Richard H. Wells, Chancellor
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Biography

Richard H. Wells took office as the tenth Chancellor of the University of Wisconsin Oshkosh on October 1, 2000. Prior to his appointment, Chancellor Wells served as Provost and Vice President of Academic Affairs at Indiana State University, and as Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences at West Chester University.

Chancellor Wells received his B.A. degree from William Penn College, his M.A. from the University of Arkansas, and his Ph.D. in Sociology from Texas A & M University. He has authored many publications and has 18 years of college teaching experience.

He is a member of NEW ERA (Northeast Wisconsin Educational Resource Alliance—a consortium of executive leaders of northeast Wisconsin’s 13 public higher educational institutions serving 1.2 million Wisconsin residents) and served from 2001 to 2005 as the founding Chairperson. NEW ERA is also a founding member of New North, Inc., a consortium of collaborative organizations of northeastern Wisconsin’s chambers of commerce, workforce development boards, economic development professionals, educational leaders and CEOs of major corporations. Dr. Wells serves as a founding member of the New North, Inc. Board of Directors.

Chancellor Wells is a strong advocate of the role played by the “Greater Wisconsin” institutions—the 11 regional comprehensive universities and the UW Colleges—in ensuring the economic vitality of Wisconsin’s communities by providing innovative and collaborative programs that are aligned with regional needs for workforce development, business enterprise support and community growth.

Chancellor Wells serves on national boards of directors for the College Portrait, the Association of American Colleges and Universities, the American Association of State Colleges and Universities and the American Council on Education. Chancellor Wells served a four-year term on the NCAA Division III Presidents’ Council.

He is also a voting member of the boards of Affinity Health, Oshkosh Chamber of Commerce, Oshkosh Convention and Visitor's Bureau, Oshkosh Industrial Development Corporation (CHAMCO), Wisconsin Campus Compact and the Wisconsin Higher Education Business Roundtable.