



Association of International Education Administrators
Leaders in International Higher Education

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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AIEA Recognizes Dr. Hans de Wit with 2019 Charles Klasek Award for Outstanding Service to the Field of International Higher Education

San Francisco, CA (January 22, 2019)—The Association of International Education Administrators (AIEA) is pleased to name Dr. Hans de Wit, director of the Boston College Center for International Higher Education, as the 2019 Charles Klasek Award honoree. The award recognizes De Wit's work as a scholar and researcher, educator and mentor, senior administrator and advisor, organizer and advocate within the field of International Education.

In addition to his achievements at Southern Illinois University at Carbondale, "Chuck" Klasek was a founding member and the third president of AIEA. Conceived as a tribute to Klasek's outstanding contributions both to AIEA and to the field of International Higher Education, the Klasek Award is presented each year at AIEA's annual conference to individuals with a record of long-standing and exceptional service to the field.

Hans de Wit is considered one of the "founding fathers" of the field of study focused on internationalization of higher education. His book *Internationalisation of Higher Education in the United States of America and Europe: A Historical, Comparative and Conceptual Analysis* (2002) influenced a generation of researchers in the field, while the journal he established—*The Journal of Studies in International Education* (JSIE)—is widely recognized as the top source of peer-reviewed scholarly research on internationalization in higher education.

De Wit worked (along with Darla Deardorff, John Heyl, and Tony Adams) on the highly-cited *SAGE Handbook of International Higher Education* (2012) and led the editorial team for the European Parliament report, *Internationalisation of Higher Education* (2015). His publications over the last 20 years include books, book chapters, articles, reports, blogs and commentaries. In 2014, he was named one of the top two international education "provocateurs" globally on a list compiled by John Heyl, based on an informal survey of AIEA members. De Wit strives to connect his intellectual work around internationalization to "real world" matters of policy and practice, an approach he credits to his experience as a senior administrator and SIO at the University of Amsterdam and University of Tilburg in the Netherlands, as well as his extensive experience as an advisor and consultant.



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In addition to advancing his own research, De Wit has supported new talent moving into the field, provided advice and encouragement for professional development and career advancement to students as well as early-career scholars and practitioners. He has helped establish a program of doctoral studies at the Centre for Higher Education Internationalisation at the Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore in Milan, successfully launched innovative master's and certificate programs in international higher education at Boston College, and continued to support junior visiting scholars at CIHE.

Hans de Wit is a founding member of the European Association for International Education, where he also served a term as president. He has served (and currently serves) on a multitude of international advisory boards around the world where he is consistently credited with providing insightful, constructive, and frank advice. He is member of the AIEA Strategic Planning Task Force.

About AIEA:

The Association of International Education Administrators (AIEA), a membership organization formed in November 1982, is composed of institutional leaders engaged in advancing the international dimensions of higher education. The purposes of the Association are to:

- Provide an effective voice on significant issues within international education at all levels,
- Improve and promote international education programming and administration within institutions of higher education,
- Establish and maintain a professional network among international education institutional leaders,
- Cooperate in appropriate ways with other national and international groups having similar interests.

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