Summit on Cost in Higher Education  
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Federal Reserve Bank of Boston  

Speaker and Panelist Biographies

Neal Abraham

Neal Abraham is Five College Professor of Physics and the executive director of Five Colleges, Inc., one of the oldest and most successful higher education consortia in the U.S. (serving Amherst, Hampshire, Mount Holyoke and Smith colleges and the University of Massachusetts Amherst).

Prior to assuming his current position in August 2009, he served for 11 years as executive vice president and vice president for academic affairs, and professor of physics and astronomy, at DePauw University in Greencastle, Ind. Before that, he was the Rachel C. Hale Professor of Physics at Bryn Mawr College, where he taught for 18 years and served two terms as department chair.

His research interests are chaos and nonlinear dynamics in lasers and other optical systems, subjects on which he has published more than 200 articles, chapters and books.

His work in academic consortia began at Swarthmore College and Bryn Mawr, which are partners in bilateral, trilateral and quadrilateral arrangements with Haverford College and the University of Pennsylvania. He also served on the Deans Council of the Great Lakes Colleges Association, which he chaired for two years. He served on the steering committee for the Mellon Foundation-funded faculty career enhancement program for 23 private liberal arts colleges and in various leadership roles for the Consortium for Faculty Diversity. He is a founding organizer of the Summer Institute on Collaboration in Higher Education, an annual project of the Association for Collaborative Leadership.

He holds a doctorate in physics from Bryn Mawr and a bachelor’s in physics from Dickinson College, where he serves as a trustee.

David P. Angel

David P. Angel is the ninth president of Clark University. Under his leadership, the university has introduced LEEP (Liberal Education and Effective Practice), a distinctive program that prepares students with the intellectual and practical experiences required to address complex challenges in a rapidly changing world. As a pioneering researcher on industrial environmentalism and clean technologies, Angel has also helped steer Clark’s innovations in campus sustainability.

Angel served as Clark’s provost from 2003 to 2010, overseeing all undergraduate and graduate academic programs, as well as admissions, student affairs, sponsored research and libraries. Angel joined the Clark faculty in September 1987 and holds an academic appointment as professor of geography. His background and training are in economic geography, focusing on issues of industrial restructuring, technological change and the environment.

Angels holds a doctorate from UCLA and a bachelor’s degree from Cambridge University.
Ellen Bickelman

Ellen Bickelman became the executive director of the Massachusetts Higher Education Consortium in June 2011.

Prior to that, she worked for the Commonwealth of Massachusetts for over 31 years, the last six of those as the chief procurement officer for the commonwealth. In that capacity, she achieved savings of more than $116 million by introducing strategic sourcing principles. She also implemented the state’s first Small Business Purchasing Program in 2010, increased the commonwealth’s annual spending with certified minority- and women-owned businesses, expanded “green/EPP” statewide contracts and transitioned the state’s procurement office to a self-funded business model through the implementation of a statewide contract service fee.

Since joining the consortium, Bickelman has focused on expanding membership to include municipalities and nonprofit charter, vocational and technical schools throughout New England. As a result, membership has increased from 86 to more than 400. New contracts have been developed for library supplies, travel management, temporary help and executive search, medical equipment, supplies and services and vehicles including hybrid, plug-in and CNG. The consortium has collaborated with national purchasing consortia, the Massachusetts Library System and the Commonwealth of Massachusetts to aggregate spending volume and reduce duplication of effort.

Norman Bier

Norman Bier is associate director of the Open Learning Initiative (OLI) at Carnegie Mellon University (CMU).

He has spent his career at the intersection of learning and technology, working to expand access to and improve the quality of education.

OLI combines leading research in cognitive and learning science with state-of-the-art technology to create scientifically based courses that enact instruction for independent learners and support instructors to improve effectiveness in traditional classrooms. By capturing and evaluating learner data, OLI is able to drive powerful feedback loops that assist learners and educators, improve courses and contribute to a larger understanding of how humans learn.

