

April 21, 2026

Presidential Search Committee
McNeese State University

Dear Members of the Search Committee:

I write to express my interest in the presidency of McNeese State University. McNeese serves a vital role in Southwest Louisiana as a driver of educational opportunity, workforce preparation, and regional advancement. I will lead with a clear focus on student success, academic strength, and sustained partnership across the region to advance that mission and strengthen the university's impact as a talent anchor for its communities and a region defined by strong industry, community resilience, and opportunity.

My career includes service as Acting President, Provost, Chief Academic Officer, and Dean across public and private institutions, including doctoral-granting universities with multi-site and international operations. I have led organizations with budgets up to \$120 million, supported significant enrollment growth, and secured more than \$55 million in external funding. My leadership centers on setting clear priorities, aligning resources, and holding teams accountable for measurable outcomes. I work directly with faculty, staff, students, governing boards, and community partners to set direction, execute priorities, and deliver results. That experience positions me to lead McNeese with clarity, discipline, transparency, and full accountability.

McNeese's role as a regional anchor aligns directly with how I lead. Its academic breadth across the liberal arts and sciences, business, education, engineering, and the health professions provides a strong foundation for continued growth. In partnership with faculty and academic leaders, I will strengthen program quality, expand high-demand fields, and ensure that academic offerings connect directly to workforce needs across Southwest Louisiana. The LNG Center of Excellence presents a distinctive opportunity, and I will advance partnerships with industry and government to extend McNeese's leadership in energy and safety while creating clear pathways for student research, internships, and career placement. We will integrate artificial intelligence and emerging technologies across academic programs and workforce partnerships so that graduates are prepared for evolving industry demands.

Student success defines institutional progress and excellence at McNeese. The university has built positive momentum in enrollment and retention, providing a strong base for continued gains. I will strengthen advising, academic support, and clear degree pathways that support persistence and timely completion. Expanded dual enrollment, transfer pathways, and flexible delivery models will extend access to working students and place-bound learners throughout the region.

Sustained progress requires disciplined financial leadership. I will align resources with institutional priorities, ensure transparency in decision making, and strengthen revenue through enrollment growth, grants, and philanthropy. My experience building corporate partnerships and securing external support sustains investment in academic programs, student services, and facilities. I will bring that same focus to McNeese.

The president must be visible, engaged, and accountable to the region. I will serve as an active ambassador for McNeese, working closely with business and industry leaders, elected officials, alumni, and community organizations. These relationships will strengthen the university's role in regional development and ensure that McNeese continues to prepare graduates who lead and remain in Southwest Louisiana, while supporting a strong and visible athletics program that contributes to student life and regional pride.

McNeese's culture reflects resilience, commitment, and shared purpose. I will build on that foundation through direct communication, mutual respect, and active engagement in shared governance with faculty and staff to advance institutional priorities and deliver measurable progress.

I welcome the opportunity to speak with you about advancing student success, strengthening academic quality, and extending McNeese's impact across Southwest Louisiana. I look forward to working with you to lead McNeese State University with focus, accountability, and a clear commitment to its students, its partners, and its future.

Sincerely,

George Arasimowicz

George Arasimowicz, Ph.D.

GEORGE ARASIMOWICZ, Ph.D.

EXECUTIVE PROFILE

Transformational academic leader with extensive experience as Acting President, Provost/Vice President for Academic Affairs, and Chief Academic Officer at doctoral-granting institutions. Proven track record managing complex, multi-site operations with budgets exceeding \$120 million, leading institutions serving 4,000-17,000+ students across residential, online, and international campuses.

Promote respect, open communication, and collegiality through collaborative leadership. Extensive experience developing interdisciplinary programs across arts, business, education, engineering, health professions, humanities, law, mathematics, and sciences. Proven success constructing productive governance structures with students, faculty, staff, and community members. Experienced in shared governance and collective bargaining environments, working effectively with faculty senates, student unions, and faculty/staff associations.

