

**CII Summer Session Theme:** *Strategic thinking for our future: How public universities develop collaborative structures that create sustainable global and local impact*

**2019 Commission on International Initiatives**

**Summer Meeting**

July 14-16, Burlington, VT

# Panelists

## **Panel Moderator:**

[DeAndra Beck](#), Associate Dean for Research  
International Studies and Programs, Michigan State University

## **Panelists:**

[E. Daniel Hirleman, Jr.](#), Chief Corporate and Global Partnerships Officer and Senior International Officer,  
Office of the Executive Vice President for Research and Partnerships, Purdue University

[Jamie McGowan](#), International Grants and Contracts Manager, Strategic Interdisciplinary Research Office  
Office of the Vice President Research, Penn State University

Meghna Ramaswamy, Director, International Research  
Office of the Vice President Research, University of Saskatchewan

# Agenda

- Introduction of topic and speakers by panel moderator
- Short introduction/overview of panelists' institutional context
  - Institutional responsibilities/areas of focus
  - Administrative reporting lines (VPR, SIO, other)
  - Funding structure for staffing to facilitate international research collaboration (e.g., VPR funding, split funding, international office funding)
- Dialog initiated around 3-4 predetermined/discussed questions (see below)
- Open dialog with meeting attendees who have questions or comments
- Summary of panel by moderator

# Discussion Questions

- What are the most common points of intersection/collaboration between international offices and the VPR at your institution?
- What kind of approaches and services does your institution use to stimulate and incentivize faculty for international research (e.g., seed grants, pre-award support, networking meetings)? Are there any thresholds for this support (e.g., proposal size, complexity, colleges, funding agencies)? Is internationalization part of faculty tenure and promotion?
- How do you communicate across colleges and campuses and work in a decentralized institutional context?
- At your institution, do college-specific plans include internationalization? And if so, how are you kept informed?
- How are points of differences in mandate addressed (e.g., foreign influence/export control and promotion of international research collaboration)?
- How do you see the concerns about foreign influence impacting each of your institutions?

# Key Summary Points

- SIOs should proactively engage VPR and staff to build relationships and create opportunities for synergistic work, especially when there are no formal staffing/funding ties between the units.
- SIOs should work with VPRs to identify areas of faculty research strength as a basis for building or prioritizing international engagement efforts, building on and improving institutional data for international research.
- SIOs should work with VPRs to share information about funding agency and foundation priorities for international research and engagement
- An institution should articulate their commitment to internationalization by including internationalization in their mission statements and research strategic plans. It is important for academic institutions to consider international work in their faculty promotions and tenure decisions.
- SIOs should engage with the VPR's office to establish special awards and seed funding programs to recognize exceptional researchers for their participation and internationalization of the university.
- SIOs should work with the VPR's team to attract international conferences and events to the university to showcase research, artistic and scholarly strengths.