

# Curriculum as a Collaborative Space: How to Organize Catalytic and Effective SIO-Faculty Collaborations on Curricula

April 6, 9, 13, 16, 2021 (1:00-4:00 PM Eastern)  
Northern Arizona University  
Zoom Virtual Platform

The recent calamities faced by all have surfaced unprecedented challenges for the field of international education. It seems, then, an opportune time to explore more powerful ways for SIOs and their Centers to move from the academic periphery to the heart of higher education—the curriculum. Key to working with curriculum is to work effectively and collaboratively with faculty.

This interactive Forum will focus on the details of proven, practical, and highly collaborative strategies for working with faculty on curriculum at the institutional, program/major, and course levels

to globalize learning experiences for our students. Participants will explore new ways to engage with faculty and academic units for curricular change based upon successful case examples, including innovative and catalytic frameworks adapted from both community organizing theory and practice and dynamic systems theory, creative uses of technology, international dimensions of working with faculty, and effective ways to move beyond study abroad.

Together, we will explore in detail:

- proven and successful strategies, practices, and key pedagogies for working with faculty to effectively create new and modify existing curricula;
- how to foster deep collaborations with faculty for co-creative and empowering curriculum based upon innovative frameworks new to global learning;
- powerful ways to shift the International Center from support services to become a key collaborator at the core of the academy;
- how International Centers can serve as a key node for curricular collaborative transformation and globalization;
- how to initiate and develop an ongoing discussion among SIOs, Center staff, and global educators on these issues to continue to expand the reach and influence of these perspectives.

## Forum Speakers

**Darla Deardorff** – Executive Director, Association of International Education Administrators, and Duke University

**Harvey Charles**– Professor of International Education, University at Albany - State University of New York

**Mohamed Abdel-Kader** – Executive Director of the Stevens Initiative, The Aspen Institute

**Ji (Annie) Zhang** – Schwarzman Scholars Program, Tsinghua University

**Brenda Garcia Portillo** – Directora de Proyectos de Internacionalización and Dirección de Programas Internacionales, Universidad de Monterrey

**Eric Hartman**– Executive Director of the Center for Peace and Global Citizenship, Haverford College

**Brent T. White**– Vice Provost for Global Affairs and Dean of Global Campuses, University of Arizona

**Angela Miller** – Director of Education Abroad, Case Western Reserve University

**Bryan McAllister-Grande** – Assistant Director for Curriculum Integration, Northeastern University

**Daniel Palm** – Vice President for Global Initiatives, Northern Arizona University

**JY Zhou** – Director of Global Engagement, Stockton University

**Blase Scarnati** – Director of Global Learning and Professor in the School of Music, Northern Arizona University

**Tracye Moore** – Chair, Dental Hygiene Department, Northern Arizona University

**Melissa Armstrong** – Director, International Global Programs, Center for International Education

**Benning Tieke** – Lecturer, Global Languages and Programs, Northern Arizona University

***Registration is FREE for all AIEA institutions and members.***

**All SIOs, faculty members, leaders, staff, and others are welcome!**

Visit Northern Arizona University's [website](#) for more information!

**For more information, please contact [Blase.Scarnati@nau.edu](mailto:Blase.Scarnati@nau.edu)**



# Curriculum as a Collaborative Space: How to Organize Catalytic and Effective SIO-Faculty Collaborations on Curricula

An AIEA Thematic Forum

**Zoom Virtual Conference**  
**Northern Arizona University**  
**April 6, 9, 13, 16, 2021 (1:00-4:00 PM Eastern)**

The recent calamities faced by all have surfaced unprecedented challenges for the field of international education. It seems, then, an opportune time to explore more powerful ways for SIOs and their Centers to move from the academic periphery to the heart of higher education—the curriculum. Key to working with curriculum is to work effectively and collaboratively with faculty.

This interactive Forum will focus on the details of proven, practical, and highly collaborative strategies for working with faculty on curriculum at the institutional, program/major, and course levels to globalize learning experiences for our students. Participants will explore new ways to engage with faculty and academic units for curricular change based upon successful case examples, including innovative and catalytic frameworks adapted from both community organizing theory and practice and dynamic systems theory, creative uses of technology, international dimensions of working with faculty, and effective ways to move beyond study abroad.