Core Competencies:

- Strategic planning and institutional transformation
- Budget development and resource allocation (\$18.5M-\$120M)
- Enrollment management (37-46% growth achieved)
- Extensive international partnerships and program development across Asia, Australia, Africa, Europe, Latin America, and North America
- Accreditation and assessment: Regional (HLC, Middle States, WASC); Business (AACSB, ACBSP); Education (CACREP, CAEP, CCTE); Nursing/Health Sciences (ACEN, CCNE); Arts (NASM, NASAD, NAST, CIDA); Social Work (CSWE); Engineering/Technology (ABET); Distance Education (NC-SARA)
- Fundraising and grant acquisition (\$55+ million secured)
- Faculty development and collective bargaining environments
- Inclusive Excellence leadership
- Crisis management and organizational resilience
- Artificial intelligence and digital transformation
- Technology integration and emerging media

SENIOR ACADEMIC LEADERSHIP EXPERIENCE

CEO, Baseline Convergence 2024–Present

Executive leadership focused on artificial intelligence research, development, and applications including generative AI technologies, AI sonification, music media production, and integration strategies for educational and organizational contexts.

Technology Leadership:

- Direct engagement with cutting-edge generative AI tools and applications
- Research and development of AI sonification, music, and media content
- Analysis of implications for higher education curriculum, pedagogy, and operations
- Strategic development and testing of integration strategies for academic institutions

Academic Dean and Chief Academic Officer, Ottawa University Kansas 2022–2023

Senior-most academic officer reporting directly to the President. Ottawa University is a private comprehensive multi-site doctoral degree-granting institution with international partnerships and distance learning programs serving 4,000+ students with an \$80 million budget.

Strategic Leadership:

- Provided executive oversight of all academic operations, curriculum, faculty hiring/evaluation, academic policy, student success, registrar, library, IT, institutional research, and sponsored programs
- Collaborated closely with admissions, student affairs, athletics, and university development
- Managed academic affairs budget and resource allocation

Major Accomplishments:

- Implemented Master of Science in Applied Psychology and Doctor of Business Administration degree programs
- Developed Brave Discovery Undergraduate Research and Creative Work Day
- Created new Honors Program and Student Success Center
- Established graduate program articulations with Commonwealth of the Bahamas
- Initiated National Guard military student enrollment programs
- Established Writing Center and codified Faculty Credentials Guidelines
- Led university-wide course scheduling revision

Acting President, Emporia State University October–November 2021

Served as Chief Executive Officer reporting to Kansas Board of Regents during presidential transition. Public state doctoral degree-granting university serving 6,000+ students with \$120 million budget.

Executive Responsibilities:

- Provided executive leadership for all university operations
- Served as Institutional Representative to Council of University Presidents (COPS) and System Council of University Presidents (SCOPS), Kansas Board of Regents
- Led President's Cabinet and maintained stakeholder relations with Board of Regents

Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs, Emporia State University 2021–2022

Chief academic officer for comprehensive multi-site public doctoral institution with international partnerships and distance learning programs. Managed academic affairs budget of \$55 million.

Organizational Leadership:

- Led Academic Affairs, Institutional Effectiveness, all Academic Colleges and Schools, Graduate School, Information Technology, University Libraries and Archives, and Sponsored Research
- Chaired Provost's Council and served on President's Cabinet, Faculty Senate Executive Committee, and Enrollment Management Leadership Council
- Represented institution on System Council of Chief Academic Officers (SCOCAO) and Council of Chief Academic Officers (CCAO), Kansas Board of Regents

Strategic Initiatives & Program Development:

- Instituted degree programs with three Chinese universities (Anhui Normal University, Tsinghua University for AACSB-accredited global MBA, Zhejiang Normal University)
- Established education programs with South Mediterranean University, Tunisia
- Instituted Cybersecurity Center with \$1.5M federal grant and \$1.1M KBOR funding
- Articulated Systemwide Transfer (SWT) course agreements across Kansas higher education
- Instituted articulations with Kansas Community and Technical Colleges and regional school districts
- Introduced esports/gaming program and Applied Sciences program development
- Introduced micro-degrees and credentials for lifelong learning and economic development

Faculty Development & Student Success:

- Implemented enrollment management protocols and student success initiatives
- Created Faculty Teaching-Learning University Resource Center
- Implemented high-impact practices and equity/inclusion offices including Senior Director of Inclusive Excellence position
- Advanced AASCU American Democracy Project: Economic Literacy Project
- Articulated State Authorization Reciprocity Agreement (SARA) for distance education
- Instituted military veterans center

Accreditation & Assessment:

