National Commission on Innovation & Competitiveness Frontiers

Mountain West Innovation Summit

June 21-22, 2022
University of Wyoming, Laramie, WY

Painting the Picture of the Mountain West Innovation Summit – Local Assets and Best Practices to Inform the National Innovation Ecosystem

Date: June 21st, Day 1

Time: 1:15pm – 2:00pm Mountain

Venue: Marian H. Rochelle Gateway Center

Room: Gateway Salons C/D

Registration: you will need to register at the venue.

On-the-ground registration for the Summit will take place in the Gateway Center Foyer.

MODERATOR

The Hon. Deborah L. Wince-Smith
President & CEO
Council on Competitiveness

PANELISTS

Dr. Edward "Ed" Seidel
President
University of Wyoming

Dr. John Wagner
Director
Idaho National Laboratory

GENERAL INFORMATION

- Press may be in the room or online. As such, please keep in mind your comments as they may be quoted.
- The Summit will be recorded and photographed – we will ask all participants to sign a simple release to use images upon registration.
- Images and audio will be used in the production of a post-Summit summary report.
- Dress code for the Summit – including the reception and dinner on the 21st – is business casual.

PROGRAM FORMAT AND DYNAMICS

The purpose of the sessions is for the moderator and panelists to catalyze a conversation that highlights key insights, observations, conclusions, and opportunities drawn from their experiences.

- Plenary panel participants – Greg Hill and John Wager – will be seated in the "main audience" – the emcee (Chad Evans) or moderator (Deborah Wince-Smith) will call you up to stage when time. In this case, to join Ed and Deborah who will already be onstage, having "opened" the Summit.
- The emcee or moderator will introduce panelists in alphabetical order by last name.
- The total time allocated to the panel is 45 minutes, including in/out time – please budget the conversation to last approximately 40 minutes.

- The plenaries are being designed as PowerPoint-free sessions.
- The moderator will open the plenary panel discussion with a brief overview of intent (2-3 minutes) and jumpstart the conversation asking pre-arranged questions to the panelists.
- In this initial round of responses, panelists should be prepared with an answer – to a question of their choice based on options outlined below in this document – and will have 3-4 minutes for their remarks. Please note, panelists should focus these intro remarks on the question proposed by the moderator, agreed to in advance.
- The moderator will steer the dialogue for the duration of the panel, posing questions to panelists and making the session a conversation – as opposed to additional "formal remarks."
- Each panelist is asked to provide very short responses to the questions in order to allow for plenty of conversation.
- The moderator will be poised to turn to the plenary audience for Q&A in the final 5-10 minutes of the panel's duration (audience members will have access to roaming microphones – and the moderator will ask audience members to identify themselves when asking a question.
- The moderator will summarize the conversation (2-3 min) and close the panel at the appointed time.
- At the conclusion of the panel, panelists are free to return to their seat in the plenary audience.

MODERATOR ROLE

- The moderator will introduce the session and frame the discussion with his or her insights regarding the session topics (2-3 minutes).
- The moderator will guide conversation, using the general questions in this guide allowing time for response and commentary from panelists.
- The moderator will not provide descriptive biographies for each speaker as speaker biographies will be in the Summit program materials.
- The moderator will be poised to turn to the plenary audience for short Q&A toward the end of the panel.
- The moderator will provide brief closing remarks (2-3 min), summarizing the overall themes of the panel discussion and/or providing relevant concluding insights at the end of the panel.

- There will either be a clock on stage – or a colleague flashing time cards – so that the moderator and panelists can be aware of general timing.

PANELISTS' ROLES

- Panelists are requested to provide a conversation-catalyzing, though-provoking, personal response to the questions posed by the moderator.
- No PowerPoint slides or other graphics will be used in the panel.
- Each panelist is asked to provide short responses to the questions in order to allow for plenty of conversation.
- If time allows for questions from the audience, the panelist should also be prepared to answer questions posed by participants and curated by the moderator.
- Panelists should not provide descriptive self-introductions, as biographies will be in the Summit program materials.
- Panelists should feel free to mention ongoing projects at their organization relevant to the conversation.
- Panelists should also feel free to raise, in the context of the moderated conversation, a relevant topic that the suggested tee-up questions may not address.
- When appropriate and when not taking away from another's "talk time," panelists are encouraged to "jump in" and create a conversational dynamic. The moderator will help to manage to keep the session on time and all panelists engaged.

PANEL SUMMARY AND KEY QUESTIONS TO ADDRESS

A moderated conversation of the Summit Co-Chairs to discuss the local "geography of innovation" – challenges and opportunities to overcome in the region and add to the nation's innovation capacity and capability – and joints goals/outcomes for the Mountain West Innovation Summit.

<<More to come>>

MODERATOR AND PANELIST BIOS

The Hon. Deborah L. Wince-Smith
President & CEO
Council on Competitiveness

Deborah L. Wince-Smith is the president & CEO of the Council on Competitiveness, a coalition of CEOs, university presidents, labor leaders and national laboratory directors, committed to driving U.S. competitiveness. She has more than 20 years of experience as a senior U.S. government official, as the first Senate-confirmed Assistant Secretary for Technology Policy in the U.S. Department of Commerce and Assistant Director for International Affairs in the Reagan White House.

As a globally recognized leader and practitioner in competitiveness strategy, innovation policy, technology commercialization, and public-private partnerships, Ms. Wince-Smith has served and is a current member on numerous national and global advisory boards and committees, as a University Trustee, and as a director on public and private corporate boards.

