



Association of College
and University Educators

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Association of College and University Educators (ACUE)

ACUE Announces Susan Cates as CEO

*Brings two decades of education and business leadership, partnership development
to lead ACUE's next stage of growth and impact*

New York, NY (June 26, 2019) — The Association of College and University Educators (ACUE) today announced the appointment of Susan Cates as Chief Executive Officer. Cates has worked in education for more than two decades as a business leader, advisor and investor, with extensive experience partnering with universities in the United States and abroad. Following leadership roles at the University of North Carolina Kenan-Flagler Business School as president of executive development and as founding executive director of MBA@UNC, its ground-breaking online MBA program, she served as Chief Operating Officer of 2U, Inc. She recently served as a strategic advisor to both public and private universities and systems, in addition to educational companies meeting the needs of students, faculty and institutions.

“I’ve spent my career working to build and grow educational innovations that deliver access and quality for students,” said Cates. “We know the impact faculty members can have on students’ lives, and strengthening their teaching amplifies that positive influence in ways that ripple out for years. I’m inspired by ACUE’s vision and honored to lead the next phase of its growth and impact.”

ACUE’s mission is to help more college students succeed through effective instruction. Its courses prepare faculty in the evidence-based teaching approaches shown to improve student outcomes and provide the only nationally-recognized credential in effective instruction endorsed by the American Council on Education (ACE).

ACUE was formed in late 2014 with input from leaders in higher education, experts in instruction and hundreds of faculty members at founding partner institutions to provide the nation’s 1.5 million faculty members with comprehensive preparation in proven teaching methods. The team worked with leading experts to define and independently validate ACUE’s “Effective Practice Framework,” a comprehensive statement of the teaching skills and knowledge that every college educator should know and be prepared to implement. ACUE offers courses of study through which faculty at partner institutions learn about, implement, reflect on and refine evidence-based teaching approaches across the entire Framework. These content-rich courses are delivered online, facilitated by experts in teaching and learning and include opportunities for faculty to learn together and strengthen their craft.

“It’s an honor to serve our growing number of college and university partners,” said Dr. Jonathan Gyurko, who will remain as ACUE’s President and Co-Founder. “Thousands of faculty are embracing the opportunity to strengthen their teaching, earn their credential and help many more of their students succeed. Expanding our efforts to achieve our vision requires the expertise, experience and values that Susan brings to the table, and I’m delighted she’s joining the team.”

In the coming months, ACUE will launch continuing education initiatives to deepen the support it provides to faculty throughout their careers. “For nearly 30 years I’ve worked with educators to help them develop and refine their practice,” said ACUE’s Chief Academic Officer, Dr. Penny McCormack. “We knew that foundational and comprehensive preparation across the essentials of effective teaching was just the start – a necessary prerequisite – for a lifetime of refinement, reflection and professional collaboration. I’m excited to expand our team and suite of services and to help more faculty and students succeed.”

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About ACUE

The Association of College and University Educators (ACUE) believes that all college students deserve an extraordinary education and that faculty members play a critical role in their success. In partnership with institutions of higher education nationwide, ACUE supports and credentials faculty members in the use of evidence-based teaching practices that improve student engagement, retention, and learning. Faculty members who complete ACUE courses earn certificates in effective college instruction endorsed by the American Council on Education. ACUE’s Community of Professional Practice connects college educators from across the country through member forums, podcasts, and updates on the latest developments in the scholarship of teaching and learning. To learn more, visit www.acue.org