- Led successful AACSB School of Business accreditation reaffirmation
- Led successful CACREP counselor education accreditation
- Led successful CAEP Teachers College interim review
- Prepared institution for HLC (Higher Learning Commission) reaffirmation

Operational Excellence:

- Implemented CBIZ employee compensation study and remote work policy
- Undertook facilities deferred maintenance assessment study
- Introduced Economic Impact Study

DEAN AND ACADEMIC LEADERSHIP EXPERIENCE

Dean and Professor, College of Humanities, Arts, and Social Sciences, Central State University 2016–2021

Led multi-site college within 1890 land-grant HBCU serving 6,000+ students in Dayton, Ohio region. Managed \$12 million college budget overseeing 17 degree programs, General Education for entire university, online Union Plus/Career+ programs, NPR station WCSU-FM, University College, Honors Program, Louis Stokes Center on Aging, Mass Communications Center, Military Science, and numerous federally funded research programs.

Crisis Leadership:

- Led COVID-19 crisis response including transition to exclusive remote learning, student/faculty support, and financial/administrative continuity

Enrollment & Student Success:

- Increased student graduation and persistence rates, successfully meeting Ohio Performance-Based Funding model metrics
- Increased college enrollment and retention by 46%
- Implemented Ad Astra scheduling, EAB Navigate, Hobsons retention, Campus Labs Beacon Early Alert systems
- Advanced active learning implementation for student success and retention

Program Development & Accreditation:

- Led successful Council for Social Work Education (CSWE) accreditation membership attainment
- Led successful National Association of Schools of Art and Design (NASAD) reaccreditation
- Maintained NASM (National Association of Schools of Music) accreditation
- Obtained Federal Communications Commission (FCC) License Renewal for WCSU-FM through 2028
- Articulated Transfer Assurance Guides (TAGs) courses with Ohio Department of Higher Education
- Developed online degrees for AFL-CIO Union-Plus program serving 12+ million union members and families
- Created Interdisciplinary Studies degree (campus and online)
- 150+ curricular course additions/revisions

International & Inclusive Excellence Initiatives:

- Established cultural/language exchange program with Universidad Tecnológica de Bolívar, Colombia
- Established Fulbright Scholars in Residence (Chinese, Arabic, Russian, French, Portuguese)
- Instituted AASCU American Democracy Project on political learning and engagement
- Advanced multiple study abroad courses through Center for Global Education

Faculty & Staff Development:

- Recruited and hired multiple faculty in Psychology, Sociology, Criminal Justice, Social Work, English, History, Languages (Spanish, French, Arabic, Chinese, Portuguese, Russian), Political Science, Communication, Music, Art, Design, Philosophy
- Instituted Faculty and Staff Center for Teaching and Learning
- Advanced faculty research/creative work support and training in active experiential learning and hybrid/online pedagogy
- Recruited department chairs for Humanities, Fine and Performing Arts, Social and Behavioral Sciences
- Recruited and hired general manager for NPR radio station WCSU

Community & Corporate Partnerships:

- Developed Ohio College to Law Enforcement Pathway Program (Governor's initiative to increase minority law enforcement officers)
- Established Ohio Emergency Management Center with Naloxone certification
- Developed Center for Negotiation and Mediation
- Developed corporate partnerships with J.P. Morgan, Apple, Oracle, Cox Media, Procter & Gamble, Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Air Force Institute of Technology, Huntington National Bank, Fifth Third Bank

Resource Development:

- Principal Investigator/Project Director: \$780,000 Title III U.S. Department of Education grant
- Principal Investigator/Project Director: \$700,000 Corporation for Public Broadcasting grant
- Broadcast Educational Media Commission: \$167,000 grant
- Secured \$1.8 million facilities renovations
- Obtained \$25,000 sociology alumni funding

Dean and Professor, College of Visual and Performing Arts, Kean University 2012–2015

Led multi-site college at public doctoral urban research university with locations in New Jersey, New York City region, and Wenzhou, China. Managed \$18+ million budget serving 16,000+ students across three campuses with nationally accredited programs (NASM, NASAD, NAST, CIDA), professional Equity theatre company, galleries, museum, and performance venues.

