



Association of International Education Administrators
Leaders in International Higher Education

Fall 2017 Presidential Message

Dr. Hilary Kahn, AIEA President



Dear AIEA Members,

I continue to be incredibly honored to serve AIEA as its current president. As you know, this is a transitional moment for our association, and we remain eager and optimistic about our future. As of summer 2018, AIEA will be an independent organization, no longer hosted by Duke University, and will remain in the Durham, North Carolina area for at least the near future. We are proud of our long affiliation with our institutional host and are sincerely grateful to Duke University for serving in this capacity for these past 13 years.

While this transition is taking some effort, a fact to which the hardworking AIEA Secretariat can certainly attest, we view this as a wonderful opportunity that will enable AIEA to more effectively meet the needs of its members. It is also timely for such growth and evolution, particularly as we begin a new strategic planning framework for AIEA. This moment of change will allow us to advance as an association, more meaningfully support you and your institutions, and continue to be a leader in the field of international higher education.

Our strategic planning is crucial at this moment, as is our work on a new values statement for our association. Both initiatives will allow us to consider all opportunities, distill our main priorities, carve new directions, and make sure that we are doing what is best for our members. Similar to how global mindedness requires nimbleness and adaptability, we too want to remain as dynamic as possible. We also want to focus on our mission and maintain stability for our members and partners. We will thus provide consistency while being proactive and responsive to turbulent times for higher education and the world. Our goal will always be to serve you and your internationalization needs. This is why I once again strongly encourage you to get more involved in AIEA.

We are a member association and we aim to be an agile organization that responds to the needs of its members within a relentlessly changing landscape of international education. At the core of AIEA, however, is you--our members. Quite simply, we exist for our members and we are built by our members.



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Therefore, this coming year, please consider joining one of our committees, nominating yourself for AIEA leadership positions, or volunteering on the conference committee. There are a number of ways to participate more fully and I strongly encourage you to do so. It will help us define new directions and move our association forward, and it will also be a meaningful opportunity to network, professionally advance, and learn alongside a group of likeminded leaders. Your voice is needed now more than ever, and we have many opportunities for you to learn how you can get more involved with AIEA, for example at the AIEA 101 Roundtable session at our 2018 conference. With that said, I do hope you come to our conference, to connect with other members and institutions and to advance your internationalization efforts in times of turbulence.

I want to thank you for your support and for your commitment to AIEA. Together we are making AIEA an even stronger member organization. We are creating an association that is flexible in moments of change and instability. We are demonstrating our commitment to a world that recognizes its connections and interdependence while also acknowledging the diverse institutional, political, economic, and social contexts in which we live and work. We are collectively learning and producing new knowledge. Together, we are advancing international education at a time when it is an imperative more than ever. We cannot do this alone and we need to work together to become better international education leaders, to demonstrate the relevance of our work, and to be more proactive in turbulent times. I look forward to working with you at our upcoming conference and for years to come.

Respectfully,

Dr. Hilary E. Kahn
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Director, Center for the Study of Global Change, University of Indiana Bloomington
2017-2018 AIEA President