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Involvement to Date in the Academic Consortium:

As an active member of the Consortium since 2010, I have been thrilled to see this organization grow and expand its influence. Over the years I have had the honor of participating in all the working groups at various times in different capacities. I created the first 'Business of Integrative Medicine' sub-committee under the Clinical Working Group, and then served in leadership roles as the Vice Chair and then Chair of the Clinical Working Group. I have spoken, presented on panels, demonstrated, and/or produced poster research at many of the Consortium's conferences and meetings over the years. I have also supported the national LEAPS educational program for four years in San Diego, where I have orchestrated the students and faculty in the opening night's interactive cook-off and taught Natural Healing and Cooking course as part of the experience. For the past three years, I have served on the Consortium Finance Committee and have enjoyed being in touch with the fiscal operations of the organization.

Experience and Expertise:

I bring more than 20 years of experience and expertise in management, strategy, operations, marketing, and finance. The past 11 years have been dedicated to launching and growing our Centers for Integrative Health at UC San Diego, growing from a 10-person microgranted program to an 87-person, multi-Center enterprise.

Vision for Integrative Medicine and Academic Consortium's Role in Achieving the Vision:

The field of integrative medicine and health has the power to create positive change across the entire practice of medicine. By educating, researching, and providing care that considers the whole person and focuses on natural approaches, prevention, and well-being, we have the potential to achieve improved health outcomes at lower cost. As Consortium members, I believe we can come together to discover and implement the most high-impact models and tools, and then spread this knowledge throughout the world via the member institutions of the Consortium, business leaders, employers, educators, policymakers, insurers, and the next generation of health care professionals who will see and embrace the value of integrative healthcare, making it the new gold standard across healthcare.