What tools or methods do you use when conducting risk assessments?

"We shifted how we conducted risk assessments in 2020. We still employ interviews, but we expanded who we assess by using surveys. Surveys allowed us to reach a broader audience without requiring more meetings on the calendar. We also stay closely connected to the Enterprise Risk Management (ERM) program. The ERM program meets regularly throughout the year. By staying closely connected to the ERM program, this allows us to take a more agile approach to risk and be able to adjust accordingly throughout the year."

What does it take to be a successful CAE?

"Communication, both written and verbal, is the key to any leader’s success. As a CAE, we need to be able to speak to various levels within the organization and be able to adjust the details of that conversation based on the audience. We must remember to communicate frequently and regularly with our teams. Without our team, we will never be successful."
What do you see as one of the top audit risks right now?

"Internal or external disruption is one of the top audit risks that internal auditors face. Internal auditors need to be able to adapt to the changing environment around them. We have seen for years how technology has changed how companies do business. In the past year, where controls were performed (offices versus employees’ homes) completely shifted how we audit controls. We need to be on the lookout for the next disruption and be ready to pivot how and what we audit."