

March 17, 2024



TURAC 2024⁺

Connection • Collaboration • Cohesion

**Lunchtime Panel: CLARA Sponsorship
& Convening Planning**

Land Acknowledgement Statement

“Arizona State University, Northern Arizona University, and the University of Arizona collectively acknowledge that the campuses are situated on the ancestral lands of twenty-two federally recognized tribes located across Arizona. These universities collectively honor the past, present, and future generations of Native Americans, who have lived here for millennia and will forever call this place home. Committed to diversity, the institutions integrate Indigenous knowledge into their practices and strive to cultivate sustainable relationships with Native Nations through education, partnerships, and community service.”



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**Sam Munguia (ASU), Valerie Keim (ASU),
Tom Champagne (NAU)**

Speaker Bios



Val Keim

Valerie Keim is the Research Operations Manager of Knowledge Enterprise Research Operations at Arizona State University and has worked in Research Administration since 2013. In her current position, she supports the Assistant Vice President of Research Operations with departmental and institutional projects, serves as a Co-Facilitator for the Change Management Committee, and monitors operational goals and metrics. She also prepares and delivers training to Research Operations colleagues and the ASU community. She is also the Co-Principal Investigator on NSF Award # 2324589.

Previously in Research Operations, Valerie worked as a Research Advancement Administrator Senior, collaborating directly with faculty in submissions to more than 100 different sponsors, and the Pre-Award Manager managing the team that that reviews, institutionally endorses, manages proposal submissions for externally funded research projects, approximately 3600 proposals annually. Before coming to ASU, Valerie worked at the Maricopa County Superintendent's office, where she was the one-stop-grant-shop for the department. Her grant efforts resulted in more than \$4 million of programming for K-12 students, educators, and leaders throughout Maricopa County.

As a lifelong learner, Valerie is continuing her education as a master's student in the Program Evaluation and Data Analysis program at Watts College. She is also proud to be an inaugural member of the ASU Alumni Association Leadership.

Sam Munguia

Samantha Munguia is the Director of Finance for the University Innovation Alliance at Arizona State University. A Certified Research Administrator (CRA), Samantha has over 18 years of grants, financial and operations management experience in the public sector including 14 years of research administration and financial management at institutions of higher education in Arizona.

In her current role, Sam manages all business operations for the University Innovation Alliance including cradle-to-grave grants administration. Prior to her position with UIA, Samantha spent 6 years with ASU's Research Operations in various roles including leading the expenditure monitoring process for ORSPA's Fiscal Oversight Team.

Tom Champagne

Tom has dedicated more than 38 years of service to higher education and medical research environments, including more than a decade as an Associate Vice President and/or Chief Research Administrator for universities, medical centers, and academic health science centers. Tom's career work has concentrated on organizational design, operational improvements, strategic planning for Research, and process integrations. He has provided leadership, support, and coordination with a diverse set of research faculty, senior administrators, and client service professionals throughout his career. His teams have solved a wide array of challenges that impact medical and academic research.

Prior to his work at NAU, Tom served in specific roles at The Howard Hughes Medical Institute, UT-Southwestern Medical Center @ Dallas, the Baylor College of Medicine, Emory University, and Rush University Medical Center. Tom's consulting experiences include time with McKinsey & Co. and the Huron Consulting Group, where he consulted to many of the top-100 academic research institutions in the U.S. Tom is a frequent speaker at national conferences, symposia, and other research administration convenings.

Session Description

During this Session, we will discuss some of the important strategies, approaches, and program themes that went into planning this year's TURAC 2024+. The panelists will outline their efforts and intentions around securing sponsor funding from NSF, the role each ABOR institution assumed for the convening success, and the intentional identification of this year's convening themes:

Connection - Collaboration - Cohesion.

Finally, the panelists will outline their aspirations and hopes for future convening success, including how the NSF funding will continue inter-institution engagement through the Coalition of Leaders in Advanced Research Administration (CLARA) and be available for your questions and ideas.





Partnering with the NSF

Coalition of Leaders in Advanced Research Administration (CLARA)



NSF 23-037

Dear Colleague Letter: Growing Research Access for and Diversity (GRANTED) Conferences and Workshops

Deadline: March 15, 2023

SEE YOU APRIL 18TH & APRIL 20TH

Tri-University Research Administration Conference



AND





Aligning ABOR Institutions for TURAC 2024+
Establishing Mission-Vision-Values

Building Upon Prior TURAC Success

TURAC 2024+ builds upon the two prior convenings, and...

- Frames the Convening with Mission, Vision, & Value Statements intended to harness statewide energy for RA
- Weaves **Connection - Collaboration - Cohesion** thematic priorities into programming for focus
- Builds upon the past strength of a Committee structure for maximal participation & workload balance across state
- Explored past Convening feedback to redirect and emphasize what participants want
- Drove work against the CLARA NSF grant aims
- Relied upon past Convening leaders for guidance and counsel throughout



TURAC History, Purpose; Mission, Vision, Values

- TURAC's History & Purpose

- The Tri-University Research Administration Convening (TURAC) was first established in 2021 as a free, virtual Convening intended to provide research administrators at Arizona's three public universities an opportunity to learn new skills, and network with other research administrators across the state. Leveraging the knowledge, experience, and strengths available across the three universities, a unique professional development opportunity was born.
- Today, the TURAC moves into its third year - adopting a hybrid Convening format, to include community college/industry/sponsors/other collaborative partners – and intending to build upon its foundational strengths with expanded programmatic elements that benefit research faculty, staff, and administrators to build a lasting interorganizational network of research administration practitioners.

