



## **Ninth Annual Deans Institute Wednesday, January 22, 2020**

### **Preliminary Program**

The ACAD Deans' Institute provides an opportunity for ACAD members and other academic administrators to develop their leadership abilities in a supportive environment. It is designed especially for deans, provosts, associate deans and provosts, and other academic leaders above the rank of department head.

ACAD members have been vocal in their requests for professional development activities focused specifically on the work life of academic deans and also for additional opportunities to interact and learn from each other. This institute is the result. It is intended to be an active process of gathering, exchanging, and trying out ideas and approaches to the job.

The goals of the day-long institute are:

- Advancing the leadership abilities of deans and academic administrators
- Sharing valuable information about the current state of the deanship
- Providing updates on important developments in the world of higher education
- Creating networking opportunities

#### **Preliminary Program**

**8:45-9:00 am**

##### **Welcome and Introduction to the day**

*Thomas Meyer, ACAD Past-Chair and President, Metropolitan Community College—Blue River and Business & Technology Campuses*

**9:00-10:15 am**

##### **Opening Plenary—Dr. Bonnie Irwin, Chancellor, University of Hawai'i at Hilo**

##### ***Leading with Aloha: Finding Grace in Turbulent Times***

The often strident, polarized national discourse has reached many of our campuses, where people find themselves entrenched in their points of view, quite the opposite of our ideal vision of a college or university where civil dialogue and thoughtful deliberation are foundational activities. Couple this with declining enrollments and budgets, and academic leaders find themselves tested as we try to move our institutions forward to face these new challenges. In this environment, how do we lead our campuses to

try new ways, have difficult conversations, and chart a new path forward? How do we allow room for failure when the stakes seem so high for every challenge we confront? How do we recapture our essential humanity and still provide strong leadership for our campuses?

Bonnie D. Irwin began serving as chancellor at the University of Hawai'i at Hilo on July 1, 2019. Chancellor Irwin previously served as provost and vice president for academic affairs at California State University (CSU) Monterey Bay, and before that as dean of the Honors College, and then dean of the College of Arts and Humanities, at Eastern Illinois University. While there, she also served on the board of the National Collegiate Honors Council, also serving as president of the organization. She started at Eastern Illinois University as a tenure-track professor of English specializing in world literature and folklore before moving into administration.

While at CSU, Irwin served on the Regional Engagement and Research Council of the American Association of State Colleges and Universities and on the Board of Directors of the American Conference of Academic Deans. She is a National Collegiate Honors Council Fellow.

Irwin received her Master of Arts in comparative literature, specializing in Latin American and American literatures, and her Doctor of Philosophy in comparative literature, specializing in medieval Spanish, Arabic, and Portuguese literatures, from UC Berkeley. She recently received a certificate in student success data analytics from California State University.

#### **10:15-10:30 am Morning beverage break**

#### **10:30 am -11:30 am**

##### **Round tables I—reports, recommendations, and new directions in higher education**

*Participants will be asked prior to attending to select their preference for three round table discussions they wish to participate in and then will be notified of assignments upon arrival. Attendees will participate in two selections before lunch and a different selection after lunch.*

#### **11:45 am -12:45 pm**

##### **Round tables II—reports, recommendations, and new directions in higher education**

*Participants will be asked prior to attending to select their preference for three round table discussions they wish to participate in and then will be notified of assignments upon arrival. Attendees will participate in two selections before lunch and a different selection after lunch.*

#### **1:00 pm -1:45 pm**

##### **Networking lunch (included with registration)**

#### **2:00 pm -3:00 pm**

##### **Round tables III—reports, recommendations, and new directions in higher education**

*Participants will be asked prior to attending to select their preference for two round table discussions they wish to participate in and then will be notified of assignments upon arrival. Attendees will participate in two selections before lunch and a different selection after lunch.*

#### **3:00 pm -3:15 pm Afternoon beverage break**

#### **3:15-4:30 pm**

**Closing Plenary—Panel Discussion Featuring Administration Leaders from Various Campuses**  
***Preparing “Next Generation” Colleges: Deans Leading the Way***

Technological advances have accelerated to the point where they are challenging human adaptability. Advances in artificial intelligence and robotics, the rise of Industry 5.0, and the abundance of on-line disruptors have changed the way we approach education and training. As academicians ponder how best to prepare students for jobs that don’t yet exist, campus administrators feel the pressure of prioritizing the funding of new programming and the purchases of new technologies. This panel of deans from public and private colleges and universities will discuss a range of topics related to how they are leading their institutions to prepare students for “next generation” education and careers.