Opening Speaker:

Karin Fischer

Karin Fischer is a senior writer for The Chronicle of Higher Education, where she covers international education, colleges, and the economy, among other topics. She also publishes a popular weekly newsletter on global education, Latitudes. Her reporting has appeared on NPR and in The New York Times, EdSource, and the Washington Monthly. She is a research associate at the Center for Studies in Higher Education at the University of California at Berkeley and an international education leadership fellow at the University at Albany. She is a recipient of the East-West Center’s Jefferson Fellowship for reporting in Asia and the International Reporting Project fellowship. Her work has been honored by the Education Writers Association, the National Press Foundation, and the Poynter Institute.

Panel:

Yingyi Ma

Yingyi Ma is Professor of Sociology and Director of Asian/Asian American Studies at Syracuse University. Professor Ma is a sociologist of education and migration. In 2019, she was selected as a Public Intellectual Fellow at the National Committee on US-China Relations. Her monograph Ambitious and Anxious: How Chinese College Students Succeed and Struggle in American Higher Education, published in 2020 by Columbia University Press, has won Best Book Award, Higher Education Special Interest Group, Comparative and International Education Association, 2021, and Bourdieu Book Award Honorable Mention, American Sociological Association. She received her Ph.D. in sociology from Johns Hopkins University in 2007.
Frank Neville

Frank Neville is Chief of Staff and Senior Vice President of Strategic Initiatives at the Georgia Institute of Technology. Mr. Neville previously served as Chief of Staff and Vice President for Communications and Marketing at George Mason University, vice chair of Mason Korea, LLC, and in leadership roles at the Thunderbird School of Global Management. Prior to his work in higher education, Mr. Neville was a career diplomat with the U.S. Department of State, serving in Taipei, Chengdu, Guatemala City, and Beijing. In Beijing he helped design and execute U.S. public affairs strategy during the 2001 EP-3 hostage crisis. At the time of his resignation, Mr. Neville was the most decorated Foreign Service Officer under 40 years of age. He also worked in the Secretary of Defense’s Office of Chinese Affairs.

Samantha McCabe

Samantha McCabe leads the office of International Student Services at the University of Wisconsin, Madison, where she advocates on behalf of the university’s international students, more than half of whom are from mainland China. She works closely with campus administration and Big Ten University colleagues to create policies and practices that support international students in an inclusive and engaging way. Her decade of experience in the field includes work as assistant director for SEVIS Compliance and as an international student advisor. Samantha has traveled widely in Asia and Latin America and lived in Spain, Namibia, and Brazil. Outside of her volunteer duties, she enjoys playing volleyball and exploring different cultures and countries through food and social exchange.

Yong Chen

Yong Chen, professor of history at the University of California, Irvine, serves as Associate Dean in the School of Humanities. He is the author of Chinese San Francisco: A Transnational Community, 1850-1943 and Chop Suey, USA: The Story of Chinese Food in America, which received honorable mention in the 2015 PROSE Awards. He co-curated “‘Have You Eaten Yet?’ The Chinese Restaurant in America” in the Atwater Kent Museum, Philadelphia, and the Museum of Chinese in the Americas, NYC. He has been frequently called upon by the print, online, broadcast, and TV media to comment on issues concerning food, Chinese/Asian Americans, and U.S.-China relations. US-China educational exchange is among his current research topics. He served on the National Park System Advisory Board National Historic Landmarks Committee from 2014-201

Moderator:

Madelyn C. Ross

Madelyn Ross is the president of the US-China Education Trust. Ross is the former Associate Director of China Studies, Executive Director of SAIS China, and Washington Director of the Hopkins-Nanjing Center at Johns Hopkins School of Advanced International Studies. She was Director of China Initiatives and the Global Consortium at George Mason University and spent nine years at the US-China Business Council, as editor of The China Business Review and Executive Director of The China Business Forum. Ross holds an M.A. in International Affairs
from Columbia University and did graduate work at Fudan University in Shanghai in 1979-1980, where she was one of the first American students to study in China following normalization of relations.