

ACADEMIC LEADERSHIP FELLOWS

AGENDA & SPEAKERS

THEME:

**MOVING FORWARD: NAVIGATING THE
MOMENT, LEADING THROUGH CRISIS, AND
CONTINUING YOUR PROFESSIONAL
LEADERSHIP JOURNEY**

SUMMER INSTITUTE

JULY 23-25, 2024

CONSORTIA HOSTS

Associated Colleges of the Midwest

Lisa Jasinski · President

Allen L. Linton II · Sr Director of Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion

Brian Williams · Vice President for Strategic Initiatives

Associated Colleges of the South

Anna Drake Warshaw · President

Mary Grace Neville · Program Manager, Faculty & Staff Development

Beth Adcock Shiroishi · Director of the ACS Mellon Academic Leadership Fellows Program

New York Six Liberal Arts Consortium

Amy Doonan Cronin · Executive Director

Peter Simons · NY6 Project Manager

WITH GRATITUDE AND APPRECIATION

The ACM/ACS/NY6 Joint Summer Institute has been made possible by the generous support of The Mellon Foundation.

About The Mellon Foundation

The Mellon Foundation is the nation's largest supporter of the arts and humanities. Since 1969, the Foundation has been guided by its core belief that the humanities and arts are essential to human understanding. The Foundation believes that the arts and humanities are where we express our complex humanity, and that everyone deserves the beauty, transcendence, and freedom that can be found there. Through our grants, we seek to build just communities enriched by meaning and empowered by critical thinking, where ideas and imagination can thrive. Learn more at mellon.org.



CAROLYN
DINSHAW

SENIOR
PROGRAM
OFFICER



PHILLIP BRIAN
HARPER

PROGRAM
DIRECTOR

DESIRED EXPERIENCE FOR PARTICIPANTS

- An immersive, interactive presentation and discussion of the topics and the issues, questions, and opportunities our presenters raise. Presentation/facilitation formats might include presentations, breakout sessions, case studies, fireside chats, and informal social opportunities.
- An opportunity to learn from the experiences of the presenters/facilitators as they have transitioned from faculty to academic leader, from academic leader at one institution to academic leader at another, and the intersection between one's underrepresented identity and their leadership within education landscapes.
- Exposure to multiple models of leadership that can support their professional development at their home institution.
- An opportunity to build community across institutions and consortia.
- Ensure DEI approaches are interwoven throughout the entire Institute.

AGENDA

23 Tuesday

12:30 pm–1:30 pm
Fall Creek

Lunch with Mellon Foundation Representatives

1:30 pm–3:30 pm
Fall Creek

Session 1: A Conversation with Mellon Foundation Representatives

CAROLYN DINSHAW

Senior Program Officer, Mellon Foundation

PHILLIP BRIAN HARPER

Program Director for Higher Learning, Mellon Foundation

3:30 pm–3:45 pm

Break

4:00 pm–5:00 pm
Beebe Lake (ACS)
Cascadilla (NY6)
Fall Creek (ACM)

Session 2: Consortium Meetings

5:00 pm–6:00 pm

Break

6:30 pm
Chelsea Piers,
Pier 62

Gather at Classic Harbor Line

N.B. Taxi or rideshare from Cornell Club to Chelsea Piers will take about thirty minutes, walking may take up to an hour

