

National Forum on Chief Engagement and Outreach Officers

What is the National Forum on Chief Engagement and Outreach Officers?

The National Forum is a collaboration among individuals who serve as the chief executive with primary responsibility for advancing a university's community engagement, outreach, and public service agenda. Typically, these individuals report to the university president or provost, and hold vice presidential/vice chancellor or vice provost titles. In some cases, the university structure will house these lead engagement and outreach officers in centers that are led by directors or executive directors.

What does the National Forum do?

The Forum convenes professionals in these roles to examine the issues, priorities, challenges, and best practices that define their work. The Forum engages participants in peer exchange activities designed to enhance their capacity for success as chief engagement and outreach officers.

Is the National Forum affiliated with any particular professional association?

No. The National Forum is intentionally established as an independent, non-affiliated, peer network of professionals. Individuals participate in the Forum as professionals in chief executive roles seeking to enhance their individual capacity for professional success within and beyond their institution. To this end, the discussions and issues that the Forum participants address are based on their perspectives, viewpoints, and opinions, not of their university. This design is intentional, in that participants are encouraged to raise challenges and other critical issues they are facing as they work to optimize their success as chief engagement and outreach officers.

Who can participate in the National Forum?

Any individual who serves as a university's chief administrator whose primary responsibility is to advance the institution's overarching community engagement, outreach, and public service agenda is welcome to participate.

How often does the National Forum meet?

The National Forum meets approximately every six months. The Forum is hosted by different universities that provide the financial support for the meeting (e.g., meeting room costs, materials for the meeting, selected meals) and that work with the Forum planning team to facilitate the meeting agenda. Individuals who attend the Forum meeting are responsible for all expenses related to their personal travel and accommodations.

How do I contact the National Forum?

Individuals interested in participating in the National Forum should contact the National Forum leads

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