

RON DWYATT DEMPSEY, PhD

OVERVIEW

An energetic leader with extensive expertise in the areas of effective fundraising, marketing, proven enrollment growth, transparent fiscal management, strategic and agile planning, and meaningful academic initiatives seeking to serve in an executive leadership role in which I can advance the institution and enhance the development of faculty, students, and the institution's constituents. I am ethical student-focused leader who thinks and acts strategically and believes in collegiality, shared governance, inclusive excellence, and fiscal transparency. I embody a genuine enthusiasm and vision for the changing expectations and aspirations of college students. I maintain a leadership approach that emphasizes authenticity and a desire to listen to all constituents while fully embracing the need to fulfill the objectives and goals of the institution.

EDUCATION

Doctor of Philosophy, Sociology of Science and Technology, Georgia Institute of Technology (Georgia Tech), Atlanta, Georgia.

Master of Science, History and Sociology of Science and Technology, Georgia Institute of Technology, Atlanta, Georgia.

Master of Arts, Sociology, University of Louisville, Louisville, Kentucky.

Education Specialist, Higher Education Administration, University of Louisville, Louisville, Kentucky.

Doctor of Philosophy, Sociology of Religion, Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, Kentucky.

Bachelor of Arts, Psychology, Wake Forest University, Winston-Salem, North Carolina.

CAREER EXPERIENCE

Vice President for University Advancement, Winona State University, Winona, Minnesota, 2016 - present

Winona State is a public comprehensive state university within the Minnesota State System. US News and World Reports ranks Winona State University as the #1 university in the Minnesota State System. WSU leads the system in the areas of academic reputation, student retention and

graduation, and job placement. Winona State located in the southeast region of Minnesota, is a vital partner in the economic development of the region with an annual economic impact of \$474 million. Winona State holds the Community Engagement Classification from The Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching. WSU participates in the NCAA Division II (Northern Sun Conference) with 14 intercollegiate teams. As VP for University Advancement, I coordinate the functions of the offices of Development, Alumni Relations, Marketing/Communications, and Governmental Relations for the university and serve on the president's executive senior staff.

Accomplishments:

- 1) Lead the strategic planning efforts for the university and currently champion the WSU Strategic Initiatives: Tomorrow's Technology, Engaged Student Learning, and Inclusive Excellence.
- 2) Developed four mini-campaigns to assess the fundraising capabilities of the university. Those efforts have increased the annual giving to the university by 75% and led WSU to its largest gift of \$2.5 million and its largest annual giving ever of \$7.2 million.
- 3) Increased the WSU endowment from \$31 million to \$41M in less than three years.
- 4) Leading our foundation in the development of a regional event center, a community arts makerspace, a co-op work space in Winona named "The Garage", and a campus based entrepreneurial program called WarriorsINNOVATE Challenge. Our foundation housing enterprise generates substantial annual revenue.
- 5) Lead our foundation into more private/public entrepreneurial ventures to create a better experiential living for our students, including dining and entertainment options, and create a diversification of revenue sources for the university.
- 6) My marketing team developed a recruitment plan which increased the number of applicants to the university. Given my history with enrollment growth, I am working with the recruitment and financial aid offices on scholarship and financial aid optimization for increased student enrollment.

Vice President for Advancement and University Development, Southern Polytechnic State University, Marietta Georgia, 2005 –2015

Southern Polytechnic State University was a public comprehensive state university within the University System of Georgia. SPSU served as the system's engineering and technology university. SPSU competed in intercollegiate athletics within the NAIA. In 2015, Southern Polytechnic State University was consolidated with Kennesaw State University. As VP for Advancement, I coordinated the functions of the offices of Development, Alumni and Business Relations, Economic Development, Public Relations, and Governmental Relations for the university and serve on the president's executive senior staff.

Accomplishments:

- 1) Moved Southern Polytechnic from being last in the University System of Georgia in annual giving to 6th out of 36 institutions.
- 2) Led, as part of an executive team, a recruitment and enrollment management strategic plan that doubled enrollment from 3500 students to 7000 in seven years. This

enrollment growth occurred due to many initiatives including a significant branding campaign, significant increases in strategic scholarships, new marketable degree programs, extensive retention efforts, the addition of key facilities (mainly new housing), an emphasis on athletics, and recruitment penetration into new prospective student markets, especially students of color.

3) Managed over \$36M in assets including an on-campus housing enterprise that generated substantial annual revenue for the university. Lead the foundation into undertaking more private/public entrepreneurial ventures along the periphery of campus.