7:00 pm–9:00 pm

Boat Cruise

24 Wednesday

7:30 am–8:30 am
Cayuga

Buffet Breakfast

8:30 am–8:45 am
Fall Creek

Welcome and Overview of the Day

8:45 am–11:45 am
Fall Creek

Session 3: Leadership and DEI in the Current Moment

KIMBERLY GRIFFIN

Dean, University of Maryland College of Education

CORNELL VERDEJA-WOODSON

CEO & Founder, Brave Trainings, LLC

11:45 am–12:00 pm

Individual Reflection

12:00 pm–1:00 pm
Fall Creek

Lunch

1:00 pm–4:00 pm
Fall Creek

Session 4: Crisis Management and Communication

BRIAN W. CASEY

President, Colgate University

ELIZABETH DAVIS

President, Furman University

ANNE F. HARRIS

President, Grinnell College

ERIN HENNESSY

Executive Vice President, TVP Communications

4:00 pm–4:30 pm
Fall Creek

Group Reflection

4:30 pm–6:00 pm
Fall Creek Foyer

Institute Reception

Evening

Free Time

25 Thursday

7:30 am–9:00 am
Cayuga

Buffet Breakfast

9:00 am–11:30 am
Fall Creek

**Session 5: The Next Steps in Your
Administrative Journey**

CONNIE GORES

Partner, The Success Associates and President Emerita,
Southwest Minnesota State University

KEIGHT TUCKER KENNEDY

Partner, Isaacson, Miller

JAY LEMONS

President, Academic Search and President Emeritus,
Susquehanna University

11:30 am–12:00 pm
Fall Creek

Reflections and Looking Forward

12:00 pm

Summer Institute Concludes

Speakers



BRIAN W. CASEY, PH.D.
PRESIDENT
COLGATE UNIVERSITY



ELIZABETH DAVIS, PH.D.
PRESIDENT
FURMAN UNIVERSITY



CONNIE J. GORES, PH.D.
PARTNER
THE SUCCESS ASSOCIATES



KIMBERLY A. GRIFFIN, PH.D.
DEAN, COLLEGE OF EDUCATION
UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND



ANNE F. HARRIS, PH.D.
PRESIDENT
GRINNELL COLLEGE



ERIN A. HENNESSY
EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT
TVP COMMUNICATIONS



L. JAY LEMONS, PH.D.
PRESIDENT & SENIOR
CONSULTANT, ACADEMIC SEARCH



**KEIGHT TUCKER KENNEDY,
ED.D.**
PARTNER
ISAACSON, MILLER



**CORNELL VERDEJA-
WOODSON, ED.D.**
CEO & FOUNDER, BRAVE
TRAININGS, LLC

The Mellon Foundation

CAROLYN DINSHAW

SENIOR PROGRAM OFFICER

Carolyn Dinshaw is senior program officer for Higher Learning.

Before joining Mellon, Carolyn was dean for the humanities at NYU and was named Julius Silver Professor of Social and Cultural Analysis and English. When she joined NYU, she was the founding director of the Center for the Study of Gender and Sexuality and led the gender and sexuality studies program, developing a new, intersectional curriculum. Carolyn also helped found and was chair of the interdisciplinary department of social and cultural analysis. As a faculty member at the University of California at Berkeley, she was instrumental in the early development of LGBTQ studies. In her scholarly work, she has broken new ground in medieval studies, feminist and queer studies, and studies of race and religion. Carolyn was founding coeditor of *GLQ: A Journal of Lesbian and Gay Studies* (Duke University Press), the award-winning flagship journal of LGBTQ studies.

She holds an AB from Bryn Mawr College and a PhD in English literature from Princeton University.

PHILLIP BRIAN HARPER

PROGRAM DIRECTOR

Phillip Brian Harper is program director for Higher Learning at Mellon, overseeing initiatives undertaken by colleges, universities, and organizations in higher education committed to the humanities and social justice.

Previously, Phil was dean of the Graduate School of Arts and Science at New York University. While at NYU, he also served as the chair or director in four different departments and programs. A literary scholar and cultural critic, Phil has written extensively on twentieth- and twenty-first-century American and African American fiction, and on aspects of lived experience in the contemporary United States. In addition to publishing numerous articles, he has authored four books.

Phil has furthered the work of the Modern Language Association as a member of the advisory boards for the journals *PMLA* and *Profession*, and as member and chair of the James Russell Lowell Book Prize Committee. He has served on the editorial boards of *American Literature*, *Camera Obscura*, *GLQ*, *Postmodern Culture*, and *Social Text*.

He holds a BA from the University of Michigan, as well as an MFA in creative writing and an MA and PhD in English from Cornell University.

Speakers - Bios

BRIAN W. CASEY, PH.D.

