Bridges to Somewhere: Looking across the college divide

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Presiding:
Tom Otieno, *Eastern Kentucky University*

Panelists:
Michelle Behr, *University of Northern Colorado*
Parviz Ansari, *Rowan University*
Michael R. Stevenson, *Northern Arizona University*

Abstract :
What can deans do to assist their institutions in re-visioning service delivery in an era of constrained resources? This session will explore ideas for leveraging collaborations across traditional silos that help deans think creatively about models for service delivery that transcend the traditional college structure to effectively meet institutional goals. Panelists will facilitate a structured conversation with session attendees who will be asked to discuss and share promising practices that help arts and sciences deans to look outward to develop and strengthen productive partnerships within the university.

Vectors for Discussion:

Why collaborate: Where do advantages lie? What can collaborations accomplish that going it alone might not allow?

Forms of collaboration: What does/can collaboration look like in various incarnations?

Permeable and impermeable barriers: What keeps us apart?

Scale: What is the right balance between centralization and decentralization? When does it make sense to 'scale up' to a cross-college initiative?

Incentivizing collaboration: What makes collaboration worthwhile to the parties (and maybe more importantly, how can the threat factor be reduced)?

Identifying the appropriate collaborative level [administrative, faculty, staff]: How does choosing the appropriate players favor successful collaborations?

Mechanisms for collaboration: What kinds of documents, processes, and/or other lubricants make collaborations flow more smoothly?

Assessing success: What does success look like? How would we know it if we saw it? How can we develop evidence and/or tell the story of a successful collaboration?