

Academic Leadership Fellows | 2025 Summer Institute
The Associated Colleges of the Midwest, the Associated Colleges of the South, and
the New York Six Liberal Arts Consortium

Understanding Academic Leadership: Personal and Institutional Contexts

CONSORTIA HOSTS

Associated Colleges of the Midwest

Lisa Jasinski · President

*Allen Linton II** · Senior Director of Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion

Associated Colleges of the South

Anna Drake Warshaw · President

Betsy Davis · ACS Director of Programs & Operations

New York Six Liberal Arts Consortium

Amy Doonan Cronin · Executive Director

Peter Simons · Project Manager

**Allen Linton II (ACM) is the onsite consortia contact for the event. Please feel free to text/call him directly with any urgent needs, concerns, or emergencies at 708-341-3092.*

FACILITATORS

[Kimberly Griffin](#) · Professor & Dean of the College of Education, University of Maryland

[Marjorie Hass](#) · President, Council of Independent Colleges

[Lena Hill](#) · Provost, Washington and Lee University

[Eric Runestad](#) · Vice President and Treasurer, Carleton College

[Justin Sipher](#) · Principal, Justin Sipher Consulting, LLC

[Jamie Thompson](#) · Director of Strategic Initiatives, Student Affairs, Trinity University



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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.

DESIRED EXPERIENCE FOR PARTICIPANTS

- **To harness the best thinking** across the Associated Colleges of the Midwest, the Associated Colleges of the South, the New York Six Liberal Arts Consortium, and the national higher education landscape to prepare a cohort of faculty to develop the **knowledge and skills of academic leadership**.
- To provide an **immersive, inclusive, and interactive** consideration of topics, issues, and questions. Presenters will deliver their content in various ways, including presentations, breakout sessions, case studies, fireside chats, and informal social opportunities, to ensure that multiple learning styles are considered.
- **To learn from the experiences of the presenters and 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 identities and their leadership within education landscapes.
- To be exposed to **multiple models of leadership and relevant content knowledge** to support their professional development and future work at their home institution.
- To **build community** among fellows and across institutions and consortia.

SUMMER INSTITUTE | AGENDA

Day 0: Monday, July 21, 2025

- Fellows, facilitators, and consortial staff arrive in Chicago
- Check-in to Hilton Garden Inn (Chicago Downtown, Magnificent Mile), 10 E. Grand Avenue, Chicago, IL 60611

Day 1: Tuesday, July 22, 2025

All sessions will be held at “The Point” Conference Room, 2nd Floor, 515 N. State Street, Chicago, IL (note the meeting venue is directly across the street from the Hilton Garden Inn)

8:30-9:00 am **Continental Breakfast and Coffee Available**

9:00-10:00 am **Welcome, Introductions, and Surfacing the Room**
Facilitator, Lisa Jasinski, President, Associated Colleges of Midwest
As the local host organization, Dr. Jasinski will welcome fellows, lead a round of group introductions, and help fellows begin to forge deeper and new relationships.

10:00-Noon **Understanding and Using Your CliftonStrengths Assessment as an Academic Leader**
Facilitator: Jamie Thompson, Director of Strategic Initiatives, Student Affairs, Trinity University
*Before the Institute, all Fellows will complete the Gallup CliftonStrengths assessment and will be provided a personalized summary of their strengths. Fellows should review their CliftonStrengths Top 5 report (accessible via their Gallup Access account) before this session. In small and large groups, Fellows will build a shared language that can be used beyond this setting and make discoveries that will prepare participants to leverage their strengths as academic leaders. By way of reflection and interactive activities, Fellows will gain valuable insights about their leadership styles through a strengths-based lens. ***There will be a 15 min. bio break taken at the speaker’s discretion***

12:00-12:45 pm **Lunch**

1:00-3:15 pm **Using Your Strengths, the Strengths of Others, and the “Four Frames” to Lead Strategically**
Facilitator: Justin Sipher, Principal, Justin Sipher Consulting, LLC
Effective academic leadership requires a dynamic blend of self-awareness, collaboration, and strategic adaptability. In this session, participants will integrate insights from their CliftonStrengths assessment with Lee Bolman and Terry Deal’s Four-Frames Model. This will help fellows understand their leadership instincts better and enhance their effectiveness to lead organizational change. Through interactive discussions participants will explore how to:

- *Leverage their personal strengths in leadership contexts.*
- *Recognize and activate the strengths of colleagues.*
- *Apply the Four-Frames Model to assist in leading institutional changes.*

*In small groups, participants will analyze leadership challenges being faced, identifying strategies that align personal strengths, organizational perspectives, and collaborative leadership to achieve effective outcomes. ***There will be a 15 min. bio break taken at the speaker's discretion***

3:15-3:30 pm

Break / Transition Spaces

3:30-4:30 pm

Consortial Cohort Meetings

Fellows and consortial staff will meet together in the specified location.

