

2026 Presidents Institute

A Deeper Purpose



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The Council of Independent Colleges

Building Culture, Community, and Connection as a Presidential Spouse/Partner

Presenters

- ***Grant Cornwell***
President Emeritus
Rollins College (FL)
- ***Peg Cornwell***
Former Presidential Spouse
Rollins College (FL)
- ***Michael Householder***, Facilitator
Presidential Spouse
Macalester College (MN); Spouses and Partners Program Task Force
Chair, CIC

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Considerations for a presidential spouse

- Presidency is larger than the President.
- The Presidency has to convey the mission of the college.
- The Presidential spouse can be a full scale partner in this role.
- Intentionality is key.

Ten tips to consider:

1. A spouse's role can benefit the Presidency, while establishing her/his own identity.





2. The college mission is your north star.

3. Show up - it matters





4. Be intentional about where you show up.

5. Create a signature program



6. Let the staff do their work.





7. Students are the future leaders of our society. Get to know them.

8. Share
yourself with
others within
your comfort
zone.



9. Be a philanthropic partner



10. Be a thought
partner for your
spouse.



Q&A

**Thank you for attending
this session!**