PRESIDENT ◦ COLGATE UNIVERSITY

President Casey earned a Bachelor of Arts in philosophy and economics at the University of Notre Dame, and then went on to earn a law degree from Stanford University Law School. He joined Davis Polk & Wardwell and practiced law in New York City and London. He then decided to leave the world of law and attended Harvard University, where he earned his PhD in the history of American civilization.

After graduation, Casey spent about four years as assistant provost at Brown University, and in 2005 he returned to Harvard as an associate dean for academic affairs in the Faculty of Arts and Sciences. He served in that capacity until Depauw University called and in 2008 he would become that school's 19th president, a role he held for seven years before becoming Colgate's president on July 1, 2016.

President Casey has accomplished much in just a few short years, including the construction of five major buildings; two 100-bed residence halls, Jane Pinchin Hall and Burke Hall; a new center for careers and post-graduate study, Benton Hall; and two large academic buildings including a center to house film and media studies, music, and computer science.

President Casey, along with senior administrators, the Board of Trustees, and the University Faculty, has developed a comprehensive vision for Colgate titled The Third-Century Plan, which sets a long-term course for the University. Through The *Third-Century Plan*, Colgate will undertake significant investments in students, faculty, and the campus.

ELIZABETH DAVIS, PH.D.

PRESIDENT ◦ FURMAN UNIVERSITY

Dr. Elizabeth Davis became Furman University's 12th President on July 1, 2014. Before coming to Furman, she spent 22 years at Baylor University in Texas, where she was a member of the accounting faculty and most recently held the position of Executive Vice President and Provost. Under her leadership at Furman, the University has instituted The Furman Advantage.

In September 2019, Dr. Davis was the recipient of the William M. Burke Presidential Award for Excellence in Experiential Education in recognition of her significant contributions to experiential education, including creating The Furman Advantage. She has been recognized as one of Greenville Business Magazine's "50 Most Influential People," and is now included in the "Most Influential Hall of Fame."

Dr. Davis is currently a member of the Board of Directors of the United Way and has served on the board of the Greenville Chamber of Commerce. She has also served on the board of the Council of Independent Colleges, the Association of Governing Boards Council of Presidents, and the American Council on Education's Women's Network Executive Committee.

Dr. Davis received her Bachelor of Business Administration degree from Baylor in 1984 and earned her Ph.D. from Duke University in 1992.

CONNIE J. GORES, PH.D.

PARTNER ◦ THE SUCCESS ASSOCIATES

Dr. Connie Gores, who retired after six years as President of Southwest Minnesota State University (the only woman to serve in this role), is a partner in the Success Associates, where she consults with college and universities and provides executive leadership coaching to individuals and organizations. She is also an adjunct faculty member at William Peace University in Raleigh, NC.

As a first-generation student and the first in her family to earn a doctorate, she knows firsthand the transformative power of higher education and the importance of making a difference. In her career spanning 42 years in higher education, she spent 25 years in private institutions, including Willamette University (OR); Cornish College of the Arts (Seattle, WA); Randolph-Macon Woman's College (VA); and 17 years in public institutions, including Colorado State University (CO); Portland State University (OR); Winona State University (MN); and Southwest Minnesota State University.

Connie served on the American Council of Education (ACE) national Women's Network Executive Council, and is Chair Emerita. She is an Emerita of the Virginia ACE Women's Network Board and of the Senior Leadership Seminar, and currently serves on the North Carolina ACE Women's Network Board. Dr. Gores was an invited speaker – the sole presenter from the United States – at the Dialogue on Innovative Higher Education Strategies (DIES) Conference in Bonn, Germany, where she spoke on gender equality in higher education leadership.

Drawing on her experience as a leader in crisis management, Dr. Gores wrote a chapter “Courage, Compassion, Communication” for the book *Managing the Unthinkable: Crisis Preparation and Response for Campus Leaders*. She also co-authored a case study on crisis leadership with the Harvard University Kennedy School and the Harvard University Graduate School of Education, and was a featured presenter at the inaugural institute on Crisis Leadership in Higher Education at Harvard University.