For more information, please contact [Blase.Scarnati@nau.edu](mailto:Blase.Scarnati@nau.edu)



**All SIOs, faculty members, leaders, staff, and others are welcome!**

Together, we will explore in detail:

- proven and successful strategies, practices, and key pedagogies for working with faculty to effectively create new and modify existing curricula;
- how to foster deep collaborations with faculty for co-creative and empowering curriculum based upon innovative frameworks new to global learning;
- powerful ways to shift the International Center from support services to become a key collaborator at the core of the academy;
- how International Centers can serve as a key node for curricular collaborative transformation and globalization;
- how to initiate and develop an ongoing discussion among SIOs, Center staff, and global educators on these issues to continue to expand the reach and influence of these perspectives.

**Registration is FREE for all AIEA institutions and members.**

## **AIEA Thematic Forum Report**

### **“Curriculum as a Collaborative Space: How to Organize Catalytic and Effective SIO-Faculty Collaborations on Curricula”**

#### **Hosted by the Center for International Education at Northern Arizona University**

Organized by Blase Scarnati (Director of Global Learning and Professor in the School of Music, Northern Arizona University) and JY Zhou (Director of Global Engagement and SIO, Stockton University)

#### Zoom Virtual Meetings

Tuesdays and Fridays: April 6, 9, 13, 16, 2021

1:00-4:00 PM Eastern / 10:00-1:00 PM Pacific

#### ***Brief description of the Forum***

The recent calamities faced by all surfaced unprecedented challenges for the field of international education. It seemed, then, an opportune time to explore more powerful ways for SIOs and their Centers to move from the academic periphery to the heart of higher education—the curriculum. Key to working with curriculum is to work effectively and collaboratively with faculty.

This interactive Forum focused on the details of proven, practical, and highly collaborative strategies for working with faculty on curriculum at the institutional, program/major, and course levels to globalize learning experiences for our students, especially in these challenging times. Participants explored new ways to engage with faculty and academic units for deep curricular change based upon successful case examples, including innovative and catalytic frameworks adapted from both community organizing theory and practice and dynamic systems theory, creative uses of technology, international dimensions of working with faculty, and effective ways to move beyond study abroad.

Together, we explored in detail:

- proven and successful strategies, practices, and key pedagogies for working with faculty to effectively create new and modify existing curricula;
- how to foster deep collaborations with faculty for co-creative and empowering curriculum based upon innovative frameworks new to global learning;
- powerful ways to shift the International Center from support services to become a key collaborator at the core of the academy;

- how International Centers can serve as a key node for curricular collaborative transformation and globalization; and
- how to initiate and develop an ongoing discussion among SIOs, Center staff, and global educators on these issues to continue to expand the reach and influence of these perspectives.

### ***Registration fee for Forum***

Free for all AIEA member institution SIOs, staff, faculty, and graduate students or AIEA members

Non-AIEA institutions/members - \$35 fee

### ***Information on Forum attendees***

Total number of registrants – 126

AIEA member institutions/members – 121

96% of Forum registrants were AIEA member institution SIOs, staff, faculty, and graduate students or AIEA members

SIOs registered – 88

70% of Forum registrants were SIOs

First time attending a Forum – 80

63% of Forum registrants were attending their first Forum

International registrants – 11

Registrants from Azerbaijan (2), Canada (3), China (1), Columbia (1), Italy (1), and Mexico (3)

## ***Forum Schedule Overview***

### **Tuesday, April 6, 2021**

**1:00 - 2:00 PM Eastern / 10:00 - 11:00 AM Pacific**

#### **Welcoming Remarks and Introductions**

Daniel Palm, Vice President for Global Affairs, Northern Arizona University

Blase Scarnati, Director of Global Learning and Professor in the School of Music, Northern Arizona University

### **Session I: Framing the Conversation – Building Effective Faculty Collaborations for Curriculum Change through the Loop Spiral Process**