- ACM - Conference Room 14A (14th Floor)
- ACS - The Point (2nd Floor)
- NY6 - Conference Room 14F (14th Floor)

4:30 pm

Complete End of Day Participant Feedback Form

4:45–6:45 pm

Break / Dinner on Your Own

Enjoy some downtime. There are several restaurant options in the River North Area. Save your receipts—your consortium will reimburse you for expenses according to individual practices and policies.

6:45 pm

Chicago Architectural Boat Tour

Allow yourself 10 minutes to walk from the hotel to 400 N. Michigan Avenue (near the Wrigley Building)—the boat sails promptly at 7:00 pm!

Day 2: Wednesday, July 23, 2025

All sessions will be held at “The Point” Conference Room, 2nd Floor, 515 N. State Street, Chicago, IL (note this venue is directly across the street from the Hilton Garden Inn)

8:30-9:00 am

Continental Breakfast and Coffee Available

9:00-9:15 am

Group Photo + Cohort Photos

9:15-11:30 am

**Leadership in Contested Times: The Role of Values and Mentorship
Facilitator: Kimberly Griffin, Professor and Dean of the College of Education, University of Maryland**

Effective leaders possess a strong knowledge of their personal values and the values of their institutions, and the ability to articulate their values as the basis for making and explaining decisions about where an organization is and where it is going. Fellows will be invited to reflect on their values and how they can bring these values to their fellowship. All academic leadership fellows benefit from the support of formal and informal mentors. Drawing on her scholarly expertise, Dr. Griffin will offer advice about how fellows can seek out the mentorship they need to be successful and how they, in turn, can provide mentorship and support to

others. ***There will be a 15 min. bio break to be taken at the speaker's discretion**

11:30–Noon	Individual Reflection Facilitator: Amy Cronin, Executive Director, New York Six Liberal Arts Consortium <i>Dedicated time for fellows to process and think deeply—as individuals and one another—about the content shared in the morning session.</i>
Noon-1:00 pm	Lunch
1:00-2:30 pm	Leadership in Contested Times: Identity, Power, and Relationships Facilitator: Marjorie Hass, President, Council of Independent Colleges <i>Transitioning to academic leadership involves changes in identity, power, and how colleagues view you. Dr. Hass will distinguish between the concepts of “transition” and “change” and discuss how your approach to both, as ongoing processes, can prepare you for success as an academic leader.</i>
2:30-3:00 pm	Break
3:00-4:30 pm	Leadership in Contested Times: Navigating Institutional Culture, Context, and Complexity Facilitator: Lena Hill, Provost and Professor of English, Washington and Lee University <i>Drawing on her leadership experiences at the University of Iowa and Washington and Lee, Dr. Hill will offer perspectives on leadership in different campus contexts, cultures, and amidst diverging priorities and pressures from institutional stakeholders. This session will invite fellows to work in small groups and consider how they would navigate specific scenarios leaders may face.</i>
4:30-4:45 pm	End of Day Reflection and Wrap-Up Facilitator: Anna Drake Warshaw, President, Associated Colleges of the South <i>Dedicated time for fellows to process and think deeply, as individuals and one another, about the content shared in the day's sessions.</i>
4:45 pm	Complete End of Day Participant Feedback Form
4:45-6:00 pm	Happy Hour at Eataly <i>Wind down the day with light snacks and an aperitivo at the bar area on the second floor of Eataly Chicago (43 E. Ohio Street). Your first drink is on us.</i>
TBD	Adjourn for the Day–Fellows on Their Own <i>Enjoy an evening on your own in the Windy City! Save your receipts—your consortium will reimburse you for expenses according to individual practices and policies.</i>

Day 3: Thursday, July 24, 2025

All sessions will be held at “The Point” Conference Room, 2nd Floor, 515 N. State Street, Chicago, IL (note this venue is directly across the street from the Hilton Garden Inn)

Morning	Check out of your room before the day’s sessions <i>Store your luggage at the hotel or bring it with you to the conference venue</i>
8:30-9:00 am	Continental Breakfast and Coffee Available
8:50-9:00 am	Post-Institute Logistics <i>Want to get reimbursed for your expenses? Have questions? Want to give us feedback? Listen up!</i>
9:00-11:15 am	Making Value-Based Decisions Within Financial Realities Facilitator: Eric Runested, Vice President and Treasurer, Carleton College <i>All colleges and universities must make hard decisions about allocating finite resources (money, time, or human capital) regardless of endowment size. This session will briefly introduce budgets and finances at small, private liberal colleges and include a hands-on exercise exploring ways to make strategic investments while producing a balanced university budget.</i>
11:15-11:30 am	Break
11:30-Noon	Beginning Your Academic Leadership Fellowship With Purpose: Why the Academy Needs the Humanists Now Facilitator: Brian W. Casey, President, Colgate University <i>We will conclude the Institute by recognizing why this moment demands courageous leadership and a call for fellows to draw on their humanistic training to bring the necessary perspectives to lead change within their campuses and the Academy more generally.</i>
Noon	Adjourn <i>Boxed lunches are available—to be eaten on-site or to go. Fellows are welcome to stay in the conference room area until 1:00 pm.</i>

Link to Final Retreat Evaluation:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/2025ALFSummerInstitute>

