



National Commission on Innovation & Competitiveness Frontiers
Mountain West Innovation Summit

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

**The Future of Partnerships between Industry,
Academia, the National Laboratories, and Critical
Stakeholders**

Date: June 22, 2022

Time: 2:00pm-2:30pm Mountain

Venue: Marian H. Rochelle Gateway Center

Room: Gateway Salons C/D - plenary

Registration: On-the-ground registration and photo release signing for the Summit will take place in the Gateway Center foyer.

INTRODUCTION

Dr. Edward "Ed" Seidel
President
University of Wyoming

"FUTURE OF PARTNERSHIPS" SPEAKERS

Dr. Parag Chitnis
Vice President for Research and Economic Development
University of Wyoming

Dr. Marianne Walck
Deputy Laboratory Director for Science and Technology and Chief Research Officer
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 “FUTURE OF...” sessions is for key sectoral leaders/experts to provide a TED-talk style presentation on a cutting-edge topic. Think: 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.

- “FUTURE OF...” speakers can sit in the “main audience” – the emcee or will call you up to stage when time.
- **The total time allocated to each “FUTURE OF...” speaker is 8 minutes maximum, like a TED talk. Each “theme” will have 2 speakers in a 30-minute window to provide cushion.**
- The Summit is being designed as mostly-PowerPoint-free event. HOWEVER, we are making an exception for “FUTURE OF...” speakers. 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.**
- There will be no Q&A with the audience – unless there is time available – at the discretion of the emcee. Should there be time, the emcee will be poised to return to stage and manage a short Q&A session with the “FUTURE OF...” speakers and the plenary audience for remaining minutes in the session (audience members will have access to roaming microphones – and the emcee would ask audience members to identify themselves when asking a question).
- At the conclusion of the session, the “introducer”/emcee will thank the “FUTURE OF...” speakers – and at that point, they are free to return to their seats in the plenary audience.

KEYNOTERS' ROLES

- The “FUTURE OF...” speaker is requested to provide an 8-minute maximum, thought-provoking, personal/organizational response to the proposed session theme – as well as 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.
- A biography of the keynoter will be provided in the Summit program materials.

SPEAKER BIOS



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. Parag Chitnis

Vice President for Research and Economic Development
University of Wyoming

Dr. Chitnis is the recently appointed vice president for research and economic development at the University of Wyoming. From 2014 until coming to UW, Chitnis was a leader at U.S. Department of Agriculture's National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA) from 2014 to 2022, holding positions including associate director; acting director; deputy director of food production and sustainability; and associate director for operations.



Dr. Marianne Walck

Deputy Laboratory Director for Science and Technology and
Chief Research Officer
Idaho National Laboratory

Dr. Marianne Walck provides strategic leadership, direction and integration for research, science and technology at INL in her roles as deputy lab director for Science and Technology and chief research officer. She leads INL's Laboratory Directed Research and Development program, directs INL's interactions with DOE's Office of Science, and oversees INL's strategic interactions with universities. Walck joined INL in 2019. She has more than 30 years of DOE national laboratory technical leadership experience, including technical program leadership, research leadership, and line, personnel and site management. Her prior experience includes 33 years at Sandia National Laboratories, concluding as vice president for both SNL's California laboratory and its Energy and Climate Program. Walck serves on several advisory boards for universities, national laboratories and technical institutes, including the Texas A&M Energy Institute and the U.S. Women in Nuclear Executive Advisory Council. Walck was named one of the Top 100 Women in Energy by the National Diversity Council in 2021. She is also vice chair of the State of Idaho Higher Education Research Council and is a past chair of the National Laboratory Chief Research Officers. She earned doctorate and master's degrees in geophysics from California Institute of Technology and a bachelor's degree in geology/physics from Hope College. She holds memberships in the American Geophysical Union, the Seismological Society of America, the Association for Women Geoscientists, the American Nuclear Society, Women in Nuclear, and the American Association for the Advancement of Science.