*Powerful ways to collaborate with faculty through the Loop Spiral Process for Curricular Change – based in community organizing and dynamic systems strategies, methods, and pedagogies – to build successful faculty collaborations to further develop internationalized curricula.*

Blase Scarnati, Director of Global Learning and Professor in the School of Music, Northern Arizona University

JY Zhou, Director of Global Engagement and SIO, Stockton University

**2:00 - 2:30 PM Eastern / 11:00 - 11:30 AM Pacific**

***Q&A and Small Group Discussions***

**2:30 - 3:30 PM Eastern / 11:30 AM - 12:30 PM Pacific**

### **Session II: Moving Forward in International Education**

*Innovative trends and opportunities for what an internationalized curriculum can become.*

Darla K. Deardorff, Executive Director, Association of International Education

Administrators and Duke University

Harvey Charles, Professor of International Education, University at Albany - State University of New York

Daniel Palm, Vice President for Global Affairs, Northern Arizona University

UNIVERSITY AT ALBANY  
State University of New York

## The Imperative as an Int'l Educator to Lead in Anti-Racism & Social Justice

- Do the "Inner Work"
  - Educate Yourself on Matters of Race
  - Take the Lead to Advocate for Anti-Racism
  - Hold Your Friends and Family Accountable
  - Learn With Humility
  - Support the Work, Art and Business of BIPOC
  - Use Your Power to Empower BIPOCs
  - Engage With Organizations that Support Racial Justice

01:12 / 28:47

Harvey Charles

*Presentation by Harvey Charles (Professor of International Education, University at Albany - State University of New York).*

**3:30 - 4:00 PM Eastern / 12:30 - 1:00 PM Pacific**  
***Q&A and Small Group Discussions***

**Friday, April 9, 2021**

**1:00 - 2:00 PM Eastern / 10:00 - 11:00 AM Pacific**

**Session III: Collaborating with Faculty at the Course and Program Levels –  
A Global Perspective**

*What an internalized curriculum is and can become in various global contexts.*

Ji (Annie) Zhang, Schwarzman Scholars Program, Tsinghua University

Brenda Garcia Portillo, Directora de Proyectos de Internacionalización and Dirección de  
Programas Internacionales, Universidad de Monterrey

Brent T. White, Vice Provost and Dean, Arizona Global, University of Arizona

**2:00 - 2:30 PM Eastern / 11:00 - 11:30 AM Pacific**

***Q&A and Small Group Discussions***



*Presentation by Darla K. Deardorff (Executive Director, Association of International Education Administrators and Duke University)*