Crisis & Operational Leadership:

- Led emergency responses to Hurricane Sandy campus/college closures and reopenings
- Administered \$18+ million budget with strategic resource allocation

Facilities & Program Expansion:

- Planned and implemented new building facilities including expansion of Robert Busch School of Design
- Secured funding and implemented new theatre facilities construction including multiple performance theatres, rehearsal spaces, scene and props shops, and classrooms.
- Developed new facilities and design degree program at Kean University-Wenzhou, China
- Planned and provided new degree offerings for Wenzhou campus

Accreditation & Academic Excellence:

- Led successful specialized accreditation submissions: CIDA (interior design), NASM (music), NASAD (art and design), NAST (theatre)
- Advanced institutional accreditation submissions for Middle States Commission on Higher Education
- Led student learning planning and assessment, faculty/staff enhancement, academic program reviews

Strategic Initiatives:

- Led campus strategic planning and resource allocations through University Planning Council
- Implemented Bachelor of Music degree in Performance and Pedagogy
- Enhanced online, hybrid, and multi-site course programs
- Developed articulations with community colleges and dual enrollment programs with New Jersey high schools
- Established School of Performing Arts

International & Innovative Partnerships:

- Initiated exchange programs with Renmin University and Capital Normal University, Beijing, China

- Initiated Institute for the Arts in Science, Medicine, Education
- Initiated convergent and interactive media studies
- Initiated media and business studies programs
- Associated art/design with Enough Project and former U.S. National Security Council Director for African Affairs
- Established bilateral exhibitions with Jan Matejko Academy of Fine Arts, Krakow, Poland
- Instituted corporate partnership with Apple

Arts Programming:

- Developed Arts Council, Kean University Foundation
- Developed Academy of Performing Arts concurrent dual enrollment with school districts
- Hosted Foulger International Music Festival and American String Teachers Association events

Dean and Professor, College of Arts and Humanities, California State University, Dominguez Hills 2007–2012

Led college at public urban comprehensive university in Los Angeles serving 17,000+ students. Part of 23-campus California State University System (490,000+ students, largest university system in U.S.). Managed \$18.5 million budget overseeing 20 departments providing liberal/professional/interdisciplinary undergraduate and graduate programs at Hispanic-Serving, Asian American and Native American Pacific Islander-Serving, Minority-Serving institution.

Enrollment & Student Success:

- Increased graduation rates and student enrollment within College by 37%
- Leader in Closing the Achievement Gap retention/graduation initiative
- Revised student advisement, introduced cohort learning groups, early alerts, curriculum degree roadmaps
- Leader in LEAP program, Summer Bridge, and First Year Initiatives
- Leader in university strategic planning and academic outcomes
- Established college student services center with optimal staffing

Faculty & Program Development:

- Recruited and hired new faculty and staff across 20 departments
- Secured new staff positions
- Funded release time for faculty in Theatre, Art, Dance, Music, Digital Media Arts, Women's Studies, Labor Studies, History, English, Spanish, Chicana/o Studies, Africana Studies, Asian Pacific Studies, Anthropology, Communication, Negotiation
- Sponsored faculty development resulting in NEA and NEH fellowships and grants
- Initiated faculty-library partnerships for digital course materials

Accreditation & Program Innovation:

- Represented University for Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC) accreditation site visit
- Coordinated Department of Music NASM re-accreditation
- Led program reviews and California Commission on Teacher Credentialing single subject matter accreditations
- Instituted B.A. degree in Negotiation, Conflict Resolution and Peacebuilding

- Implemented graduate degree and certificates in Negotiation, Conflict Resolution and Peacebuilding
- Developed certificate in creative and professional writing
- Developed Cross-Cultural, Gender and Leadership Development certificate program

Technology & Digital Innovation:

- Obtained funding for digital media arts laboratory: construction, computing, specialized equipment
- Instituted course offerings in web design, digital animation, digital non-linear editing
- Developed online course delivery and online degree programs
- Advanced use of digital learning materials for student engagement
- Initiated The Center for Documentary Studies
- Led one-to-one laptop computing adoption
- Introduced 1.5 generation learner pedagogies for developmental English

Facilities & Resources:

- Secured new chamber recital performance space and grand piano in university's new library
- Added six practice rooms for student creative work
- Obtained funding for digital media arts laboratory

International & Community Partnerships:

