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## **Advancing AI Governance, Implementation, and Equity at Emerging Research Institutions**

**9:00–9:30 | Networking Coffee**

**9:30–9:45 | Welcome**

Stefanie Brachfeld (Montclair State University) Martina Nieswandt (Chapman University) & Ruby MacDougall (Ithaca S+R)

**9:45–11:00 | Opening Plenary: AI and the Research Enterprise**

A panel of leaders and practitioners will explore how artificial intelligence is shaping the research enterprise, with particular attention to the opportunities and challenges facing Emerging Research Institutions (ERIs). Panelists will frame key issues such as governance, equity, and competitiveness, and set the stage for the day's group discussions.

- Panelists: Kevin Cooke (APLU), Libby Barak (Montclair State University), Todd Slawsky (Rutgers University), Eric Hetherington (New Jersey Institute of Technology)
- Moderator: Stefanie Brachfeld (Montclair State University)

**11:00–12:00 | Small Groups 1: Assessing Current Capacity and Needs**

Participants divide into small facilitated groups and explore current practices and challenges related to AI and the research enterprise in three areas: governance, research administration, and research effectiveness. Each group will identify 2-3 barriers.

**12:00–1:00 | Networking Lunch**

Catered lunch and refreshments will be provided in the workshop hall.

**1:00–1:30 | Small Groups 2a: Experiments with AI**

Participants divide into small groups to share experiences and brainstorm ideas about how AI might address or complicate the barriers identified earlier. Creative, big-picture thinking is encouraged.

**1:30–2:00 | Small Groups 2b: Developing AI Strategies**

Groups will come together to review and compare ideas, then identify which opportunities are best pursued by individual institutions and which may be promising for consortia-level collaboration.

**2:00–2:30 | Networking Coffee**

### **2:30–3:30 | Small Groups 3: Ideating Implementation**

Participants will rotate through breakout tables to consider Research Governance, Research Administration, and Research Effectiveness. Each group will build on earlier discussions and begin shaping potential implementation ideas that could be developed into grant proposals.

### **3:30–4:00 | Reflection and Wrap-Up**

The morning panelists will reconvene at the close of the workshop to reflect on the day's discussions. In conversation with Stefanie Brachfeld and Ruby MacDougall, they will share their takeaways, highlight emerging themes, and consider possible next steps for advancing AI governance and research administration at Emerging Research Institutions.

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