**2:30 - 3:30 PM Eastern / 11:30 AM - 12:30 PM Pacific**

**Session IV: Collaborating with Faculty at the Course and Program Levels – Education Abroad and Beyond**

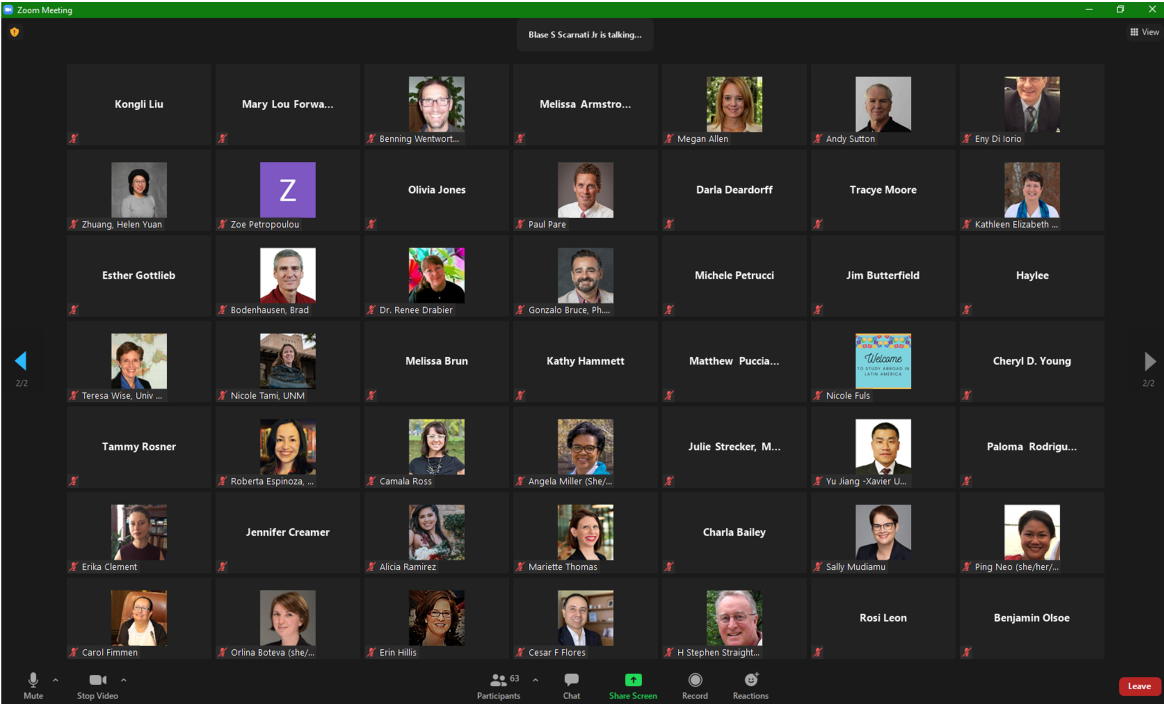
*Innovative approaches to education abroad programming and curriculum.*

Bryan McAllister-Grande, Director of Academic Integration and Planning, Northeastern University

Melissa Armstrong, Director, Interdisciplinary Global Programs, Center for International Education and Benning Tieke, Senior Lecturer, Global Languages and Cultures, Northern Arizona University

**3:30 - 4:00 PM Eastern / 12:30 - 1:00 PM Pacific**

**Q&A and Small Group Discussions**



Screen shot of sub-set of one session's attendees.



## **Tuesday, April 13, 2021**

**1:00 - 2:00 PM Eastern / 10:00 - 11:00 AM Pacific**

**Session V: Collaborating with Faculty at the Course and Program Levels – Community-Based Education Abroad**

*Innovative approaches to community-based education abroad programming and curriculum.*

Eric Hartman, Executive Director of the Center for Peace and Global Citizenship, Haverford College

Tracye Moore, Chair, Dental Hygiene Department, Northern Arizona University

**2:00 - 2:30 PM Eastern / 11:00 - 11:30 AM Pacific**

***Q&A and Small Group Discussions***

**2:30 - 3:30 PM Eastern / 11:30 AM - 12:30 PM Pacific**

**Session VI: Collaborating with Faculty – Virtual Exchange**

*Innovative use of technology for deep collaborative global learning.*

Mohamed Abdel-Kader, Executive Director of the Stevens Initiative, The Aspen Institute

Mary Lou Forward, Executive Director, SUNY Center for Collaborative Online International Learning (COIL)

