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**Summary Highlights**

Kristin Lamoureux is Executive Director of the International Institute of Tourism Studies (IITS) and a Research Professor of Business and Tourism Studies in the School of Business at the George Washington University. She holds a Ph.D. in Strategic Planning and Tourism Development. Dr. Lamoureux has been a leader in the area of professional and academic education for almost 20 years, including the oversight of all IITS activities and professional training programs offered in Washington, DC as well as through distance learning and in customized formats throughout the world.

Under Dr. Lamoureux’ leadership, IITS has grown to be known as one of the most significant tourism research centers in the world. As the first UNWTO Research Center, IITS now holds a leadership role in the area of tourism professional development, international development, curriculum development and academic research.

Additionally, Dr. Lamoureux currently is involved in many projects focusing on tourism in developed and developing countries and with indigenous populations around the world including in the US, Jordan, Honduras, Belize, Egypt, Mali, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Ethiopia, Bulgaria and Spain. Dr. Lamoureux has served as a consultant for the US Department of Interior, National Park Service, Bureau of Indian Affairs, USAID, the World Bank, the UN World Tourism Organization, the US Environmental Protection Agency, the Ecotourism Society, and Conservation International, among others. At present she serves as the Special Advisor to the American Indian Alaska Native Tourism Association. Most recently she has assisted both the Choctaw Nation in Oklahoma and the Crow Tribe in Montana to assess, develop and market their tourism opportunities.

Her primary focus areas include economic development, tourism workforce development, capacity building, sustainable tourism, culture-heritage tourism, volunteer tourism, accreditation, destination management, public private partnerships, and rural and/or tribal community tourism development.

At present, Dr. Lamoureux serves on several Advisory Boards including the Destination Marketing Association International Destination Accreditation Management Program, the Board of Regents of Sustainable Tourism International’s Educational Programs, among others.

Dr. Lamoureux began her education in Ecuador after having received a Rotary Exchange Student Scholarship and she lived there for several years. She has an A.S. from La Universidad Catolica del Ecuador, a B.S. from Johnson and Wales University in Rhode Island, a M.T.A. (Master of Tourism Administration) and a Ph.D. in Business Administration with a focus on Strategic Management and Tourism from The George Washington University in Washington, DC.