She is a graduate of the Institute of Educational Management (IEM) at Harvard University and participated in the American Academic Leadership Institute (AALI) Executive Leadership Program and the Minnesota Partnership for Executive Leader Development Program.

Connie earned her Ph.D. from the University of Washington, her M.Ed. from Colorado State University, and her B.A. from North Dakota State University.

KIMBERLY A. GRIFFIN, PH.D.

PROFESSOR AND DEAN OF THE COLLEGE OF EDUCATION ◦ UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND

Dr. Kimberly Griffin is Dean of the College of Education and a Professor in the Higher Education, Student Affairs, and International Education Policy Program (Student Affairs Area of Specialization). Dr. Griffin earned her doctoral degree in Higher Education and Organizational Change from UCLA, her Master's degree in Education Policy and Leadership at the University of Maryland, and her Bachelor's degree from Stanford University in Psychology. Prior to completing her doctoral work, Dr. Griffin worked in higher education administration, primarily focusing in the areas of diversity recruitment, admissions, and retention in undergraduate and graduate education.

Dr. Griffin's research interests are primarily focused in three areas: diversity and equity in graduate education and the professoriate; diversity within the Black higher education community; and mentoring and career development. These interests have led her to conduct work on a variety of topics, including: career development of Ph.D. completers in science, Black professors and their engagement in student interaction, the experiences of Black immigrant college students, diversity recruitment in graduate education, and campus racial climate. Dr. Griffin is skilled in advanced quantitative and qualitative methods, as well as the integration of these strategies in mixed methods research.

Dr. Griffin is an active scholar and researcher, engaged widely in efforts to promote diversity and equity in higher education. Her research has been funded by the Burroughs Wellcome Fund, National Institutes of Health, and National Science Foundation. Her work has been published widely, and has appeared in the Review of Higher Education, Journal of College Student Development, Journal of Diversity in Higher Education, and Journal of Negro Education. Dr. Griffin's work also contributes to national conversations on equity and inclusion, and she has collaborated and consulted with the National Institutes of Health, National Science Foundation, National Academies, American Council on Education, and the Council of Graduate Schools to discuss extant research and new initiatives. She served as editor of the Journal of Diversity in Higher Education from 2018-2022.

ANNE F. HARRIS, PH.D.

PRESIDENT ◦ GRINNELL COLLEGE

Anne F. Harris, an energetic leader and gifted teacher, was appointed the 14th president of Grinnell College on July 14, 2020, following a unanimous vote by the Board of Trustees. During her tenure at Grinnell, President Harris has quickly become a trusted and admired member of the College community. Among her many accomplishments, she has worked in partnership with more than 200 faculty and staff members to fulfill Grinnell's academic mission and led initiatives to complement the excellence of the College's academic programs and to enhance the health and well-being of the Grinnell community. She co-directed the College's response to the COVID-19 pandemic, with an emphasis on community, social, and mental health. Her work is shaped by a principle she articulates as "civic trust," which addresses how trust is built and sustained between individuals, between individuals and institutions, and between institutions. She believes that liberal arts education prepares individuals for civic engagement and a lifetime of defining and contributing to the common good.

President Harris's work has been marked by leadership in the areas of diversity and inclusion, academic program and community development, and financial stewardship and fundraising. Working with the College's Board of Trustees and stakeholders across campus, she led Grinnell in enacting a "no loan" financial aid policy that makes it possible to graduate without student loan debt. Her energies serve the strategic plan of the College, Knowledge Into Action, approved by the Board of Trustees in fall of 2023. She is a member of the NCAA Division III Chancellors/Presidents Advisory Group and the Midwest Conference Executive Committee. In addition to serving on the Board of Trustees for the College of the Holy Cross, she is also a member of the Public Relations and Policy Review Committee of the National Association of Independent Colleges and Universities. In addition, she serves on the Associated Colleges of the Midwest Executive Committee the Iowa and Minnesota Campus Compact Board. In Iowa, she serves on the Des Moines Capital Crossroads Advisory Council.