**3:30 - 4:00 PM Eastern / 12:30 - 1:00 PM Pacific**

***Q&A and Small Group Discussions***

## **Friday, April 16, 2021**

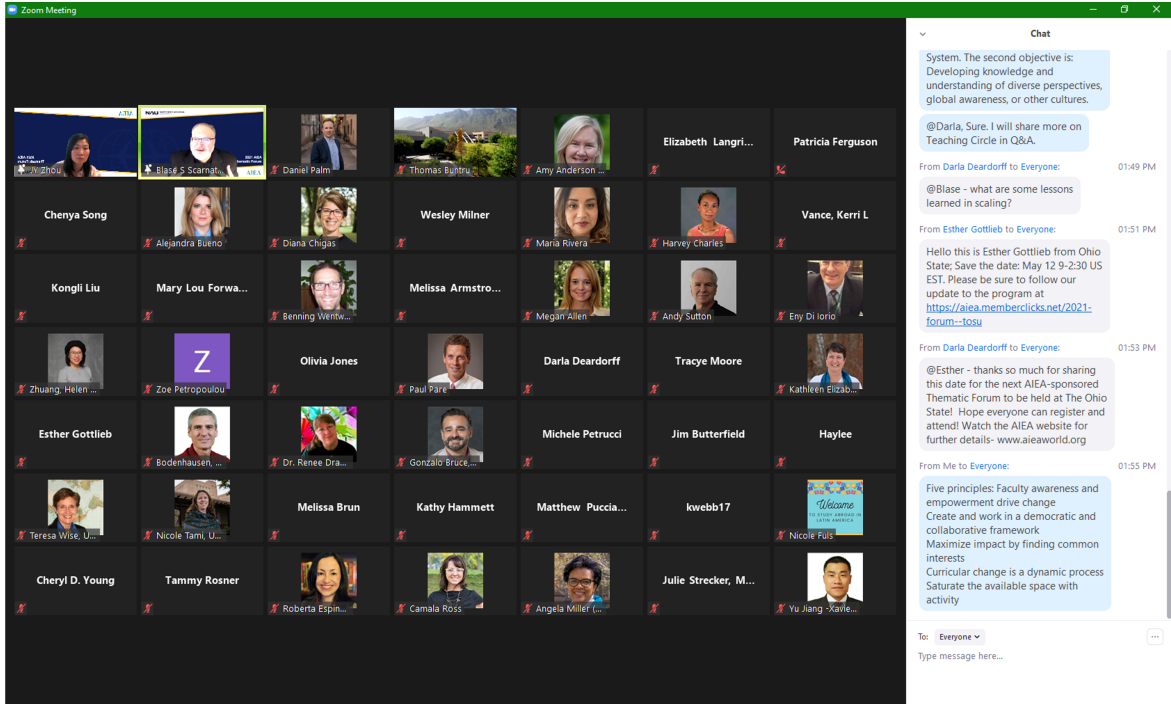
**1:00 - 2:30 PM Eastern / 10:00 - 11:30 AM Pacific**

**Workshop I: Developing a Plan to Engage Faculty and Curriculum through the Loop Spiral Process – Activities with Small Group Discussions**

*Workshop session to develop tangible plans to collaborate with faculty on participants' home campuses to bring about catalytic internationalized curriculum.*

Blase Scarnati, Director of Global Learning, Center for International Education and Professor, School of Music, Northern Arizona University

JY Zhou, Director of Global Engagement and SIO, Stockton University



*Presentation by Blase Scarnati (Director of Global Learning and Professor in the School of Music, Northern Arizona University) and JY Zhou (Director of Global Engagement and SIO, Stockton University), screen shot of p. 1 participants only.*

**2:30-3:30 PM Eastern / 11:30 AM - 12:30 PM Pacific**

**Workshop II: Developing a Plan to Engage Faculty and Curriculum through the Loop Spiral Process – Sharing and Group Discussion**

*Group feedback on individual plans to collaborate with faculty to deeply internationalize their curricula.*

Blase Scarnati, Director of Global Learning, Center for International Education and Professor, School of Music, Northern Arizona University

JY Zhou, Director of Global Engagement and SIO, Stockton University

**3:30-4:00 PM Eastern / 12:30 - 1:00 PM Pacific**

**Forum wrap up discussion and Forum evaluation**

*Concluding thoughts from Forum participants and assessing the experience.*

Blase Scarnati, Director of Global Learning, Center for International Education and Professor, School of Music, Northern Arizona University

## ***2021 AIEA Thematic Forum Speakers***



**Mohamed Abdel-Kader** is Executive Director of the Stevens Initiative at the Aspen Institute. He previously served in the administration of President Barack Obama as Deputy Assistant Secretary for International and Foreign Language Education at the US Department of Education's Office of Postsecondary Education. He served as the Director of Development for the Edmund A. Walsh School of Foreign Service at Georgetown University and managed the university's advancement strategy in the Middle East. Previously, he developed international partnerships and led donor development efforts at George Mason University. Mohamed is a Truman National Security Fellow and a trustee of the Longview Foundation for International Education & World Affairs.



