

Topic: Empowering Academic Leaders for Success

Keynote Speaker: Dr. Sona K. Andrews

Dr. Sona K. Andrews has 36 years of experience in higher education as a university faculty member and administrator. She has been directly involved in executive level higher education searches (deans, vice presidents and presidents) for twelve years. She knows how important the search process is in assisting search advisory committees and boards to identify highly qualified and diverse candidates for the position. She is uniquely qualified to understand the process from the candidate's perspective, having hired university executives and been a successful candidate herself.

Her administrative experience as vice-provost for the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, Provost and Vice President for Boise State University, Vice Chancellor of the Oregon University System, and most recently as Provost and Vice President for Portland State University gives her a deep understanding of shared governance, working with boards and desired candidate characteristics in executive leadership.

Sona has held faculty positions at the University of Minnesota-Twin Cities, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, Boise State University and Portland State University. She has served and continues to serve on local, state, regional and national task forces and boards.

She earned her undergraduate degree in Geography from Worcester State College (Massachusetts) and her Master's and Ph.D. in Geography from Arizona State University.