Harris holds a bachelor's degree in art history and classical languages from Agnes Scott College where she earned Phi Beta Kappa honors. She received her master's and doctoral degrees in art history from the University of Chicago. A prolific researcher and author, she has published numerous articles and presented juried and invited papers. She is the co-author with Nancy Thompson (St. Olaf College) of *Medieval Art, 250-1450; Matter, Making, and Meaning* (Oxford University Press, 2021).

ERIN A. HENNESSY

EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT ◦ TVP COMMUNICATIONS

Erin A. Hennessy is executive vice president at TVP Communications, where she brings nearly 30 years of communications experience and expertise in the areas of leadership, higher education policy, communication strategy, media outreach, crisis communication and social media. She is a trusted advisor to boards, presidents, and senior leaders, helping them see around corners, assess their institution's strengths and mitigate its vulnerabilities. In addition to working with clients on media relations and thought leadership, she co-leads the agency's reputation and crisis communications management services.

Previously, Hennessy served as assistant vice president for Public Affairs and Publishing at the American Council on Education, the nation's most visible and influential higher education association, representing more than 1,600 college and university presidents nationwide. In this role, she served as a trusted advisor to the Council's senior leadership, crafting strategic communications plans to promote and position ACE in the public sphere. She developed and implemented the Council's media and public relations strategy, helped strengthen ACE's brand through direction of its graphic identity, and supervised the editing and layout of all Council publications, including the member magazine, *The Presidency*.

In this position, Hennessy worked with the leadership team responsible for announcing a joint venture between ACE and Pearson VUE to drive the future design, direction and delivery of the GED testing program, and directed the announcement of a groundbreaking relationship between ACE and Coursera to evaluate MOOCs for possible college credit. She also directed the Council's first foray into social media with its @ACEducation Twitter feed, which achieved more than 11,000 followers in less than three years, as well as subsequent efforts on YouTube, Storify and Facebook.

Prior to joining ACE in 2007, Hennessy served as press secretary for U.S. Rep. Rodney P. Frelinghuysen (R-NJ), a member of the House Appropriations Committee. She worked closely with legislative and district staff to communicate the member's priorities and respond to media requests and constituent concerns. She also directed a comprehensive redesign of the Congressman's website.

Before moving to Washington, DC, from her home state of New Jersey, Hennessy spent more than five years as deputy chief of staff to two presidents of Drew University, Thomas H. Kean and Robert Weisbuch. She assisted the president and his cabinet in the day-to-day and long-term administration of the university, including the university's response to the attacks of September 11, 2001, President Kean's appointment to chair the 9/11 Commission, and the presidential transition following Kean's retirement. She also held positions in the New Jersey Governor's Office during the administration of Christine Todd Whitman.

Hennessy holds a bachelor's degree in political science from Drew University and a master's degree in public communication from American University. She has served as an adjunct instructor in Georgetown University School of Continuing Studies' Public Relations and Corporate Communications program and in St. Joseph's University's Interdisciplinary Doctor of Education Program in Educational Leadership. She resides in New Jersey.

L. JAY LEMONS, PH.D.

PRESIDENT & SENIOR CONSULTANT ◦ ACADEMIC SEARCH

Dr. L. Jay Lemons became President of Academic Search in 2017 after serving for 25 years as a college president in both public and private higher education. A recognized leader in the academy, Dr. Lemons is devoted to supporting leadership and talent development by working with new college presidents on the faculty of the presidents' programs of the American Association of State Colleges and Universities (AASCU) and the Council of Independent Colleges (CIC), and through the professional development programs for aspiring leaders of the American Academic Leadership Institute (AALI). His passion for working with new and emerging leaders and the opportunity to help them build teams and their institutions led him to accept the call to the presidency of Academic Search.

Dr. Lemons was President of Susquehanna University in Selinsgrove, Pa., from 2001 through June 30, 2017, and prior to that served as Chancellor of the University of Virginia's (UVA) College at Wise, UVA's public liberal arts college in southwestern Virginia. Both institutions experienced highly generative periods of growth and development under his leadership. As a result, he understands colleges and universities and the leadership needed to propel institutions into the future. Earlier in his career, Dr. Lemons served in various roles at Texas A&M University, Nebraska Wesleyan University, and the University of Virginia. Each of these experiences deepened his knowledge of the complex array of positions and leadership talent needed for institutions to be successful in a rapidly changing world.