**Melissa Armstrong** has served as the Director of the award-winning Interdisciplinary Global Programs at Northern Arizona University for nine years. Melissa's career has been dedicated to promoting diversity and inclusion in global learning experiences and in the ecology profession through systemic changes (and challenges) that enable diversity to thrive within mainstream structures. Melissa holds a Master's degree in Ecology, a bachelor's degree in Environmental Science and will receive a second bachelor's degree in Spanish from NAU in May 2021.



**Harvey Charles** is currently Professor of International Education at the University at Albany, SUNY. He has served as Senior International Officer at a number of institutions around the US, including Georgia Institute of Technology, Northern Arizona University, San Francisco State University and the University at Albany. Charles has been actively engaged in the field of international education and served as President of the Association of International Education

Administrators, the leading association worldwide for university leaders of international higher education. Apart from his deep administrative experience, Charles has published on issues including leadership in international higher education, internationalizing the curriculum and comprehensive internationalization. He serves on a number of boards, frequently consults and gives addresses on international education issues in the US and around the world.



**Darla K. Deardorff** is Executive Director of the Association of International Education Administrators (AIEA). In addition, she is a research scholar at Duke University's Social Science Research Institute and as a research associate at Nelson Mandel University (S. Africa), Meiji University (Japan), Shanghai International Studies University (China) and adjunct faculty at North Carolina State University. She is on the faculty of Harvard University's Global Education Think Tank, and has served as faculty for Harvard's Future of Learning Institute as well as the Summer Institute of Intercultural Communication in Portland, OR. She is the author/editor of seven books and over fifty book chapters and articles. Her publications include *The Sage Handbook of Intercultural Competence* (Sage, 2009), [\*Sage Handbook of\*](#)

[\*International Higher Education\*](#), (Sage, 2012) *Building Cultural Competence* (Stylus, 2012), *Demystifying Outcome Assessment for International Educators* (Stylus 2015), and *Intercultural Competence in Higher Education: International Approaches, Assessment and Application* (Routledge, 2017).



**Mary Lou Forward** serves as the Executive Director of the SUNY Center for Collaborative Online International Learning (COIL) and as the Executive Director of the Open Education Consortium since 2009. The Open Education Consortium is a worldwide community of hundreds of higher education institutions and associated organizations committed to advancing open education and its impact on teaching and learning. Prior to joining the Open Education Consortium, Mary Lou served as the Dean of African studies for SIT Study Abroad, working with institutions across Africa for nearly two decades. During this time she incorporated technology and distance learning in international educational programming and developed opportunities to collaborate across countries and between diverse student and faculty groups. Mary Lou has also served in other faculty and educational administration roles, including teaching Environmental Studies in Madagascar.



**Brenda Ivonne García Portillo** is Director of Internationalization Projects at Universidad de Monterrey. Previously she was Coordinator of Study Abroad. During her term, UDEM became the Mexican university with the highest study abroad participation rate. She also served as an associate professor in the Department of Humanities and has been working in international education for about 17 years. Currently her main responsibility is the development of the Intercultural Competencies Program at UDEM as well as Internationalization at Home projects such as COIL initiatives. She also does research on international learning outcomes and assessment. She has been an active member of AMPEI, the Mexican Association for International Education, in 2001 she served as the Coordinator from the Northeast Chapter. She holds a M.A. in Education and a B.A. in International Studies, both from Universidad de Monterrey and she is currently taking the Certificate Program in Intercultural Studies from University of British Columbia in Canada. She was also a founding member and part of the board of SIETAR Mexico.



**Eric Hartman** has dedicated his career to improving the ways in which educational institutions contribute to just, inclusive, and sustainable communities. He serves as Executive Director of the Haverford College Center for Peace and Global Citizenship and writes a regular column on global issues and local opportunities for learning and action for [Generocity Philly](#). His most recent peer-reviewed publication is [Coloniality-Decoloniality and Critical Global Citizenship: Identity, Belonging, and Education Abroad](#) in *Frontiers: The Interdisciplinary Journal of Study Abroad*. Hartman is lead author of [Community-Based Global Learning: The Theory and Practice of Ethical Engagement at Home and Abroad](#) (2018). He co-founded both [The Community-based Global Learning Collaborative](#) and the global engagement survey ([GES](#)), initiatives that advance ethical, critical, aspirationally decolonial community-based global learning.