- TURAC's Mission, Vision, Values

- The Mission of the TURAC+ annual Convenings to provide an engaging forum for the exchange of research administration subject-matter knowledge, materials, approaches, and techniques in a way that benefits participating attendees and institutions.
- The Vision for the TURAC+ is to increase engagement, share experiences, deepen research administration skills, and afford all practitioners an opportunity to learn and grow in their professional role & service capacities.
- The Values of the TURAC+ includes enhanced professional development, shared collaborative experiences, deeper networking opportunities, institutional cohesion in research administration practices, and a strong sense of connection across Arizona.

“TURAC 2024+: Connection - Collaboration – Cohesion”

Proposed 2024 Convening Vision & Goals

- “Early Thinking” Theme:



- Proposed Convening Vision & Goals:

The vision and goals for TURAC 2024+ include:

- Increase training & education engagement for all participants throughout the state
- Share experiences among participating institutions and administrators
- Deepen and enhance research administration skills
- Strengthen research administration materials, tools, and approaches for participants
- Afford opportunities for exploration, networking, collaboration, and growth amongst participants

Subcommittee Charges – *Building on the Past*

Convening Co-Chairs: Tom Champagne, NAU - Valerie Keim, ASU

Charge: defining goals and timeline for the conference, making final decisions regarding the conference, planning and scheduling all Convening committee meetings to maximize available time; dissemination of material to the committee whenever needed to keep members informed; overall management of Convening development and logistics

Programmatic Subcommittee: Jessica Robins, ASU – Mirna Mun, ASU Co-Chairs

Charge: Ensures that a well-balanced, high-quality agenda of topics is organized and presented at the conference. Under direction of the Chair and Co-Chairs, develops the conference's approach to organizing presentations (likely along tracks), selects presentations to include, creates and manages the Convening schedule from a programmatic perspective. (May appoint and leverage track leaders within the committee, if desired)

Communication Subcommittee: Elena Miranda, NAU – Celeste Vidal, NAU Co-Chairs

Charge: Responsible for promoting the conference, selecting and managing the Convening registration system, crafting content for event announcements and reminders, and overseeing creation and maintenance of the Convening website. May assist the Program Subcommittee Chair to develop the overall Convening format, content, and delivery approach.

Content & Presentations Subcommittee: Tiffany Lhen, ASU Chair

Charge: Develop and disseminate presenter guidance and resources, conduct presenter trainings or workshops, facilitate run-throughs and provide feedback to presenters in advance of the conference. Manage all communications to Convening presenters once selected for inclusion in Convening agenda.

Evaluations Subcommittee: Dana Mravinc, NAU – Feifei Zhang, NAU Co-Chairs

Charge: Under direction of the Chair and Co-Chairs, plans and implements strategies to evaluate and report on Convening success. This includes reviewing/updating Convening surveys and managing dissemination plan to facilitate optimal response rates.

Networking Subcommittee: Megan Cooper, ASU – William Klein, NAU Co-Chairs

Charge: Responsible for planning and implementing networking activities for the conference. This may include a networking event, as well as strategies for facilitating networking throughout the Convening (and potentially facilitating networking before and/or after the conference). Works closely with CLARA groups to ensure grant aims being achieved.

Volunteers & Logistics Subcommittee: Ivan Ochsner, NAU Chair

Charge: Responsible for facilitating a hybrid (in-person and virtual) Convening– all aspects. This includes responsibility for accommodations, travel, hosting facilities, a/v, meals, coordination of events, technical support, “day of” preparations, contingency planning, etc. Responsible for recruiting, training, and managing event-day volunteers – including, but not necessarily limited to, session moderators/monitors and IT support staff at the host institution.

A Word About

“**Connection** - **Collaboration** - **Cohesion**”

...this year's convening is much more than a simple gathering of research administrators, statewide. While human participation is always crucial for Convening success, we want to offer more this year to all who attend: We want to add increased value to the experience. We want to use more ingredients. We want to ensure there are positive and measurable outcomes from the convening that make participants stronger, eager, and thirstful for more:

Connection - Collaboration - Cohesion: the “+” in TURAC 2024+

Tom Champagne & Val Keim
TURAC 2024+ Co-Chairs





Looking Ahead...

CLARA and ideas to sponsor next TURAC...

- **Outline aspirations and hopes for future convening success,**
- **Discuss how the NSF funding will continue inter-institution engagement**
- **Outline the important role of CLARA: Coalition of Leaders in Advanced Research Administration**



Leveraging a “Needs Assessment” to Facilitate Convening Growth, Reach, Effectiveness...

- **Step 1 – Complete needs assessment**
- **Step 2 – Set agenda based off needs**
- **Step 3 – Continue to develop shared resources and cohesive network by implementing agenda**
- **Step 4 – Reflect, refine, repeat**

Connecting throughout the year between TURAC



Connecting 2024+ with 2025, and Beyond...

As we think about future TURAC Convenings, these guiding principles resonate:

- Complete a CLARA needs assessment and build outcomes into strategic frameworks for future convenings
- Continue to build upon participant feedback and evaluations
- Leverage high energy of current year Subcommittees – allowing members to retrench, change committees, and spread good practices
- Grow outreach to higher education institutions in the region, and country
- Seek even higher levels of NSF-GRANTED investment into Convening and State of Arizona
- Create settings where outcomes of the GRANTED Convening and participant leverage examples can be shared/celebrated



**Be sure to complete all 3
TURAC surveys for a chance
to win a **\$25 gift card!****





TURAC 2024⁺

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Thank You!