4) Southern Polytechnic was an institution dedicated to engineering, technology, and science so I interacted with industries across Georgia and the region to connect them to the economic development activities of the university such as work force development and technological expertise. One example is the partnership between SPSU and Lockheed Martin Aeronautical for a nine-week academic program which transitioned electrical engineers to being system engineers and received funding from the state legislature for the program.

5) Because of the career orientation of our alumni in technology, engineering, and the sciences, our alumni program created an outstanding career networking experience for our alumni.

6) Served on the management team that developed SPSU Online, a separate entity within the university, to handle all the online educational offerings of the university from single courses to full online degrees.

7) Working with our Director of Research, we constituted the SPSU research foundation, a non-profit entity which conducted testing and research services for regional companies.

**Vice President for Institutional Advancement, Shorter University, Rome, Georgia,
2001 – 2004**

Shorter University is a private institution associated with the Georgia Baptist Convention. Shorter's student enrollment was 1,500 and the university competed in intercollegiate athletics within the NAIA. As VP for Advancement, I coordinated the functions of the offices of Development, Public Relations, and Alumni and Friends Relations.

Accomplishments:

- 1) Increased annual giving by 140%.
- 2) Instituted five new annual fund campaigns to constituents not previously solicited, including the Hawks Club, Shorter's athletic fund raising arm.
- 3) Developed and managed the university's \$65 million capital campaign.
- 4) Initiated the Success in Scholarships program which coupled annual scholarship donations with the university's tuition discounting program, resulting in a \$2 million increase in annual donations.

**Director of Foundation/Corporate Relations and Associate Professor of Sociology,
Presbyterian College, Clinton, South Carolina, 1999 – 2001**

Presbyterian College is a private institution associated with the Presbyterian Church, USA.

Accomplishments:

1) Directed Presbyterian College's development efforts in foundation and corporate fundraising. I managed the \$25 million capital campaign for the Bailey Family football stadium, part of PC's \$175 million comprehensive campaign. My job included developing and submitting all grant proposals and managing all active grants as well as cultivating and soliciting planned and major gifts from prospective donors.

Associate Dean of Academic Affairs and Associate Professor of Sociology, Presbyterian College, Clinton, South Carolina, 1993 – 1999

Presbyterian College is a private institution associated with the Presbyterian Church, USA. PC enrolled 1,500 students and competed in intercollegiate athletics within the NCAA Division II. As Associate Dean of the College, I directed a number of different academic programs including institutional research, the international education program, academic advising, and scholarships. I worked on faculty and student development, curricular and budgetary issues and served on the Budget Committee (the primary budgeting committee of the college). I handled probation and suspension issues and coordinated the Health Science Advising program. I serve on numerous councils and committees, including the Academic Affairs Council, Financial Aid Committee, Admissions Committee, Student Retention Task Force, BANNER Computer System Task Force, as well as others. I managed the NCAA eligibility requirements and annual reports, served as the college's Executive Liaison with the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools, and acted as Associate Director of the college's institutional Self Study and reaccreditation with SACS.

Accomplishments:

- 1) Increased students studying abroad by 62% through the establishment of 15 new partnerships with international institutions.
- 2) Migrated the academic database and processes to the BANNER software system.
- 3) Served as associate director of the SACS reaccreditation and institutional self-study task force which resulted in renewed regional accreditation for the college.
- 4) Even as an academic administrator, I taught three - four courses per year for the sociology department.

Associate Provost for Academic Services, Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, Kentucky, 1991-1993

Southern Baptist Theological Seminary is a graduate institution associated with the Southern Baptist Convention. At Southern, I managed the offices of Academic Services, Registrar, Admission Decisions, and Orientation/Testing. I initiated and supervised the off campus and distance learning efforts of the seminary. I coordinated the institutional research function for the seminary, served on the Executive Council and the Dean's Council, and taught courses in Church and Community and Leadership.

Director of Institutional Research, Jefferson Community College, Louisville,
Kentucky, 1989-1991

I coordinated the institutional research function for the 12,000 student community college, which included networking research functions between main campus and three other campuses. I also assisted faculty and other offices with research design and analysis.

FACULTY EXPERIENCE

Faculty Member, Southern Polytechnic State University, Marietta, Georgia, 2005 – 2015.

Associate Professor of Religion and Sociology, Shorter University, Rome, Georgia, 2001-2005.

Associate Professor of Sociology, Presbyterian College, Clinton, South Carolina, 1999-2001
Assistant Professor of Sociology, 1993 – 1998.