**Bryan McAllister-Grande** is Director of Academic Integration and Planning at Northeastern University's Global Experience Office. He works on global learning initiatives, assessment, and the development of new, integrated programs. Bryan earned his Ed.D. and Ed.M. degrees from the Harvard Graduate School of Education and has twice served on the NAFSA Teaching, Learning, and Scholarship Leadership Team. He is the author, with Melissa Whatley, of *International Higher Education Research: The State of the Field* (2020).



**Tracye A. Moore** is the first African American Department Chair of the Department of Dental Hygiene at Northern Arizona University. She developed a concurrent enrollment program for dental hygiene students in collaboration with community colleges in Phoenix, AZ and established the NAU dental hygiene facility as an official Western Regional Examination Board site for student anesthesia and clinical testing. She is currently a Trustee and Past President of the National Dental Hygienists' Association, a member of New Era Dental Society, the American Dental Hygienists' Association, Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority, Inc. She is active in various community, civic, and church organizations, advisor for the NAU undergraduate chapter of Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority, Inc., and serves as a mentor and role model for minority dental hygiene students. Her numerous publications include a book chapter about Minority Women in Educational Leadership, articles in *Dimensions of Dental Hygiene Magazine*, a book chapter titled *Teledentistry and Dental Hygiene*, and a children's book *I Want to be a Dental High Genius*.



**Daniel Palm** is the Associate Vice President for Global Affairs and Senior Advisor for Regional Initiatives at Northern Arizona University. Mr. Palm continues to be a strong advocate for access to international opportunities for underrepresented students, internationalization of campus curricula to infuse themes of sustainability, diversity and global engagement and establishing collaborative and innovative partnerships around the globe. He is a 2020 Flinn-Brown Fellow and in February 2019, he was appointed by Arizona Governor Doug Ducey to the Board of Directors of the Arizona-Mexico Commission, a cross-border organization with a mission to improve the economic prosperity and quality of life for all Arizonans through strong, public/private collaborations. Palm holds an M.A. in Leading Innovation and Change from York St. John University, York, England and a B.A. in History from Northern Arizona University. He is a proficient speaker in Mandarin Chinese and lived in Beijing, China for nearly five years, two of which he engaged in research and study at Beijing International Studies University.



**Blase Scarnati** is Director of Global Learning in the Center for International Education and Professor of Musicology in the School of Music at Northern Arizona University. He publishes and presents on faculty collaboration, global learning curriculum, and civic engagement. Scarnati was a co-creator of the Global Learning Initiative at NAU, an across-the-curriculum internationalization effort based in all undergraduate programs, which significantly contributed to NAU receiving the Senator Paul Simon Award for Campus Internationalization in 2012. He was also the founding Director of the First Year Seminar-Action Research Team Program at NAU, which became one of the largest civic agency and community engagement programs in the country and was featured at the Obama White House in 2012. Scarnati has published in the *Bringing Theory to Practice-AAC&U Civic Series*, *Higher Education Exchange*, *Academic Leader*, *Teacher-Scholar*, *Diversity & Democracy*, the Kettering Foundation Working Paper Series, and the *Huffington Post* among others.



**Benning Wentworth Tieke** is a Senior Lecturer of Spanish with the department of Global Languages and Cultures at Northern Arizona University. He is also the Faculty Coordinator for the NAU Interdisciplinary Global Programs, an award-winning dual degree program focused on language and culture immersion through fieldwork practices abroad. His research interests include educational technology, study abroad, and cross-cultural development.





**Brent White** is Vice Provost for Global Affairs, Dean of Global Locations, and a Professor of Law at the University of Arizona. In these roles, Brent leads international programs and activities at the university, including study abroad programs, international student admissions, and support for international students and faculty. He also leads Arizona's Global Microcampus Network, which includes 691 global locations and everywhere online access to UA degrees and courses. Brent previously served as Vice Provost for International Education, as well as Associate Dean for

Programs and Global Initiatives at the James E. Rogers College of Law, where Brent led the development of the nation's first Bachelor of Arts in Law. Brent is a scholar of law and development and property law. His work has been featured in the *New York Times*, the *Wall Street Journal*, NPR, and *60 Minutes*.



