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LEAD CALIFORNIA'S DR. ELAINE K. IKEDA AWARDED THE IARSLCE 2024 DISTINGUISHED CAREER AWARD

LEAD California's Executive Director Dr. Elaine K. Ikeda was selected as the winner of the 2024 International Association for Research on Service-Learning and Community Engagement's (IARSLCE) Distinguished Career Award. The Distinguished Career Award acknowledges and celebrates intellectual leadership through a body of work that has broad and deep impact on the study and/or practice of service-learning and community engagement, including the communities, cultures, and systems within which it is undertaken. Nominations for this award were reviewed by a committee of association members and affirmed by the IARSLCE Board of Directors, and the board was unanimous in supporting Dr. Ikeda for this important recognition.

Dr. Ikeda will be presented with the award at the 2024 IARSLCE Conference, which will be held at the University of San Diego campus in San Diego, CA on Oct 2-4, 2024.

For 25 years Dr. Elaine K. Ikeda has served as the Executive Director of LEAD California, formerly California Campus Compact. Prior to her leadership of LEAD California, Dr. Ikeda led the National Service-Learning Clearinghouse – Higher Education division. For three decades, Dr. Ikeda has played a national leadership role in the design, development, and implementation of civic and community engagement programs designed to meet community needs. Through her research, conference workshops, webinars, retreats, and institutes, she has generated new knowledge and she has trained a multitude of higher education faculty, staff, students, and administrators in all areas of community engagement and service-learning.

She has impacted the SLCE field significantly by building the capacities of others for high-quality research, scholarship, and practice. Early in her career, Dr. Ikeda served as a researcher on the seminal study *How Service Learning Affects Students* (UCLA Higher Education Research Institute, 2000) which examined the comparative effects of service-learning and community service on the cognitive and affective development of college undergraduates. Dr. Ikeda is nationally recognized for being a pioneer in investigating and addressing the ways service-learning and diversity intersect – in part, through her efforts to implement lessons learned from the

study *How higher education is integrating diversity and service learning: Findings from four case studies* (Vogelgesang, L. J., Drummond, M., & Gilmartin, S. K., 2003, California Campus Compact).

Early in her career, she recognized the lack of support for higher education community engagement professionals of color. To address this and other challenges, she created a transformative two-year leadership development experience for practitioners in California (the Bridge Building Leadership Initiative). Dr. Ikeda also developed Diving Deep – a national gathering of experienced scholar-practitioners dedicated to imagining new and different ways to approach impactful community engagement.

Throughout her career, Dr. Ikeda has advocated for community partners and for the development of a greater understanding of the perspectives of community organizations that engage with higher education. Leading a team of outstanding SLCE scholars, Dr. Ikeda oversaw one of the most significant investigations of community partner perspectives in the research literature (*Community Voices: A California Campus Compact Study on Partnerships,* 2007). This study involved 99 experienced community partners from colleges and universities across California.

Under her leadership, LEAD California has created numerous high-quality research studies, reports, guidebooks, trainings, and white papers. In consideration of her many impactful, influential, and long-lasting contributions as a service-learning and community engagement scholar, educator, administrator, expert, and champion, IARSLCE is proud to present Dr. Elaine K. Ikeda with the 2024 Distinguished Career Award.

About IARSLCE

The International Association for Research on Service-Learning and Community Engagement (IARSLCE) is the only international organization whose primary purpose is to cultivate, encourage, and present research across all engagement forms and educational levels. IARSLCE connects scholars around the world to advance knowledge on service-learning and community engagement.

In recognition of exemplary contributions through research on service-learning and community engagement, IARSLCE honors those whose research contributes significantly to understanding and advancing community engagement, across all approaches and all educational sectors.

About LEAD California

LEAD California is a coalition of leading colleges and universities that work to build the collective commitment and capacity of colleges, universities and communities throughout California. For 35 years, LEAD California has been inspiring and supporting college students, administrators, faculty, staff, and community members with our innovative resources, expertise, training, and connections. We lead our campuses in building a healthier, more just, and democratic society. We are committed to ensuring that all California institutions of higher education fulfill their public purpose and prepare students to be ethical leaders and compassionate citizens who make this world better for all. For more information, please visit www.leadcalifornia.org.