

The Changing College President: Presidents and Chancellors Who Were Not Provosts

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 TIAA Institute

 ACE[®] American
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Agenda

- Welcome
- Brief Presentation
- Panelist Discussion
- Audience Q & A
- Resource Sharing

Functional Areas Audience Joining Us

- 33% are coming from academic affairs
- 16% are coming from student affairs
- 16% are coming from another area of higher education not listed on the registration form
- 11% have blended or multiple functional areas
- 5% are coming from business/finance
- 5% are coming from outside of higher education
- 4% are coming from advancement
- 1% are coming from legal affairs
- 1% are coming from human resources
- .2% are coming from auxiliary services

Level of Audience Members

In terms of their level at their institution/organization:

- 32% are senior level
- 29% are mid-level
- 28% are cabinet level
- 6% are entry level
- 5% are presidents

American College President Study (2022) & The Changing College President (2024) Analysis

- Conducted about every five years since 1986
- Collects demographic and experience data
- Data collected in Feb – June 2022
- Over 1,000 presidents responded
 - 880 presidents listed their previous 5 positions
- Did an analysis of the 880
 - Those who were provosts and those who were not
 - Just over half (458 respondents) did not hold provost positions

Why this report and webinar?

- Illustrate the changing nature of the pathway to the college presidency
- Help those who are conducting searches to expand their notion of the “ideal candidate” beyond the “traditional pathway”
- Debunk the myth that one has to be a provost or chief academic officer before becoming a president

Notable Finding #1: Demographics

Table 2.1: Gender Demographics of Presidents Who Previously Served as Provosts, Compared with Those Who Had Not, 2022

Gender	Non-provost Presidents	Provost Presidents
Men	65.5%	57.0%
Women	34.5%	43.0%
Total	100%	100%

Note: Data from the 2022 American College President Survey.

Notable Finding #2: Carnegie Classification

Table 2.4: Where Presidents Are Currently Serving, by Provost Status, 2022

Carnegie Classification*	Non-provost Presidents	Provost Presidents
Associate	30.8%	39.3%
Baccalaureate	17.0%	16.8%
Master's	22.7%	21.1%
Doctoral	16.6%	16.3%
Special focus	12.8%	6.4%
Total	100.0%	100.0%

* Population is from the 2021 Carnegie Classifications.

Notes: Data from the 2022 American College President Survey. | Totals may not add up to 100 percent due to rounding.

Notable Finding #3: Training and Professional Development

Table 6.1: Areas in Which Presidents Indicated They Would Like More Training or Professional Development, by Provost Status, 2022

	Non-provost Presidents	Provost Presidents
Academic issues (i.e., curriculum changes)	13.3%	3.6%
Accreditation	10.3%	3.6%
Athletics	9.4%	8.3%
Budget/financial management	23.8%	28.9%
Capital improvement projects	21.8%	26.1%
Crisis management	21.8%	22.0%
Diversity/equity issues	24.9%	21.6%
Enrollment management	23.8%	23.7%
Entrepreneurial ventures	31.2%	37.2%
External communication	20.3%	20.9%
Fundraising	25.6%	36.0%
Personnel issues (excluding faculty)	6.1%	7.8%
Risk management/legal issues	20.3%	25.1%
Shared governance	14.0%	8.5%
Spousal role	5.9%	5.7%
Student life/conduct issues	4.8%	4.0%
Technology planning	24.2%	19.2%
Using institutional research to inform decision making	21.6%	20.4%

Note: Data from the 2022 American College President Survey.

For more information and to do a deeper dive

- Check out the ACE Fellows program as a tool to help you become a president. Accepting new applications for the 2025-2026 cohort! Deadline is November 8!
- Visit our American College President Study body of work that includes the 2022 report and additional pieces like infographics, essays, podcasts, interview briefs, and more.

Moderator and Panelist Introductions

- Jan Greenwood
 - Co-founder, Greenwood Asher & Associates and Senior Advisor
- Jonathan Alger
 - President, American University
- Donna Henry
 - Chancellor, The University of Virginia's College at Wise
- Michael Rao
 - President, Virginia Commonwealth University
- Gregory Washington
 - President, George Mason University

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