

GROWING CONVERGENCE RESEARCH LECTURE SERIES

Beyond Science as Usual – Perspectives on Creating Convergence Research Pathways

Thursday, April 28, 2022 ● 4:00 PM to 5:00 PM (ET)

Abstract

The complex nature of starting, leading, and conducting convergence research means we may need to look beyond “science as usual” approaches for inspiration, practices, and models that can be applied in these contexts. One such example with special relevance for convergence research is National Academies Keck Futures Initiative, which ran from 2003 to 2019. The 2014 NRC Convergence report cited NAKFI as a successful example of fostering new avenues of convergence research because the program crossed disciplines, sectors, and professions. A central feature of the NAKFI program was a commitment to continually evaluating and evolving the model. In that spirit, the first section of this talk will provide a brief overview of what the NAKFI program was, how it operated, and what its results were. The middle section will suggest other fields of research and practice that can be brought into convergence research contexts. Finally, the talk will conclude by imagining how these ideas could be combined and applied by investigators, universities, or funding organizations.

Biography



Anne Heberger Marino, MSW - As a consultant, facilitator, and leadership team coach, Anne helps senior leaders and their collaborative teams be intentional in how they work together on scientific and societal challenges. Through Lean-to Collaborations, the company she founded in 2020, Anne brings 20 years of experience working across disciplines and sectors to help purpose-driven research teams build the capacity they need to traverse the terrain from funded to flourishing. Her current work builds on her 12-year tenure at the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine where she served as an internal evaluator, program officer, and senior program director of the National Academies Keck Futures Initiative (NAKFI). She is the co-author of the book *Collaborations of Consequence* published

by the National Academies Press and Membership Chair for the International Network for the Society of Team Science (INSciTS).

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