- Developed online and hybrid graduate degree agreement with University of Nicosia, Cyprus
- Instituted Nahuatl language studies via synchronous web conferencing with Yale, NYU, Columbia, and Universidad Autónoma de Zacatecas, Mexico
- Instituted 3+3 and graduate dual degree agreements with Southwestern Law School
- Developed STEP partnership with LA Unified School District for middle/high school students providing intercultural education and immersive campus experiences
- Developed corporate partnerships with Apple, Toyota, Enterprise, Mattel
- Developed service learning murals at Watts Health Clinic and Women's Crisis Center

Curricular Innovation:

- Instituted curricular offerings in African Art and Culture, African Dance, Asian History, Interactive Multimedia, Modern Architecture, Music Industry, Women and Art, Electronic/Online Journalism
- Advanced American Indian Center Institute
- Instituted Media Studies research group
- Instituted Weekend College in Interdisciplinary Studies
- Instituted dual enrollment programs for high school students
- Developed and provided University course delivery to high school students

Resource Development:

- Obtained external endowment funding (\$250,000) for art scholarships
- Obtained external endowment funding (\$300,000) for faculty research leaves
- Obtained funding (\$320,000) for arts and humanities research/scholarship
- Obtained external funding (\$120,000) for online course development and faculty training
- Obtained funding (\$190,000) to equip media studies

- Obtained funding (\$150,000) for academic computing labs
- Created and obtained funding for Music, Movies, and More Symposium partnering with AEG-Home Depot Center foundation
- Facilitated NEH Digital Humanities fellowship (\$25,000)
- Facilitated NEH Landmarks of American History grant (\$172,000)
- Facilitated U.S. Department of Education Teacher Quality Partnership Program grant (\$6.9 million)

Events & Cultural Programming:

- Invited and hosted Consul General of Japan for campus lectures
- Hosted 2010 College Music Society Pacific Southwest Regional Conference
- Hosted Dominguez Hills Guitar Festival 2009 and 2007 Guitar Foundation of America National Convention
- Instituted collaborative programming with Getty Center in New Media and Video Art

Founding Dean and Professor, Division of Arts, Media, and Communications, Wheaton College 1999–2007

Dean and Professor, Conservatory of Music, Wheaton College 1997–1999

Founding Dean of division at private selective liberal arts college and doctoral graduate school in Chicago serving 3,000 students. Managed \$13 million budget for departments of art, communication and theatre, conservatory of music, community school of the arts, and artist series.

Transformational Leadership:

- Created Wheaton College Community School of the Arts serving 1,500+ students in multiple Chicagoland sites
- Successfully advocated for \$280 million capital campaign focusing on arts, sciences, and faculty-student research mentoring
- Generated and led \$35 million Arts at Wheaton Initiative (part of comprehensive campaign)
- Adjudicated strategic plan/capital priorities within Long Range Planning Committee

Accreditation & Academic Excellence:

- Contributing author/editor of Wheaton College Self-Study for HLC North Central Association re-accreditation
- Led Conservatory of Music NASM re-accreditation
- Directed recurrent curricular and learning outcomes assessment reviews

Inclusive Excellence:

- Led initiatives intentionally focusing upon inclusive excellence in artistic, curricular, and personnel areas
- Successfully recruited underrepresented faculty, staff, and students
- Structured faculty development sessions with discipline-based curriculum diversity consultants

Program & Curriculum Development:

- Developed B.A. programs in Interpersonal Communication, Media Studies, Rhetoric and Culture, Theatre
- Instituted Arts in England international program (art, music, theatre, video in Great Britain)
- Instituted African Music Education Seminar (AMES) partnership with schools in Kenya, Nigeria, South Africa
- Developed Great Cities of Europe curricular residency program
- Developed Black Hills International Improvisation Institute in South Dakota
- Created Breathe campus festival linking inter-arts processes with student initiatives
- Added Modern Languages track to Bachelor of Music with Elective Studies degree
- Initiated new graduate studies programs

Technology & Innovation:

- Stimulated learning outcomes by introducing digital portfolio and technology adoption
- Instituted corporate partnership with Apple
- Initiated equipment replacement schedule for the arts
- Instituted one-to-one laptop computing program
- Introduced hybrid course delivery
- Initiated new media curricula: web design, digital animation/graphics, Avid systems, Final Cut Pro

Resource Development:

