



National Commission on Innovation & Competitiveness Frontiers
Mountain West Innovation Summit

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

Summit Keynote – Day 1

Date: June 21, 2022

Time: 6:30pm – 6:45pm Mountain

Venue: Marian H. Rochelle Gateway Center

Room: Gateway Salons C/D

INTRODUCTION

Dr. Edward “Ed” Seidel
President
University of Wyoming

KEYNOTE

Governor Mark Gordon
Governor of Wyoming

GENERAL INFORMATION

- Press may be in the room. 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 keynote is for the special guest speaker to share evocative, provocative, educational remarks – aligned to the themes of the Mountain West Innovation Summit, as well as the Council on Competitiveness “[National Commission on Innovation and Competitiveness Frontiers](#)” – to enlighten and inspire Summit participants as they will spend two days in plenary and in breakout groups generating potential policy recommendations for the region and the nation to advance innovation capacity and capability.

- Keynote speakers can sit in the “main audience” – the emcee or “introducer” will call you up to stage when time.
- The total time allocated to the evening keynote speech is 15-20 minutes at the onset of dinner – but there is flexibility.
- The Summit is being designed as mostly-PowerPoint-free event. HOWEVER, we are making an exception for keynote presenters. OUR ASK – if you will use a PowerPoint, please email to Chad Evans and Yasmin Hilpert (cevans@compete.org; yhilpert@compete.org) 24 hours in advance to pre-load and test; AND to bring a back-up on a jump drive.
- Should the keynoter be amenable, the “introducer” or emcee will be poised to return to stage and manage a short Q&A session with the keynoter and the plenary audience for 5-10 minutes (audience members will have access to roaming microphones – and the “introducer”/emcee will ask audience members to identify themselves when asking a question).
- At the conclusion of the session, the “introducer”/emcee will thank the keynoter – and at that point, the keynoter is free to return to their seat in the plenary audience.

KEYNOTERS' ROLES

- The keynoter is requested to provide a conversation-catalyzing, though-provoking, personal response to the themes of the Mountain West Innovation Summit and the Council on Competitiveness “[National Commission on Innovation and Competitiveness Frontiers](#).”
- PowerPoint slides or other graphics may be used – please see above about transmission of slides in advance of the Summit.
- The Summit organizers request the keynoter to **provide by Monday, June 13th a title/general theme** of remarks.
- If time allows for questions from the audience, and the keynoter is amenable, the keynoter should also be prepared to answer questions posed by participants and curated by the moderator. **Please advise by Monday, June 13th if amenable to Q&A.**
- A biography of the keynoter will be provided in the Summit program materials.

KEYNOTER BIO



Governor Mark Gordon Governor of Wyoming

Mark Gordon grew up on the family ranch in Wyoming where he learned the values of hard work and integrity and the importance of working together. As Governor, he brings those values to the table and his commitment to ensuring that Wyoming must always be a place where its citizens can pursue their dreams while retaining its unique character. He is a strong believer that Wyoming must chart its own course and he is a steadfast defender of its interests to do so.

As a conservative, Governor Gordon has worked tirelessly to set Wyoming on a sustainable fiscal path. He is committed to making government more transparent, accessible, productive and efficient. He believes government is best when it is closest to the people and is committed to giving local communities the tools they need to thrive. He is a staunch advocate of quality education for all children from bottom to top, K-12 through all forms of post-secondary education, private and public.

Governor Gordon served as Wyoming State Treasurer from October 2012 until January 2019 when he was sworn in as Governor. In his time in office, he transformed and modernized the management of the state's financial portfolio. This work was recognized when the Peterson Institute ranked Wyoming number one in the United States and third in the world among all sovereign funds.

Elected Governor in 2018, he has successfully led his state through two of its most significant challenges in decades: the COVID crisis and the largest decline in mineral revenue in the state's history. He has spearheaded efforts to diversify Wyoming's economy in technology, finance, agriculture, energy, research, education, tourism, carbon capture and sequestration as well as making it an exceptional place to raise kids.

Governor Gordon and his wife Jennie have four grown children, Anne, Aaron with wife Megan, Bea with husband Austen, and Spencer with wife Sarah, their son Everett, and just recently, twin daughters Violet and Eloise.