheri, his wife of 30 years, and hanging around the BBQ with a glass of wine, their two dogs, and good friends.

Jeffrey W. Margheim is the associate vice president for finance and risk management at Stetson University in DeLand, Florida. Margheim joined Stetson in January of 2000 as the manager of tax compliance and reporting and advanced to his current role in 2007. As AVP, Margheim supervises general accounting, student accounts, purchasing, accounts payable, and risk management. He also oversees the externally managed dining services and bookstore functions, and he manages external audits and IRS tax compliance. While at Stetson, Margheim has served on various committees including the Athletics Planning Workgroup and the Retention & Persistence Task Force. Prior to his career at Stetson, Margheim worked in public accounting as an auditor at two different regional CPA firms that specialize in government, non-profit, and healthcare industries. He began his accounting career as the main accountant at a family-owned industrial sign manufacturer in Denver, Colorado. Margheim holds active CPA licenses from the State of Colorado and the State of Florida. He earned an MBA from Stetson University and a Bachelor in Business Administration with an emphasis in Accounting from the University of Colorado at Boulder. He is also a graduate of SACUBO’s College Business Management Institute. Margheim lives in DeBary, Florida, with his wife and children, where he enjoys the Florida winters but misses the Colorado summers.
**Usha J. Mathew** is the associate vice president for finance at the University of Houston—Clear Lake. She has over 28 years of progressive experience in accounting and financial management in healthcare delivery system, municipal government, and public academic institution. Mathew’s extensive professional experience includes providing leadership, oversight, and management of budgeting, procurement and contract administration, accounts payable functions, student business services, general support services, asset management, and all aspects of general accounting and financial reporting. Mathew is a team builder and strives to lead by example. Her positive leadership with energy and enthusiasm helped to develop a culture of excellence in finance division operations through continuous process evaluation and redesign, assessment of best practices, professional development training offerings for all staff members, enhanced collaboration, and advocating career growth opportunities across the university. The outcome was formation of a cohesive professional team across eight different areas, professional development and career ladder opportunities and promotions, optimum utilization of talents and resources with minimal costs, and maximum effectiveness promoting a culture of customer service, innovation, reduced costs, and quality services. Mathew has a B.Com in Cost Accounting/Factory Administration from the University of Bangalore, India, an M.Com in Accounting/Business Administration from Karnataka University, India, an MBA, Public Administration from Ashford University in Iowa, and a Certified Balanced Scorecard Professional designation from George Washington University.

**Michael Mueller** is the senior associate vice president for finance planning and resource development at the University of Texas Rio Grande Valley (UTRGV). In his role, Mueller is responsible for the university’s budget and planning, financial reporting, and strategic revenue forecasting, in addition to all functions within the controller’s office, including accounts payable, accounts receivable, payroll, treasury services, and student accounting services. He also works directly with the president and senior leadership team, directing the development of the annual operating budget, monitoring the status of the current-year budget, providing ad-hoc financial analyses, and developing UTRGV’s multi-year strategic financial plan. Before joining UTRGV, Mueller worked for the Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center, where he managed the continuity of the fiscal and capital planning between the main and regional campuses. He also worked at the University of North Texas Health Science Center, where he led the transformation of that institution’s financial planning. The redesign focused on the institution’s strategic growth patterns of students, infrastructure, and research. Prior to that, Mueller worked for the Texas Legislative Budget Board as a senior budget analyst, where he was responsible for preparing budget recommendations for all nine health-related institutions in the State of Texas including Baylor College of Medicine. He also assisted the Texas State Legislature in preparing the biennial state budget for higher education. Mueller received his BBA from Sam Houston State University and his MBA from Texas Christian University.