- Successfully advocated for \$280 million capital campaign focusing on arts, sciences, and faculty-student research mentoring
- Promoted divisional profile and represented initiatives in successful \$158 million capital campaign (as Conservatory Dean)
- Secured \$1.5 million donation for new concert organ
- Created multimillion-dollar self-support Community School of the Arts
- Secured external endowment funding (\$350,000) for student internship program
- Obtained funding (\$33,000) for ceramics kilns
- Increased scholarship funding for students

Community Engagement:

- Created institutional partnerships with civic and community groups providing services for at-risk youth and senior adults
- Created enrichment programs for Chicago Public Schools magnet university preparatory high schools
- Created campus-wide Speech Center
- Developed international symposia involving real-time video teleconferencing

Facilities & Infrastructure:

- Secured and equipped faculty studios for visual artists
- Secured new kilns for 3-dimensional artwork
- Initiated public art and campus sculpture exhibits
- Instituted ergonomic assessment and remediation of work environments

Chairperson and Associate/Assistant Professor, Department of Music, University of Colorado Denver 1988–1997 (Chair: 1994–1997)

Public urban multicultural research university serving 21,000+ students with \$9 million budget.

Innovation & Leadership:

- Developed and instituted the first internet-based distance learning curriculum within the University of Colorado system, which became the foundation for CU in the World
- Advanced CU in the World degree program offerings on international campuses
- Developed B.S. degree in Music Industry Studies with emphases in music technology and business
- Created interdisciplinary curricula/projects and digital media programming

Strategic Planning & Facilities:

- Led strategic planning for department and school culminating in new building project
- Secured specialized digital media equipment and staff support
- Obtained funding (\$143,000) for digital media equipment

Enrollment & Program Growth:

- Increased enrollment by 300%
- Developed formal internship programs throughout U.S. and international sites
- Created self-support funded programs in response to TABOR reduction of state funding

Community Partnerships:

- Developed university-community partnerships (Denver Public Schools, Jefferson County Public Schools, Colorado Arts Alliance, Colorado Council on the Arts, Jefferson County and Lakewood Arts Councils)

Inclusive Excellence Leadership:

- Led personnel Inclusive Excellence initiatives in faculty hiring and mentoring
- Recruited and hired new staff and faculty

Program Coordinator and Assistant Professor, University of Alberta 1984–1989

Public urban research university serving 40,000+ students with \$600,000 program budget.

Program Development:

- Developed first university computer arts laboratory in Canada partnering with computer science, electrical engineering, physics, and private industry
- Developed Doctor of Music degree program
- Developed media and computer music studies program
- Established university student residencies at Banff Centre for Arts and Creativity

Administrative Leadership:

- Director of electroacoustic music studios
- Coordinator of computer music users group
- Coordinator of aural skills program

KEY STRATEGIC ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Fundraising & Resource Development

\$55+ Million Total Secured

- Federal Commerce, Justice and Science Appropriations cybersecurity grant: \$1.5M (Emporia State)
- U.S. Department of Education McNair Scholars Program: \$1,161,325 (Emporia State)
- Cybersecurity Center academic programming: \$1.1M KBOR (Emporia State)
- Institute of Museum and Library Services Laura Bush 21st Century Librarian Program: \$496,277 (Emporia State)
- SMaRT Kansas 21 Science and Math Recruitment of Teachers: \$510,000 KBOR (Emporia State)
- Prophet Aquatic Research and Outreach Center: \$300,000 KBOR (Emporia State)
- Title III U.S. Department of Education: \$780,000 (Central State)
- Corporation for Public Broadcasting: \$700,000 (Central State)
- Broadcast Educational Media Commission: \$167,000 (Central State)
- Facilities renovations: \$1.8M (Central State)
- Arts at Wheaton Initiative: \$35M (part of \$280M comprehensive campaign)
- Facilities expansion/renovation: \$4.8M (Kean)
- Robert Busch School of Design facilities: \$60M Green Lane Building (Kean)
- Concert organ donation: \$1.5M (Wheaton)
- Community School of the Arts: multimillion-dollar self-support program (Wheaton)
- Multiple endowment funds, equipment grants, and program funding across institutions

