



KEYNOTE SPEAKER—Dr. Margee M. Ensign

Margee (hard “g”) Ensign (pronounced En-sine) became Dickinson’s 29th president on July 1, 2017. Prior to Dickinson she served for seven years as the president of the American University of Nigeria (AUN), a young, private university based on the U.S model of university education. There she oversaw the building of the sustainable campus, the creation of the finest digital library on the continent, the establishment of a law school as well as a graduate school, and a very active program of community engagement and humanitarian assistance. Pres. Ensign also co-founded the Adama-wa Peace Initiative, a locally based response to the threat from Boko Haram violence, which successfully promoted peace in the area, and assisted close to 300,000 refugees for three years.



Pres. Ensign left her California home for New College in Florida where she received her B.A. in peace studies and international relations. She went on to earn her master’s and Ph.D. in international political economy from the University of Maryland. From there she proceeded to teach at Columbia University where she was an assistant professor of both economics and political science while serving as the director of the International Political Economy program. Moving to Washington DC, she assumed the role of director of the USAID’s development program through Tulane University, then diving into full-time university administration at the University of the Pacific where she was dean of the School of International Studies and associate provost for international initiatives.

The author and editor of four books, including *Rwanda: History and Hope* and *Doing Good or Doing Well? Japan’s Foreign Aid Program*, she has presented at the World Economic Forum, been interviewed multiple times by the BBC and CNN, written for *The Washington Post*, is a blogger for *The Huffington Post*, and has testified before Congress on international affairs, defense and foreign assistance.

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