Session 3:
Maintaining connectivity while reducing our carbon footprint
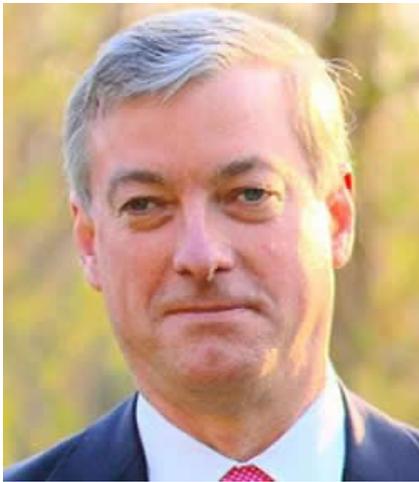
Speaker:

Professor Ian Leslie
Senior Adviser to the Vice-Chancellor, Information Systems Strategy and Environmental Sustainability, Professor of Computer Science, University of Cambridge

(no paper)

INTERNATIONAL ALLIANCE OF
RESEARCH UNIVERSITIES

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The rise of online and hybrid working has prompted a rethink of how and why we travel, especially internationally. We can value the reduced climate impact of working virtually, while at the same time miss the benefits of sustained face-to-face collaboration. With the return of international travel, universities now face choices around how we fulfil our twin obligations of leading by example on sustainability while pursuing the close collaboration needed to produce the world-changing research needed for a sustainable future. Professor Ian Leslie will present Cambridge's perspective in this area and lead a discussion in which Presidents can share their institutional perspectives and help inform the decisions that IARU's own groups and initiatives make about how to work together most effectively.

Speaker

Professor Ian Leslie
Senior Adviser to the Vice-Chancellor, Information Systems Strategy and Environmental Sustainability
Professor of Computer Science, University of Cambridge

Professor Leslie is the Director of Information Services at the University of Cambridge. He is also Senior Adviser to the Vice-Chancellor with special responsibility for Information Systems Strategy and Environmental Sustainability, and chairs the University's Environmental Sustainability Strategy Committee.

Professor Leslie's research interests have been in computer networks and operating systems: he has more recently been investigating the use of information systems to reduce energy demand. He was Head of the University's Computer Laboratory between 1999 and 2004, and from 2004 to 2009, Pro-Vice-Chancellor for Research.