AACCI International: A Winning Combination of Academia, Government, and Industry

Jan A. Delcour, AACC International President

Here I am as your president, beginning my term as I begin my 25th year as an AACC International member. After an earlier period on the AACCI Board as a director, which I enjoyed very much, I literally came back on board in 2012 as president-elect. Today, I am happy to be able to serve the membership of the association in a new role.

AACCI is a unique association that includes members from academia, government, and industry. To simultaneously target these three institutional spheres separately and individually presents the association with a complex and difficult task.

But let us look at this task from a positive angle. The good news is that targeting all three spheres also presents huge opportunities. It is my hope that AACCI will consider how it can play a more predominant role in the “triple helix” concept in an international context. This triple helix concept unites universities, government agencies, and industry to stimulate innovation across all three spheres. I am convinced that AACCI can play a role as a bridgehead and cornerstone within the triple helix concept and, in this way, can stimulate collaborative relationships globally among the three institutional spheres.

Looking at this from my university background, I believe that in the future innovation will be increasingly an outcome of interaction among different institutional spheres. I equally believe that in addition to fulfilling their traditional functions each institutional sphere needs to understand the role of the others and develop and perform new roles as well.

It is my sincere hope that AACCI can grow and flourish by becoming an active bridgehead and cornerstone in the triple helix concept. With your participation and support, we have a bright future ahead of us. Thank you for that!