Dr. Lemons is a leader whom others in higher education have recognized for his ability to work across institutions and systems, having served in key leadership positions in many national, state, and local organizations. Most recently, he is the immediate past vice chair and acting chair of the National Collegiate Athletic Association's (NCAA) Board of Governors. Dr. Lemons also chaired the Association of Independent Colleges and Universities of Pennsylvania, the NCAA Division III Presidents Council, the Council of Presidents of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, the Pennsylvania Campus Compact, and the Greater Susquehanna Valley Chamber of Commerce. In addition, he served on boards or committees of the Council of Independent Colleges, the American Council on Education, the American Association of State Colleges and Universities, and the National Association of Independent Colleges and Universities.

Dr. Lemons earned his Ph.D. in higher education administration at the University of Virginia, an M.Ed. in educational psychology at the University of Nebraska, and his baccalaureate degree at Nebraska Wesleyan.

KEIGHT TUCKER KENNEDY, ED.D.

PARTER ◦ ISAACSON, MILLER

A member of IM since 2014, Keight brings diverse experience in non-profit and higher education organizations to her practice. She has worked on more than a dozen presidential searches, including Hamilton College, Duke University, Johnson C. Smith University, Elizabeth City State University, University of Maryland, Baltimore County, and Mount Holyoke College. Additionally, she has played a key role on several student affairs and diversity, equity, and inclusion leadership searches at The Ohio State University, Harvard University, Duke University, University of Pennsylvania, MIT, and Cornell.

As a search consultant, Keight has worked with historically black colleges and universities, women's colleges, and K-12 education and advocacy organizations. Repeat work with top-tier research universities proves her skill in identifying an organization's core challenges and finding the candidate whose skills can help solve them. Her clients also appreciate her ability to view searches through the lens of strategic change, a skill she learned managing strategy and organization development projects for federal agencies.

Keight is passionate about supporting mission-driven organizations through her work as a search consultant and knows the importance of strong leadership in strengthening civil society. Additionally, Keight is an active member of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated which provides opportunities to give back to her community in meaningful ways. Keight also serves as the board president of the Down Syndrome Network of Montgomery County and recently was appointed by Governor Wes Moore to the State of Maryland's Interagency Council for Infants and Toddlers.

Keight holds a BA from Emory University, an MA from Indiana University, and an EdD from the George Washington University.

CORNELL VERDEJA-WOODSON, ED.D.

CEO & FOUNDER ◦ BRAVE TRAININGS, LLC

Dr. Cornell Verdeja-Woodson is the CEO and Founder of Brave Trainings LLC, a boutique consulting firm, and the Co-Founder of LGBTQ eLearning. He currently serves as the Head of DEIB and Talent Development at Disney's Pixar Animation Studios. In this role, he oversees the studio's DEIB strategy, community outreach, learning and development, performance management, and employee engagement efforts.

He has spent his career, spanning over 10 years, engaging people in difficult conversations that have led to a deeper understanding of the world around us. Cornell began his DEIB career in higher education, leading DEIB initiatives at NYU and Cornell University. In 2018, he transitioned into the technology industry, leading global DEIB efforts at Looker, Google, Headspace, and Zillow.

Cornell has traveled around the country consulting with higher education institutions, non-profits, and corporate organizations on building their strategic inclusion efforts. He was named a top DEIB leader by Untapped two years in a row and a top LGBTQ leader to watch by Attitude Magazine in the UK. Cornell was also selected as a Fulbright Specialist and a visiting Associate Professor at San Francisco State University in 2023.

Cornell received his Bachelor's in Organizational Communication from Ithaca College, his Master's in Higher Education and Student Affairs Administration from the University of Vermont, and his Doctorate in Organizational Change and Leadership from the University of Southern California. His research interests include DEIB as a form of organizational change, White men as DEIB advocates, organizational trust, and belonging within teams.

He lives in the Bay Area with his husband Manny and their two dogs, London and Rome.