Enrollment Management Success

- Central State University: 46% increase in college enrollment/retention
- California State University, Dominguez Hills: 37% increase in college enrollment/retention
- University of Colorado Denver: 300% increase in department enrollment
- Wheaton College: 98% retention rate achieved

International Partnerships & Program Development

- China: Partnerships with Anhui Normal University, Tsinghua University (AACSB global MBA), Zhejiang Normal University, Renmin University, Capital Normal University, Kean University-Wenzhou campus
- Tunisia: South Mediterranean University education programs
- Colombia: Universidad Tecnológica de Bolívar cultural/language exchange
- Cyprus: University of Nicosia graduate degree agreement
- Bahamas: Commonwealth graduate program articulations
- Poland: Jan Matejko Academy bilateral exhibitions
- Multi-country study abroad programs: England, Europe, Kenya, Nigeria, South Africa

Accreditation Leadership

Successfully led or participated in institutional and specialized accreditations:

- **Regional:** HLC (Higher Learning Commission), Middle States, WASC
- **Business:** AACSB (multiple institutions)
- **Education:** CACREP, CAEP, California Commission on Teacher Credentialing

- **Arts:** NASM, NASAD, NAST, CIDA
- **Social Work:** CSWE
- **Nursing:** ACEN; CCNE; Ph.D. program support
- **Served on NASM Commission on Accreditation (2005-2013)**

Technology & Digital Transformation

- First internet online distance learning curriculum in University of Colorado system
- Implemented State Authorization Reciprocity Agreement (SARA) for distance education
- Advanced online degree programs at multiple institutions (Ottawa, Emporia State, Central State, Kean, CSUDH, Wheaton, UC Denver)
- Developed digital media arts laboratories and programs
- Led one-to-one laptop computing adoption
- Implemented "Classrooms Without Walls" digital pedagogy
- Advanced OER (Open Educational Resources) and e-books for affordability
- Implemented EAB Navigate, Ad Astra, Hobsons, Campus Labs systems
- Current intensive engagement with generative AI and AI-enabled media

Inclusive Excellence Initiatives

- Implemented Senior Director position and inclusive excellence offices
- Led successful recruitment of underrepresented faculty, staff, and students across multiple institutions
- Structured faculty development with inclusive curriculum consultants
- AASCU American Democracy Project implementations
- Developed programs serving historically underrepresented communities at Hispanic-Serving, AAPI-Serving, Minority-Serving institutions
- Established Ohio College to Law Enforcement Pathway Program (Governor's initiative)
- Fulbright Scholars in Residence programs (multiple languages)
- Advanced Title III funded programs at HBCU

EDUCATION

Ph.D. University of California, San Diego. Dissertation: "ADAMANTA SECARE—A Musical Composition for Chamber Orchestra"

A.U.C.C. Exchange Award to Poland (Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada). Chopin State Academy of Music and Experimental Studio of the Polish Radio

M.A. McGill University. Thesis: "A Critical Analysis of Selected Aspects of Theodor Adorno's Philosophy of Modern Music"

B.Mus. University of Toronto (Dean's List)

Honours B.A. (English and History) Carleton University (First Class Honours, Ontario Scholar)

A.R.C.T. Piano Performance, Royal Conservatory of Toronto

BOARD SERVICE & PROFESSIONAL LEADERSHIP

Higher Education Governance

- **Institutional Representative**, Council of University Presidents (COPS), Kansas Board of Regents (2021)
- **Institutional Representative**, System Council of University Presidents (SCOPS), Kansas Board of Regents (2021)
- **Institutional Representative**, Board Academic Affairs Standing Committee (BAASC), Kansas Board of Regents (2021-2022)
- **Member**, System Council of Chief Academic Officers (SCOCAO), Kansas Board of Regents (2021-2022)
- **Member**, Council of Chief Academic Officers (CCAO), Kansas Board of Regents (2021-2022)
- **Institutional Representative**, State of Illinois Board of Higher Education (2000-2007)
- **Institutional representative**, Lilly Fellows Program in Humanities and the Arts, (2001-2007)

Accreditation & Assessment

- **Officer**, National Association of Schools of Music (NASM), Commission on Accreditation (2005-2013)
- **Accreditation Evaluator**, National Association of Schools of Music (NASM) (1998-present)
- Leadership roles in AACSB, CACREP, CAEP, CSWE, NASAD, NASM, NAST, CIDA, Middle States, WASC, HLC evaluations