Prior to joining OLI, Bier was director of training and development at iCarnegie Inc., a CMU subsidiary chartered to deliver software development education through international partner institutions. Using technology and faculty support, iCarnegie reaches thousands of students who would otherwise not have access to a CMU-level education. Bier has taught computer science courses as an adjunct faculty member at the Community College of Allegheny County, philosophy courses at CMU and served as a founding member of the Robert E. Cook Honors College at Indiana University of Pennsylvania.

Cheryl Blanco

Cheryl Blanco is vice president for special projects at the Southern Regional Education Board (SREB), where she oversees special initiatives on college readiness and college completion and develops new projects.

Blanco’s career has focused primarily on higher education policy and research, including the connections between postsecondary and K-12 education. Prior to joining the SREB staff, Blanco was vice president for National College Access Programs and executive director of the Pathways to College Network at TERI, vice president for policy and research at the Council for Adult and Experiential Learning, senior program director for policy analysis and research at the Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education and educational policy director at the Florida Postsecondary Education Planning Commission.

She has held positions at Arecibo Technological University College, University of Puerto Rico, including assistant to the vice president for academic affairs, director of the division of continuing education, and tenured associate professor in the English Department.
She holds a doctorate in higher education from Florida State University.

**Ruth Constantine**

Ruth Constantine is vice president for finance and administration at Smith College. She is responsible for matters related to the financial operation of the college, including financial planning, accounting and oversight of the outsourced investment function. In addition, she has responsibility for a number of administrative areas, including human resources, facilities management, dining, environmental sustainability and campus police.

Prior to her arrival at Smith in 1991, Constantine worked at Cornell University for 10 years in various administrative positions.

She serves on the board of the National Association of College and University Business Officers as past president and is a past president of EACUBO. She also serves on the boards of Florence Savings Bank and Baystate Health.

**Richard W. Cost**

Richard W. Cost is a trustee of the Davis Educational Foundation and president emeritus of the University of Maine at Fort Kent.

He retired in July 2010 following eight years as president of the University of Maine at Fort Kent. He was awarded the title president emeritus by the University of Maine System Trustees in 2012.

Cost’s career in higher education focused on institutional advancement including service as vice president of the Independent College Fund of New Jersey and vice president for institutional advancement at Moravian College and at Bridgewater State University.

**Ronald A. Crutcher**

Ronald A. Crutcher is the seventh president of Wheaton College, which recently completed a $45 million science center to promote science education and interdisciplinary scholarship. A LEED Gold-certified complex, the Mars Center for Science and Technology opened in fall 2011 and is one of several priorities in “Go Beyond: Campaign for Wheaton.”

Crutcher serves as co-chair of LEAP (Liberal Education and America's Promise), the Association of American Colleges and Universities' national campaign to demonstrate the value of liberal education. He is past chair of the AAC&U’s Board of Directors and formerly served on the board of the American Council on Education.

Crutcher serves on the boards of Berklee College of Music in Boston, the Posse Foundation in New York City, and WGBH in Boston. He is also an international trustee of the Cleveland Orchestra and a member of the Advisory Board for the Sphinx Organization. He served as president of Chamber Music America.
Phillip J. DiChiara

Phillip J. DiChiara is managing director for the Boston Consortium for Higher Education. Since joining the Boston Consortium in 1998 as its first chief executive, he has worked closely with the administrations of the consortium’s member schools, currently numbering 15, to create productive relationships across every non-academic discipline.

Serving as a vehicle for change, the consortium has helped create 23 self-sustaining communities of practice. Numerous initiatives have validated the importance of mutual learning in the workplace, resulting in significant cost reductions and service enhancements. Several independent business units also function under the umbrella of the consortium. The advantages of managers working as a cohesive social network have added to the richness and output of their responsibilities.

Helen G. Drinan

Helen G. Drinan became president of Simmons College in 2008.