She has served on the University of California's President Council for the National Laboratories, the Board of Governors of Argonne National Laboratory, the US Naval Academy Foundation, the Smithsonian National Board, as a Trustee of Lehigh University, member of the Advisory Committee of the US Export-Import Bank, UNICEF, the Secretary of State's International Economic Policy Committee, as Chair of the Secretary of Commerce's Strengthening America's Communities Initiative (SACI), Chair of the World Economic Forum's Global Agenda Council on Competitiveness, member of Malaysia's Global Science and Innovation Advisory Council (GSIAC), and as a Corporate Director of NASDAQ-OMX.

Currently, Ms. Wince-Smith serves as a Commissioner on the Council on Competitiveness National Commission on Innovation and Competitiveness Frontiers, the National Commission of the Theft of American Intellectual Property, a Council Member of the Japan Science, Technology, and Society Forum (STS), as a member of the Global Advisory Committees of the Japan Science and Technology Agency (JST) and the Delphi Economic Forum (DEF), the National Academies Strategic Council on Research Excellence, Integrity, and Trust, as Vice-Chair of the Trustees of the American College of Greece (ACG), the Strategic Research Advisory Committee of the University of Oklahoma, the advisory committee of Queen's Management School, Queen's University, Belfast, and as a Director of private technology companies in medical lasers, cybersecurity, and bio-therapeutics.

Ms. Wince-Smith graduated magna cum laude and Phi Beta Kappa from Vassar College and earned a Master's Degree in Classical Archaeology from King's College, Cambridge University. She received an Honorary Doctorate in Humanities from Michigan State University, an Honorary Doctorate of Public Administration from the University of Toledo, an Honorary Doctorate of Law honoris causa from the Queens University Belfast, an Honorary Doctorate of Humane Letters honoris causa from Worcester Polytechnic Institute and, most recently, an Honorary Doctorate of Public Service from the University of South Carolina.

Dr. Edward "Ed" Seidel
President
University of Wyoming

Edward Seidel is the 28th President of the University of Wyoming. He is a distinguished academic known internationally for scientific excellence, bold vision and dynamic and collegial leadership with a track record of advancing scientific research, technology development and economic progress at the university, state, and national levels. A seasoned administrator, he has developed and overseen transformative academic, research, and innovation programs at multiple universities (LSU, Skoltech, Illinois, Wyoming), research institutes (Albert Einstein Institute), and at NSF.

Seidel is a fellow of the American Physical Society and the American Association for the Advancement of Science, and has earned international awards for his work in physics, computational science, and economic development, including the 2006 IEEE Sidney Fernbach Award (computational physics), the Association for Computing Machinery's 2001 Gordon Bell prize (computer science), the 1998 Heinz Billing Prize of the Max Planck Society (numerical relativity and collaborative software), and the 2018 Business Leadership Award of the America-Israel Chamber of Commerce (economic development).

Dr. John Wagner
Director
Idaho National Laboratory

Dr. John C. Wagner is the laboratory director for Idaho National Laboratory. His previous roles included Associate Laboratory Director of INL's Nuclear Science & Technology (NS&T) Directorate, director of Domestic Programs in NS&T as well as director of the Technical Integration Office for the DOE-NE Light Water Reactor Sustainability Program at INL. Wagner initially joined INL as the chief scientist at the Materials and Fuels Complex in 2016. He has more than 20 years of experience performing research, and managing and leading research and development projects, programs and organizations.

Wagner received a B.S. in nuclear engineering from the Missouri University of Science and Technology in 1992, and M.S. and Ph.D. degrees from the Pennsylvania State University in 1994 and 1997, respectively. Following graduate school, Wagner joined Holtec International as a principal engineer, performing criticality safety analyses and licensing activities for spent fuel storage pools and storage and transportation casks. Wagner joined the Oak Ridge National Laboratory (ORNL) as an R&D staff member in 1999, performing research in the areas of hybrid (Monte Carlo/deterministic) radiation transport methods, burnup credit criticality safety, and spent nuclear fuel characterization and safety.

While at ORNL, Wagner held various technical leadership positions, including technical lead for postclosure criticality in support of DOE OCRWM's Lead Laboratory for Repository Systems, Radiation Transport Methods Deputy Focus Area lead for the Consortium for Advanced Simulation of Light Water Reactors (CASL), and national technical director of the DOE Office of Nuclear Energy's Nuclear Fuels Storage and Transportation Planning Project. Wagner also held various management positions, including group leader for the Criticality and Shielding Methods and Applications, Radiation Transport, and Used Fuel Systems groups.

In 2014, Wagner became director of the Reactor and Nuclear Systems Division (RNSD), with responsibility for management direction and leadership to focus and integrate the seven RNSD R&D groups (Advanced Reactor Systems and Safety, Nuclear Data and Criticality Safety, Nuclear Security Modeling, Radiation Transport, Reactor Physics, Thermal Hydraulics and Irradiation Engineering, and Used Fuel Systems) and the Radiation Safety Information Computational Center.

Wagner is a Fellow of the American Nuclear Society and recipient of the 2013 E.O. Lawrence Award. He has authored or co-authored more than 170 refereed journal and conference articles, technical reports, and conference summaries. He was the original developer of the A3MCNP and ADVANTG codes and led the development of the CADIS and Forward-Weighted CADIS hybrid transport methods.