**Ji (Annie) Zhang** is the Assistant Dean of Schwarzman College at Tsinghua University. She is active in both AIEA and NAFSA and has presented on issues of Campus Internationalization and Global Competence Development in higher education. She joined Tsinghua University in year 2016, held administrative position in the Office of International Education, and most recently served as the Executive Deputy Director of the Center for Global Competence Development. Before returning to China, she spent 11 years working for Florida State University in the campus IT capacity. Annie received a Master degree of Management Information System from New Jersey Institute of Technology and a Master degree of International Business from Renmin University, and graduated from Huazhong University of Science and Technology with a bachelor degree in International Business.



**JY Zhou** is the Director of Global Engagement and Senior International Officer at Stockton University. Her work focuses on internationalization of higher education, faculty engagement, global learning, and assessment. She collaborates with academic and student affairs professionals alike, and also teaches courses on global learning and pedagogy. She keeps an active research agenda and has published a series of articles on introducing a new theoretical framework to define and assess comprehensive internationalization. Her interests also include defining and assessing global learning, digital approaches to international education, and internationalizing the campus through faculty.

She designs curricular and co-curricular projects to integrate and enhance the roles of technology, languages and cultures, community engagement, and collaborative teaching in global learning initiatives. AAC&U has recognized her work at Stockton as [a campus model](#) for global learning.

### ***Thematic Forum Outcomes***

Thematic Forum attendees had the chance to hear and engage in live virtual Q&A with:

- leading thinkers discussing critical curricular issues going forward in the field, such as addressing social justice, anti-racist, and anti-colonial issues in international education,
- leading international program leaders on faculty and curriculum, especially on perspectives from China and Mexico,
- innovative leaders on education abroad and local/global community-based initiatives offered at various types of universities (large regional research to select liberal arts), and
- leaders in virtual international education innovation discussing various models for virtual programming and exchange.

Attendees could also

- hear how international centers can become catalytic partners with faculty to bring about curricular change, and
- participate in a day-long workshop that explored an innovative model and case studies that offered strategies, practices, and pedagogies for working with faculty to effectively create new and modify existing curricula, based on community organizing and dynamic systems theory and methods.

### ***Lessons Learned from the Thematic Forum***

By the participation of an influential segment of the international education community in registering for this Forum, it appears that there is marked interest among SIOs and international center staff in understanding innovative ways to collaborate with faculty to facilitate curricular change. Further, by the response and discussion following sessions that voiced some of the most progressive and forward-looking views in higher education (social justice-based curricular change, community-based local/global engagement, using community organizing/dynamic systems theory and methods), there is a definite interest in the field in seeking out new ways to collaborate on curriculum and to focus on impactful and social justice-oriented ends.

Finally, one important lesson demonstrated by this Forum is that radically reducing costs dramatically increases participation. By hosting this Forum virtually via Zoom, eliminating the need for costly travel and housing for attendees, and by charging no registration fee for AIEA member institution SIOs, staff, faculty, and graduate students or individual AIEA members, this virtual Forum dramatically increased the overall number of attendees registering for the Forum. For example, this virtual 2021 Thematic Forum saw a nearly five-fold increase in registration compared with a previously-scheduled in-person Forum on the same topic (the virtual 2021 Forum saw 126 registrants, while the in-person 2020 Thematic Forum on the same topic – which was cancelled due to COVID travel restrictions the year before – saw only thirty registrants). Additionally, 63% of the virtual 2021 Forum registrants were attending a Forum for the first time, and international participation increased by ten registrants over the 2020 in-person Forum. For the host institution, a virtual Forum eliminated expensive food, facilities, and equipment rental costs. Overall, keeping many AIEA events virtual and no to low cost for access seems a valuable way to serve its membership and the broader field.