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## **E&I Cooperative Services Expands National Coalition on Enterprise Systems & Services**

Coalition brings together many higher education technology leaders to effect positive industry change

**JERICHO, N.Y.** – E&I Cooperative Services (E&I), the member-owned, non-profit purchasing cooperative focused on education, recently announced the expansion of its National Coalition on Enterprise Systems & Services. The Coalition was established to bring together some of the best minds in educational technology and procurement to discuss the needs of E&I's member institutions and effect positive industry change.

Three industry leaders have recently joined to help drive the mission and strategic direction of the now nearly 20-member Coalition. These new members include:

- John (Jack) Suess, Vice President and CIO, University of Maryland, Baltimore County (UMBC)
- Loren Malm, JD, CISSP, Interim Vice President for Information Technology, Ball State University, Muncie, IN
- Kevin Morooney, Vice President, Trust and Identity Services & NET+, Internet2

The Coalition meets periodically to address pressing technology issues facing many higher education institutions today, such as:

- The future of enterprise technology
- Industry best practices
- Cloud operations
- Software licensing restrictions
- A lack of pricing transparency
- Increased participation in developmental efforts

The objectives of the Coalition are to not only address higher education's technology needs and challenges, but also to help solution providers devise innovative approaches to product development efforts that map to and help shape evolving business practices. The Coalition will also recognize those institutions and solution providers that are consistently innovating and enacting positive change in the higher education space.

According to Keith Fowlkes, Vice President, Technology Category for E&I and one of the Coalition's founders, "The E&I National Coalition takes a fresh look at challenges in industry best practices and policies, and it plays an active role in helping solution providers better prepare themselves for the future of technology in higher education. With input from technology leaders at other major institutions, we will seek to build a consensus on the critical industry change that is needed to create an improved, more transparent technology environment for higher education operations."

More information on the Coalition, its goals, and the new members, can be found here.

## **About E&I Cooperative Services**

E&I Cooperative Services (E&I) is the only member-owned, non-profit purchasing cooperative solely focused on serving education and related facilities. E&I delivers expertise, solutions, and services through a diverse portfolio of competitively solicited contracts. By leveraging the knowledge and purchasing power of its nationwide membership, E&I helps higher education and K-12 institutions reduce costs, optimize supply chain efficiencies, and save time on the RFP process. The Cooperative's member-driven competitive solicitation process has been validated by the National Institute of Governmental Purchasing (NIGP) as complying with generally accepted procurement standards. For more information, please visit: <a href="https://www.eandi.org">www.eandi.org</a>.