Paul Sobel’s impressive professional background leading global internal audit efforts has positioned him well for the global chairmanship of The Institute of Internal Auditors (IIA).

Currently vice president and chief audit executive for Georgia-Pacific, LLC, a privately owned forest and consumer products company based in Atlanta, Sobel also has served as the chief audit executive for three public companies: Mirant Corporation, an Atlanta-based energy company; Aquila, Inc., an energy company based in Kansas City, Mo.; and the publishing operations at Harcourt General in Orlando, Fla. Previously, he served as international audit manager for Pepsico, and senior and experienced manager in Arthur Andersen’s Business Risk Consulting and Financial Statement Assurance practices, respectively.

Included on Treasury & Risk Magazine’s 2012 list of “100 Most Influential People in Finance,” Sobel is an expert on governance, ERM, compliance, and internal control. Recognized among his peers as a visionary, he is an exemplary leader, a sought-after speaker, and a prolific author.

Sobel authored the Auditor’s Risk Management Guide: Integrating Auditing and ERM, co-authored the IIA Research Foundation’s textbook, Internal Auditing: Assurance and Consulting Services—currently in its third edition; and in 2012, wrote the leading-edge book, Enterprise Risk Management: Achieving and Sustaining Success. In addition to these three extremely popular books to his credit, he has penned numerous thought-leading articles that have been published in Ia magazine and Management Accounting Quarterly.

Sobel’s past IIA involvement includes serving as senior vice chairman, in various vice chairman roles, and as president of The IIA Research Foundation. He was program chair for The IIA’s International Conferences in 2010 and 2013. He also has served on the standing advisory group of the PCAOB and as The IIA’s representative on the prestigious Pathways Commission, which developed recommendations to enhance the future of accounting education in the United States.

Each year, The IIA’s chairman has a focal point or theme. For his 2012-2014 chairmanship, Paul Sobel has chosen “Imagine the Possibilities” as his theme. Throughout his chairman year, Paul will advocate to internal auditors and audiences around the world to imagine the possibilities for the internal audit profession in this increasingly complex and global business environment.