



Association of International Education Administrators
Leaders in International Higher Education

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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AIEA Recognizes Dr. Susan Sutton with the 2025 Timothy J. Rutenber Award

Houston, TX (March 3, 2025)— The Timothy J. Rutenber Award honors AIEA members who have rendered long-term and outstanding service to the Association. This occasional award is named for the late Timothy J. Rutenber, who served as Director of the Secretariat and Treasurer of AIEA until his death in 2004. In his name, awardees will be recognized at the Annual Conference for truly exceptional service of long duration to AIEA.

AIEA is honored to present the 2025 Rutenber Award to Dr. Susan Sutton, whose visionary leadership, unwavering dedication, and transformative contributions have profoundly shaped the field of international education and AIEA.

Dr. Sutton's extraordinary legacy with AIEA began with her service as an at-large board member from 2007 -2009, followed by her tenure as President in 2011, during which she spearheaded efforts to elevate the association's mission and impact.

A passionate advocate for professional development, Dr. Sutton played a pivotal role in shaping strategic international partnerships, including her years of involvement in the Institute of International Education's (IIE) highly regarded pre-conference workshops. Her dedication to mentoring has been a cornerstone of her service, as she has generously guided emerging leaders through the AIEA Senior Advisers Program and the Presidential Mentor Program, offering invaluable wisdom and support.

Her leadership extended to overseeing the development of the landmark *2019-2023 AIEA Strategic Plan: Strengthening Global Leadership for Internationalization*. This comprehensive roadmap, approved by the AIEA Board of Directors in 2019 and updated in 2022, continues to guide AIEA and its members in fostering innovative, transformational, and comprehensive internationalization essential for 21st-century higher education.

Dr. Sutton's scholarly contributions further illustrate her lasting influence. She has enriched AIEA's publications, including her contributions to *The Handbook of International Higher Education*, edited by Darla K. Deardorff, Hans de Wit, Betty Leask, and Harvey Charles. Her writings and insights have provided valuable perspectives to practitioners and scholars alike, advancing the collective understanding of internationalization in higher education.



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Dr. Sutton's insights and expertise are also preserved in her participation in AIEA's video series, *They Were at the Beginning: Lessons from Leaders in Internationalization*. This initiative immortalizes the pioneering spirit and achievements of leaders who laid the foundation for modern higher education internationalization.

With a career spanning over four decades, Dr. Sutton continues to enrich the field of international education with her energy, positivity, and readiness to share her expertise. Her wise counsel, encouragement, and tireless commitment to AIEA's mission have left an indelible mark on countless colleagues and the association as a whole.

In recognition of her unparalleled contributions, inspiring leadership, and enduring legacy, AIEA proudly presents Dr. Susan Sutton with the 2025 Rutenber Award.

About AIEA:

The Association of International Education Administrators (AIEA) is a member organization that equips leaders to shape the future of higher education in a global context.

AIEA advances strategic transformational approaches to internationalization of higher education; empowers those who lead such efforts; convenes global conversation on key issues; and partners with other organizations around the world to develop sustainable, forward-looking perspectives.
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