## Speaker Bios

## **KELLOGG ON SUSTAINABILITY**

The Business of Climate Change

## J. Eric Smith

President and CEO; Member of the Group Executive Committee Swiss Re Americas

J. Eric Smith is President and CEO Swiss Re Americas, and is a member of the Swiss Re Group Executive Committee. He joined Swiss Re in July 2011.

A career-long advocate of deploying technology to make insurance more accessible, Smith has also emphasized the role the reinsurance sector plays in both macro- and microeconomic resilience, especially in uncertain and hazardous conditions like those influenced by climate change and economic difficulty. In January 2014 Smith spoke at the 2014 Investor Summit on Climate Risk at the United Nations in New York.

Smith's career encompasses both the business-to-business and retail sides of the insurance industry. He spent over 20 years at Country Financial, helping to build its Property & Casualty business as VP of marketing. He joined Allstate in 2002 and became President of Allstate Financial Services where he was responsible for its agency line of business. He joined USAA as President of USAA Life Insurance Co. in 2009, where he led the effort to broaden access to the company's life and annuity products through direct distribution channels. Smith holds a degree in Finance from the University of Illinois; and an MBA from the Kellogg Graduate School of Management. He serves on the Board of the American Insurance Association (AIA).