



Dennis H. Kekas, PE  
Executive Director, Institute for Next  
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As Associate Vice Chancellor at North Carolina State University, Dennis is responsible for Centennial Campus Partnerships and Economic Development. In addition he is the Executive Director of the College of Engineering's Institute for Next Generation IT Systems.

Previously he served as Interim Executive Director for NC State's Power Electronics National Manufacturing Innovation Institute (PowerAmerica), as announced by President Obama on January 15, 2014, through launch in 2015.

A retired IBM executive, he earlier led the development of many disruptive products including point-of-sale, optical scanners, networking and others. In 2006 he co-founded ImagineOptix Corporation to commercialize NC State optical technologies and is the current board chair.

His BSEE is from Clemson with Graduate studies at Syracuse, NC State and UCLA. A Professional Engineer in New York and North Carolina he holds 8 Patents with numerous awards for inventions, technical achievements and management excellence.

A Past President of the Clemson Alumni Association he received Clemson's Distinguished Service Award in 1999, and received the 2016 Association of University Research Parks Leadership Award.

He served on the Clemson University Research (CURF) board from 2008 to 2014 and was re-elected in 2016. In 2016 he was appointed to the board of the North Carolina Rare Disease Innovations Institute.

He and his wife Joyce reside in Raleigh, NC.