Assistant Professor, Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, Kentucky, 1991 – 1993.

PUBLICATIONS

2017 Origins. In G. Pearson, S. Languine, and R. Dineine (Eds.), Engineering Technology Education in the United States (pp. 19-26).

2017 Gateway or Gatekeeper: The Role of Engineering Technology in African Americans Field of Engineering. The Bridge (National Academy of Engineering), 47(2), 19-26.

1997 Faith Outside the Walls. Macon, Georgia: Smyth & Helwys Publishing.

PRESENTATIONS/PANELS

2015 National Science Foundation review panel for “Revolutionizing Engineering Education,” Washington, DC, March 2015.

2015 “History of Engineering Technology” presented at the National Academy for Engineering’s conference of Engineering Technology Education, Washington, DC, January 2015.

2014 “Socio-Historical Analysis of Engineering Technology and the Three-tiered Structure of Engineering in the United States” presented at the Society for the History of Technology, Detroit, MI, November 2014.

2013 “Boundary Work between Engineering Technology and Engineering: Knowledge, Expertise, and Power at SPSU” presented at the American Society for Engineering Education, Atlanta, Georgia, June 2013

- 2012 “Defending the Engineering Technology Walls: Boundary Work between Engineering and Engineering Technology” presented at the International Society for Engineering Studies, Copenhagen, Denmark, Oct 2012.
- 2012 “Fund Raising Variance between Polytechnics and Non-Polytechnics” presented at the Polytechnic Summit, Marietta, GA, June 2012.
- 2012 “Creating a more Robust Picture of Women and Engineering: Expanding the Research Framework to better address Gender Inequity” presented at the Gender, Bodies, and Technology conference, Roanoke, VA, April 2012.
- 2000 “Using Standardized Instruments for Accreditation, Accountability, and Assessment: Assembling Your Institutional Puzzle” presented at the American Association for Higher Education Assessment conference.
- 1998 “Assessing Student Achievement using Nationally Standardized Tests at a Liberal Arts College” presented at the South Carolina Higher Education Assessment conference.
- 1997 “Institutional Research in a Small College” presented at the Southern Association of Institutional Research conference.
- 1996 “Institutional Research’s Role in helping Institutions Increase their U.S. News Rankings A Case Study,” presented to the Association of Institutional Researchers.
- 1996 “Study Abroad Potpourri in a Small College” presented at the ASIANetwork Conference.
- 1994 “Sociology in Seminary Education” presented at the Society for the Scientific Study of Religion Conference.
- 1994 “Quality in Pastoral Ministry” presented at the Religious Research Association Conference.
- 1992 “The Religiosity of the Unchurched” presented at the Southern Baptist Research Conference.

AWARDS/CERTIFICATIONS

Minnesota State Executive Leadership Program
IEDC – Basic Economic Development
IEDC – Business Retention and Expansion
The Gary Donhardt Fellowship Award for Empirical Research
Excellence in Research Award from the Southern Research Fellowship

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

Board/Committee Memberships:

Minnesota State System Development Committee, 2016 - present
USG Chief Advancement Officers Committee, Treasurer, 2008-2015.
Georgia Construction Aggregate Association Board of Directors, 2010-2015
North Cobb Rotary Club, Board of Directors, Foundation Chair, 2012-2015.
Marietta Metro Rotary Club, Board of Directors, Educational Chair, 2008-2010.
Marietta Metro Rotary Club, Board of Directors, Treasurer, 2007.
USG Task Force on Philanthropy, 2008.
Shorter University Board of Trustees, Member of the Development Committee, 2001-2004.

Professional Associations:

Council for the Advancement and Support of Education
International Economic Development Council
Reviewer for the International Journal for Engineering Studies
International Network for Engineering Studies
Society for the Social Studies of Science
American Sociological Association
Society for the Scientific Study of Religion
Religious Research Association

Other Service Activities:

Minnesota Marine Art Museum Board, 2018-present
Winona Rotary Club, 2016 – present
Home and Community Options Board, 2016-present
Finance Committee, Wesley Methodist United Church, 2016- present
North Cobb Rotary Club, 2010-2015.
Marietta Metro Rotary Club, 2005-2010.
Seven Hills Rotary Club, 2001-2005.
Cobb County Chamber of Commerce Chairman's Club, 2007-present.
Bartow County Advocates for Children, 2010-present.
Westminster Presbyterian, Rome, Education Director, 2001-2006.
Floyd County Habitat for Humanity, 2001-2005.