**Topic:** Evidence continues to accumulate of an epic socio-technological transformation that is beginning to emerge across the globe and to affect many areas of human endeavor. At the forefront of these changes are robotics, digital networks, and artificial intelligence. What might these technologies mean for us as a nation, society, students, and for our universities?

As we ponder these questions of our time, we confront a relative lack of theoretical frameworks with which to help inform our thinking and the development of adaptive strategies. There is also lacking a larger discussion of historical perspective that might allow us to place these technological changes in context. Are all these innovations entirely new? Are they rooted in historical forces or perhaps even a ‘force of nature’, as some theorists posit? History can provide perspective, and an understanding as to how our past societies have navigated technological change and in many cases, flourished in the changing times. The conversation will offer historical frameworks with which to consider the present and near future. History will be our guide, but it will be admitted that there is now upon us at least one profound break with the past in fundamental, ways, that will require whole new thinking, teaching, research, to ensure humans can indeed flourish in the emergent realms of robotics, AI, and cyberspace. Lastly, this presentation will briefly consider how higher education institutions have to adapt.

**Bio:** Prior to his move back home to North Dakota, Dr. Hagerott served on the faculty and held numerous academic leadership roles at the United States Naval Academy. He also served as a planning and strategy director in one of the largest U.S. Army educational organizations, NATO Training Mission, which included army, air force, and medical school programs. Hagerott served as distinguished professor and deputy director of the Center for Cyber Security Studies at the Naval Academy and served on the Defense Science Board summer study of unmanned systems 2014-2015. He is a commissioner on the Midwestern Higher Education Compact, and Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education.

Chancellor Hagerott’s research and writing are focused on the evolution of technology, education, and changes in technical career paths, and he is the author of multiple articles and book chapters, with a recent emphasis on unmanned systems. He served as a non-resident cyber Fellow of the New America Foundation, 2015-2017. He was among the first military professors from the United States to brief the Geneva Convention on the challenge of lethal robotic machines and argue the merits of early arms control measures in 2014. In addition, his proposals for national education reform of the Land Grant universities have been published in The Chronicle of Higher Education, and have been presented on Capitol Hill and the White House, in 2018-19. His proposal is in draft for a joint publication by the National Academy of Science and National Academy of Engineering to be published in 2020.

Prior to his transition to an academic career path, Hagerott held numerous leadership positions in the U.S. Navy, both aboard ships and in administrative positions in the Department of Defense. A certified naval nuclear engineer in power generation and distribution, he served as chief engineer for a major environmental project defueling of two atomic reactors. Hagerott also ran tactical data networks for the Navy and rose to ship command prior to his career in higher education. He also served in both Bush administrations, as a White House Fellow in the first Bush administration; and in the office of the Deputy Secretary of Defense in the second Bush administration.

Hagerott holds a B.S. from the U.S. Naval Academy, an M.A. in political science and economics from Oxford University where he attended as a Rhodes Scholar, and a Ph.D. in history from University of Maryland.

The chancellor hails from a multi-generation North Dakota family of farmers and energy producers. The Hagerott-Brandenburg family homesteaded in Center and Mandan before statehood, where his father continues work on the fourth-generation farm, and his mother’s family came with the first Bakken oil boom.