She has led Simmons to a position of competitive strength—financially, academically and operationally—in an economic climate that has been especially challenging for the field of higher education. As an alumna of two Simmons graduate programs and former chair of the Simmons Board of Directors, Drinan has been closely connected to the college for more than three decades.

Before assuming the Simmons presidency, Drinan was a senior human resources executive at Caritas Christi Health Care and BankBoston, and was president of the Society for Human Resource Management.

Drinan holds an M.B.A. and a master’s of library and information science from Simmons and a bachelor’s from Mount Holyoke College.

Gary L. Gottlieb

Gary L. Gottlieb, M.D., is president and CEO of Partners HealthCare, professor of psychiatry at Harvard Medical School and a member of the Institute of Medicine of the National Academies. He has served as president of Brigham and Women’s/Faulkner Hospitals, president of North Shore Medical Center and as chair of Partners Psychiatry.

Previously, Gottlieb spent 15 years in positions of increasing leadership in health care in Philadelphia. As a Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Clinical Scholar at the University of Pennsylvania, he earned an M.B.A with distinction in health care administration from the Wharton Graduate School of Business Administration.

Gottlieb established the University of Pennsylvania Medical Center’s first program in geriatric psychiatry and developed it into a nationally recognized research, training and clinical program. He served as executive vice chair of psychiatry and associate dean for managed care at the University of Pennsylvania Medical Center, and as director and CEO of Friends Hospital in Philadelphia.

He received an M.D. from the Albany Medical College of Union University in a six-year accelerated biomedical program and completed his internship and residency and served as chief resident at New York University/Bellevue Medical Center. He chairs the Private Industry Council, Boston’s workforce development board, and is a member of the boards of the Federal Reserve Bank of Boston and Partners in Health.
Mary K. Grant

Mary K. Grant is the 11th president of Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts (MCLA), which has been designated a top 10 public liberal arts college for the past two years.

Under her leadership, MCLA has expanded academic programming and facilities; provided students with new study away, internship, research, and service opportunities; seen growth in enrollment; and strengthened the connections between the college and the community. She launched the college’s first comprehensive capital campaign and spearheaded efforts leading to MCLA’s successfully securing $54 million to fund a new Center for Science and Innovation as well as renovation of Bowman Hall.

Grant has provided leadership to advance the commonwealth’s science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) agenda and serves on the Governor’s STEM Advisory Council.

She has served as president of the board of the Council of Public Liberal Arts Colleges and chairs the board of the Massachusetts Campus Compact. She established the Berkshire Compact for Education, a countywide initiative focused on strengthening education in Berkshire County.

Grant holds a doctorate in social policy from the Heller School at Brandeis University, a master’s in public affairs from the John W. McCormack Institute of Public Affairs at the University of Massachusetts, and a bachelor’s in sociology from Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts.

Divina Grossman

Divina Grossman was appointed chancellor of the University of Massachusetts Dartmouth on April 19, 2012.

Since her arrival on campus, Grossman has focused on transparent communication with internal and external audiences, and the development of a long-term strategy for the success of the institution. She demonstrated her leadership style and her focus on the students throughout the challenges of the widely publicized crisis when a UMass Dartmouth student was identified as a prime suspect in the Boston Marathon bombing.

Prior to joining UMass Dartmouth, Grossman was the founding vice president for engagement at Florida International University where she had also served as dean of the College of Nursing and Health Sciences and dean of the School of Nursing.

As Dean, she spearheaded the expansion of academic programs in nursing and health sciences; created multi-institutional partnerships; raised approximately $12 million, and multiplied seven-fold the college endowment. Under her leadership, a new $34 million College of Nursing and Health Sciences building was completed.

Grossman holds a doctorate in nursing from the University of Pennsylvania. She is a Fellow of the American Academy of Nursing and serves on the editorial board of the American Journal of Nursing.
Dale Hamel

Dale Hamel is executive vice president of administration, finance, information technology, and advancement at Framingham State University.

