



Postsecondary
International
Network (PIN)

2025 Pre-Summit Workshops

Reimagining the Role of Universities in an AI-Driven World

Featured Presenter: **Ian Kitajima**

President, Pacific International Center for High Technology Research (PICHTR)



Workshop Dates:

July 24, 2025 | 10:30 AM – 12:00 PM (HST)

July 31, 2025 | 10:30 AM – 12:00 PM (HST)

Talk Description:

As AI, climate change, and global shifts reshape our world, higher education faces a turning point. In this session, Ian Kitajima will share how education, industry, technology, and community can come together in “living labs” where students and educators co-create real-world solutions using AI, Design Thinking, and collaboration. He’ll introduce the 5 Element framework, offer personal insights, and explore how universities can lead in building an inclusive, sustainable, tech-savvy future.

About Ian Kitajima:

Ian Kitajima is a leading innovation strategist and tech expert in Hawai‘i. For over 20 years, he served as Oceanit’s “Tech Sherpa,” helping turn scientific ideas into real-world technologies in areas like AI, nanotech, and healthcare. He co-founded Design Thinking Hawai‘i and has played a key role in bringing computer science and design thinking into Hawaii’s public schools.

Why It Matters:

*Serve as engines of innovation *Translate research into scalable, real-world solutions *Foster AI literacy, design thinking, and cross-sector partnerships *Prepare students with future-ready mindsets and skills

Join us as we explore how universities can lead—not follow—in shaping the future!

About PIN:

We are a high trust, thought provoking and solution oriented network for post-secondary executive leaders who want to make a difference.