



Association of International Education Administrators
Leaders in International Higher Education

Summer 2024 Presidential Message

Dr. Amir Reza, AIEA President



Dear AIEA Colleagues,

I hope this message finds you well, wherever you are in the world. The 2024 AIEA conference in Washington, D.C. was a successful gathering of international education leaders, convening 760 colleagues from 44 countries. Since then, I have actively engaged with the Secretariat, the Board, and the Presidential Stream to advance AIEA priorities. Allow me to provide an update on these crucial matters.

At the conference, Darla Deardorff, AIEA Executive Director, announced her intention to step down from her role at the end of June 2024. As we approach Dr. Deardorff's last day as our longstanding Executive Director, we express our deepest gratitude and best wishes to her. Over her 19 years of leadership, Darla has fostered growth and engagement within AIEA. Her unwavering

commitment to global collaboration has led to the establishment of new programs and initiatives, uniting international education leaders worldwide. Her passion for intercultural competence has inspired us all, creating a more interconnected and inclusive global academic community. As she embarks on her next chapter as the UNESCO Chair of Intercultural Competence at Stellenbosch University, we extend our heartfelt appreciation for her years of service and dedication. [You are invited to leave a message of thanks and best wishes for Darla.](#)

As the end of June approaches, I have held numerous meetings with Darla, the Secretariat team, and the Presidential Stream to ensure continuity and excellence for AIEA. We are now embarking on a comprehensive search for the next AIEA CEO. I am pleased to announce that Katy Rosenbaum, currently the Associate Director of AIEA with a stellar 11-year track record, will assume the role of Interim Executive Director as of July 1, 2024.

By the end of this month, we will launch our search for the next CEO of AIEA in collaboration with WittKiefer, a reputable search firm experienced in leadership searches. Expect to see a full profile of the role within the next two weeks.



Association of International Education Administrators
Leaders in International Higher Education

Allow me to introduce the AIEA CEO Search Committee. I am grateful to these colleagues for volunteering their time and expertise to lead our search efforts:

- **Jane Gatewood** (Chair), Vice Provost for Global Engagement, University of Rochester
- **Cheryl Matherly**, Vice President of International Affairs, Lehigh University
- **Judith Pennywell**, Director of the International Center, University of Michigan
- **Susan Popko**, Associate Provost for International Programs, Santa Clara University
- **Philipp Reichert**, Director of Global Engagement, University of British Columbia
- **Jewell Winn**, Senior International Officer, Tennessee State University
- **Voytek Wloch**, SIO & Director of Global Engagement, College of Lake County

I am confident that our capable search committee, along with WittKiefer, will identify visionary and capable finalists to strategically steer AIEA toward achieving its mission and goals. These finalists will be recommended to the AIEA Board for consideration.

Looking ahead, we eagerly anticipate our collective efforts in the CEO search while simultaneously advancing AIEA priorities, including preparations for our [March 2025 annual conference in Houston, Texas](#).

I extend my gratitude to the AIEA Board, Committee Members, and the Secretariat for their continued commitment to the association.

Warm regards,

Amir Reza, Ph.D.

AIEA President