Executive Committees

- Member, President's Cabinet (Ottawa University, Emporia State University, Central State University)
- Member, Faculty Senate Executive Committee (Emporia State University)
- Chair, Provost's Council (Emporia State University)
- Member, President's Council (Emporia State University)
- Member, Presidential Administrative Council (CSUDH)
- Member, President's Extended Cabinet (CSUDH)
- Member, University Planning Council (Kean University, CSUDH)

Strategic Planning & Enrollment

- Chair, Strategic Planning Leadership Council (Ottawa University)
- Member, Enrollment Management Leadership Council (Emporia State)
- Member, Academic Catalyst for Innovation Committee, 360 Vision Strategic Plan (Central State)
- Member, Strategic Planning Committees at Kean, CSUDH, Wheaton
- Member, Enrollment Management Policy Council (CSUDH)
- Chair, Academic Division Council (Ottawa University)

Professional Organizations

- Association of American Colleges and Universities (AAC&U)
- Complete College America
- Council of Colleges of Arts and Sciences
- International Council of Fine Arts Deans
- American Association of State Colleges and Universities (AASCU)
- College Music Society (Campus Representative 1995-2007)
- American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers (ASCAP)

SELECTED RECOGNITIONS & HONORS

Awards & Fellowships

- **Guggenheim Fellowship**
- **Rudolf Nissim Award**, ASCAP Foundation
- **Winner**, Heckscher Foundation Composition Prize
- **Winner**, Kenneth Davenport National Competition for Orchestral Works
- **Colorado Council on the Arts**, COVisions Recognition Award
- **Alberta Foundation for the Performing Arts Award**
- **Artist Fellowship**, State of Illinois Arts Council
- Outstanding Faculty Research Award, College of Music, University of Colorado Denver
- School of Arts Research/Creative Work Award, University of Colorado Denver
- International Who's Who in Music

Major Grants & Commissions

- National Endowment for the Arts
- Fromm Music Foundation at Harvard University
- Barlow Endowment for Music Composition
- Canada Council
- Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada
- Soros and Citizens Exchange Council Foundations
- Multiple commissions from PBS, CBS, BBC, CBC

TEACHING & SCHOLARSHIP

Academic Appointments

Professor at Ottawa University (2022-2023), Emporia State University (2021-2022), Central State University (2016-2021), Kean University (2012-2015), California State University Dominguez Hills (2007-2012), Wheaton College (1997-2007), and University of Colorado Denver (1993-1997). Prior appointments as Associate Professor and Assistant Professor at University of Colorado Denver (1988-1993) and University of Alberta (1984-1989).

Research & Creative Work

- **Editor**, ex tempore (scholarly journal of compositional and theoretical research in music), volumes I/1-XIV/1
- 100+ original compositions performed at major international venues including Pompidou Centre Paris, Edinburgh Festival, Lincoln Center NYC, Suntori Hall Tokyo, Symphony Center Chicago
- Performances broadcast on BBC, CBC, RAI, NPR, PBS, German Radio, Polish Radio, and other international networks
- National and international presentations on higher education leadership, composition, and music technology
- Publications in academic journals on music composition and theory

Specialized Expertise

- Artificial intelligence applications in higher education
- Generative AI and AI-enabled media production

- Digital signal processing and musical composition
- Sonification and emerging technologies
- New Media and technology integration
- Higher education assessment and outcomes

PROFESSIONAL PRESENTATIONS (Selected)

“AlgoRhythm: AI in the Creative World” — Invited presentation, Maurer School of Law and Jacobs School of Music, Indiana University (2025)

“Working in the Academic Community” — Invited presentation, National Association of Schools of Music (NASM) Annual Meeting (2012)

“What Would You Do?: Case Studies in Academic Affairs Problem Solving” — Invited presentation, Peabody Conservatory of the Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore (1996)

“Signification and meaning in compositional practice” — Invited presentation, School of Music and Dance, San Jose State University (2000)

“Composing in tongues: shaping the ineffable” — Invited presentation, Worcester Polytechnic Institute (1994)

Multiple presentations at College Music Society conferences, Canadian Music Theory Conference, International Computer Music Festivals, and symposia on higher education leadership, technology integration, and assessment.

REFERENCES

Available upon request