

# FACULTY LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE



## Innovation in the Classroom **Artificial Intelligence in Higher Education**



INDIANA COMMISSION for  
HIGHER EDUCATION



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HIGHER EDUCATION

## 2025 Faculty Leadership Conference Agenda

February 7, 2025

*All sessions held in the Solarium.*

9:00 a.m. ET	<b>Registration / Networking</b>
9:45 a.m. ET	<b>Opening Remarks</b> <i>Commissioner Chris Lowery and Dr. Chad Lochmiller</i>
10:05 a.m. ET	<b>Active Learning Experience: GenAI + Creating Assets, Artifacts, and Assessments: A Hands-on Experience</b> <i>Dr. Anne Leftwich and Dr. Justin Hodgson</i>
11:45 a.m. ET	<b>Lunch and Keynote</b> <i>Steve Wasick</i>
1:00 p.m. ET	<b>Panel Discussion:</b> <i>Moderated by Dan Peterson</i> <i>Dr. Anastasia "Stacy" Morrone, Commissioner Chris Lowery, Dr. Greg Siering, and Justin Dammeier</i>
2:00 p.m. ET	<b>Closing Remarks</b> <i>Dr. Matt Butler</i>
2:15 p.m. ET	<b>Adjourn</b>

## 2025 FACULTY LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE PRESENTERS AND PANELISTS

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### Chris Lowery

#### Indiana Commissioner for Higher Education

Chris Lowery was appointed in 2022 to serve as Commissioner for Indiana's Commission for Higher Education, the coordinating agency charged with ensuring the state's postsecondary education system is aligned to meet the needs of students and the state. Prior to joining the Commission, Lowery was senior vice president, workforce, careers, and adult strategy at Ivy Tech Community College where he provided overall leadership of Ivy Tech workforce and career initiatives and organization. Before working in higher education, Lowery led public policy and engagement for Hillenbrand, Inc. and served as an aide to former Indiana Governor Robert D. Orr and then-Senator Dan Quayle.



As Commissioner, Lowery is committed to increasing postsecondary attainment, economic and social mobility and outcomes, and return on investment by increasing the college-going rate, engaging adult learners, improving completion rates, and retaining college graduates. He is focused on ensuring students of all ages understand the value proposition of higher education. He collaborates with policymakers, higher education leaders and community partners to maintain college affordability and guarantee quality higher education is delivered and tied to career relevance as the Commission continues its efforts to realize the state's goal of at least 60 percent of Hoosiers with quality education and training beyond high school.

Currently, Lowery serves on the Boards of the Richard M. Fairbanks Foundation, United Ways of Central Indiana and Executive Committee, Council for Adult and Experiential Learning (CAEL), and the Higher Education Working Group of the American Enterprise Institute. In addition, he serves on the Board and Executive Committee of the State Higher Education Executive Organization.

Lowery is a recipient of the Sagamore of the Wabash, the Distinguished Alumni Award of the Indiana University O'Neill School of Public Affairs, and the Distinguished Alumni Award of Indiana Wesleyan University. In addition, he was named to the "Indiana 250" most influential business leader by the Indianapolis Business Journal in 2023 and 2024. He is a regular speaker in Indiana and nationally on topics ranging from the future of higher education, the economy and workforce preparedness to innovation, leadership, and social impact investing. Lowery holds a Bachelor of Science in Public Affairs from Indiana University and a Master of Science in Management from Indiana Wesleyan University.

*More information on Chris can be found [here](#).*

## **Chad Lochmiller**

### **Faculty Commission Member**

### **Indiana Commissioner for Higher Education**

Chad Lochmiller, Ph.D., is an Associate Professor in the School of Education at Indiana University and currently chairs the Department of Educational Leadership and Policy Studies. In addition, he serves as Associate Director for Policy and Advocacy with the University Council for Educational Administration (UCEA), a national consortium of more than 100 research-intensive universities. His research examines education policy issues that are relevant to both K-12 and higher education. For example, he has evaluated career ladder programs in community colleges, studied participation in dual enrollment and dual credit programs, assessed the structure of workforce training activities, and examined workforce issues for classroom teachers and education professionals. He has also studied funding practices and allocation formulas for K-12 schools. His current research is focused on the continuous improvement of educational programs.



Professionally, Lochmiller has served as a delegate to the Carnegie Project on the Education Doctorate, a member of the National Faculty for Improvement Science with the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching, a fellow with the Big10 Academic Alliance's Departmental Executive Officer's Program and has been deeply involved in accreditation activities related to the Council for the Advancement of Educator Preparation. He is a past recipient of the UCEA Jack A. Culbertson Early Career Award, and his published work has appeared in *Educational Administration Quarterly*, *Journal of Educational Administration*, and other outlets. Lochmiller earned his Ph.D. in Education Policy from the University of Washington in 2010.

*More information on Chad can be found [here](#).*

## **Steve Wasick**

**Founder, infoSentience**

**Keynote Speaker**

Steve has been involved with Generative AI since before it was cool, having been president of infoSentience, a leading Gen AI company, since 2012. You may have seen the automated content infoSentience has produced for companies such as MaxPreps, CBS Sports, IU Health, or the Chicago Mercantile Exchange. Steve has learned through experience where AI can be beneficial and where it can go wrong and is excited to talk about how it is likely to transform higher education in the near future.

Prior to starting infoSentience, Steve was on an eclectic path that included running a roadside motel and trailer park, starting a hamburger restaurant, and graduating from Northwestern Law School. He lives in Bloomington with his daughter, and enjoys hiking, road tripping, and going to Pacers games.

*More information on infoSentience can be found [here](#).*





## Anne Leftwich

**Associate Vice President of Learning Technologies, Indiana University  
Panelist**

Dr. Anne Ottenbreit-Leftwich is the Barbara B. Jacobs Chair in Education and Technology. She is a Professor of Instructional Systems Technology within the School of Education and an Adjunct Professor of Computer Science at Indiana University – Bloomington. Dr. Leftwich's expertise lies in the areas of the design of technology/computer science K-12 curriculum resources, and development/implementation of professional development for teachers and teacher educators. Dr. Leftwich investigates ways to teach computer science and ways to prepare preservice and in-service teachers to teach CS. She is a co-PI for the ECEP alliance, which seeks to broaden participation in computing at the K-16 levels. Her research focuses on the adoption and implementation of technology and computer science at the K-12 levels.



*More information on Anne can be found [here](#).*

## Justin Hodgson

**Director, IU Digital Gardener Initiative  
Panelist**

Justin Hodgson is an award-winning educator and digital transformation leader at Indiana University, where he directs the Digital Gardener Initiative — a system-wide series of programs designed to integrate digital literacy, digital creativity, and digital learning into the curriculum. Dr. Hodgson is also an Associate Professor of Digital Rhetoric and creator of the Online Composition program at IU Bloomington, founding editor of JUMP+ (the Journal for Undergraduate Multimedia Projects), host of the *Adobe Express +Firefly* global webinar series, and higher education consultant for digital innovation and faculty development.



*More information on Justin can be found [here](#).*

## **Dan Peterson**

**Chair, Commission for Higher Education**

**Moderator**

Dan Peterson is Vice President, Industry & Government Affairs, for Cook Group, Inc., based in Bloomington, Indiana. Since joining Cook Group in 1989, Dan has held a variety of leadership roles in the areas of operations, finance/accounting, and human resources. His current responsibilities involve industry, government, and external affairs, with a focus on healthcare delivery, education, and workforce development. Dan sits on many boards including the Indiana Bioscience Research Institute (IBRI); BioCrossroads; Indiana Health Industry Forum; Bloomington Economic Development Corp.; and Indiana University Health South Central Region. Mr. Peterson holds a B.S. in Biology (1984) and an MBA in Finance (1989), both from Indiana University. Since 1963, Cook Group medical companies have been committed to creating innovative medical solutions that benefit millions of patients worldwide.



*More information on Dan can be found [here](#).*

## **Stacy Morrone**

**Dean of the School of Education, Indiana University**

**Panelist**

Stacy Morrone is Dean and Professor in the Indiana University School of Education at Bloomington. She received her Ph.D. degree in Educational Psychology from the University of Texas at Austin and her Bachelor of Science degree in Technical Communication from the University of Minnesota. At IU, she has held a number of administrative roles including serving as Associate Vice President for Learning Technologies for 14 years prior to taking her current role as Dean in July 2020. In addition, she previously served as Deputy Chief Information Officer and as Executive Director of the Center for Teaching and Learning at Indiana University - Indianapolis (IUI). In 2018, she was awarded the P. A. Mack Award from FACET (Faculty Academy for Excellence in Teaching) and the Indiana University President's Award for Excellence in Teaching and Learning Technology, both of which recognize her contributions to promoting excellence in teaching and learning. Her research interests focus on technology-rich, active learning environments that enhance student motivation and learning.



*More information on Stacy can be found [here](#).*

## **Justin Dammeier**

**Assistant Vice President for Educational Technology and Instructional Design, Ivy Tech  
Panelist**

Justin Dammeier is the Assistant VP for Educational Technology and Instructional Design at Ivy Tech Community College – Indiana's community college. Justin Dammeier is the Assistant VP for Educational Technology and Instructional Design at the College. Justin is originally from Ft. Wayne, Indiana and earned a Master's in Education from Indiana Wesleyan University and a B.S. in Secondary Science Education from Indiana University.



Prior to joining Ivy Tech in December of 2019, Justin spent 14 years in K12 education as a classroom Biology teacher in a variety of public and non-public schools throughout the state of Indiana and 6 years in various K12 educational technology leadership roles. His experience in educational technology included work coordinating online courses for students, managing technology infrastructure, and delivering professional development for teachers, and staff. He is also an online adjunct instructor for the School of Information Technology.

Justin currently leads Ivy Tech's statewide educational technology team as well as the College's team of instructional designers. The educational technology team is charged with providing training, professional development and support to the faculty and students for the use of IvyLearn as well as other educational technology tools used across the college. The instructional designers works alongside faculty to guide the development of more than 500 courses in our online course library and courses taught in other instructional methods. His team also supports faculty in identifying and using open education resources to promote academic freedom and increase equitable access to impactful teaching and learning materials.

In addition to his professional interests, Justin is a proud husband of an elementary teacher, father of two terrific children, and an avid runner.



## **Greg Siering**

**Director, Center for Innovative Teaching and Learning at Indiana University**

### **Panelist**

Greg's work within CIT&L focuses on developing a comprehensive approach to instructional development, as well as identifying new ways to foster and spread innovative teaching among the IUB faculty. He has a special interest in understanding the characteristics of innovative teachers and how programs can be structured to foster the growth of those qualities. Greg holds a PhD in English with an emphasis in Rhetoric and Composition; his teaching background focuses on first-year writing courses.

*More information on Greg can be found [here](#).*