Hamel has spent more than 20 years in senior policy and finance positions at Massachusetts higher education institutions and as CFO for the Massachusetts Board of Higher Education.

In addition to his role at Framingham State, he is president of the Board of Directors of the Framingham Downtown Renaissance and a trustee at the Danforth Art Museum in Framingham.

Hamel holds a doctorate in higher education administration with a research focus on the effects of economic cycles on the financing of public higher education, as well as a master’s degrees in higher education policy planning and administration from Boston University, an M.B.A. from the University of North Carolina and bachelor’s degrees in business and computer information systems from Ferris State University.

Richard Hisey

Richard "Mac" Hisey is chief financial officer and senior vice president for finance and administration at Berklee College of Music, with overarching responsibility in the areas of finance, administration, human resources and real estate.

Prior to joining Berklee in October 2010, he spent 25 years in the financial services industry (investment management, venture capital, banking and insurance), the last five at AARP Financial, with prior experience at MFS Investment Management, the Bank of New York and Lexington Global Asset Managers (now part of ING). He has served in a number of senior business, investment, operational, financial, and administrative roles, including chief financial officer and chief investment officer.

Hisey has served in a number of industry leadership positions, including co-chair of the Investor Advisory Committee to the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission, formed to advise the SEC on matters of concern to investors in securities markets and sponsored by SEC Commissioners and the chair of the SEC. Previously, he served in advisory capacities to the securities agencies of Russia and Slovenia.

He has served on the advisory board to the University of Connecticut School of Business. He is a Chartered Financial Analyst and a member of the Boston Society of Security Analysts. He was also was recently named to the Boston Consortium for Higher Education Board of Directors.

Hisey holds an MBA and bachelor's degree from the University of Connecticut, with supplemental education in Russian language at Middlebury College and Leningrad State University in the former U.S.S.R.

Dennis P. Jones

Dennis P. Jones is president of the National Center For Higher Education Management Systems (NCHEMS).

A member of the NCHEMS staff since 1969, he has assumed increasing levels of responsibility within that organization, becoming president in 1986. Under his leadership, and in collaboration with a talented staff, NCHEMS has achieved preeminence as a leader in the development and promulgation of information-based approaches to policymaking in higher education.

Jones is widely recognized for his work in: developing “public agendas” to guide state higher education policymaking; financing, budgeting and resource allocation methodologies for use at both state and institutional levels; linking higher education with states’ workforce and economic development needs; and developing and using information to inform policymaking.
He has served as an advisor to the U.S. secretary of education, the Lumina Foundation for Education, the National Center for Public Policy and Higher Education and numerous other policy organizations.

Jones is a graduate of Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute and served RPI as an administrator in business and institutional planning for eight years prior to joining NCHEMS.

**James A. Kadamus**

James A. Kadamus is vice president and an owner of Sightlines LLC, where he helps public and private colleges and university systems across the country to measure, benchmark and analyze their capital investment needs and facilities operations. Sightlines then helps the campuses develop strategies to optimize use of capital and improve operating cost-effectiveness.

A frequent speaker on finance and facilities, Kadamus is a co-author of two recent publications on the growing problem of deferred maintenance at colleges and universities: “Revival of the Fittest: Strategies for Attacking Deferred Maintenance” for the National Association of College and University Business Officers (NACUBO)’s *Business Officer* and “Climbing Walls and Climbing Tuitions” for the American Institutes for Research Delta Cost Project.

**Theodora J. Kalikow**

Theodora J. Kalikow is president of the University of Southern Maine and was president of the University of Maine at Farmington from 1994 to 2012.

Kalikow has been widely honored for her work on behalf of women. In 2000, she received the Maryann Hartman Award from the University of Maine Women’s Studies Program. In 2001, she was inducted into the Maine Women’s Hall of Fame. In 2006, she was honored by the University of New England with the Deborah Morton Award, which recognizes women who have achieved distinction in their careers and their service to the public.

In 1968, she began teaching at the University of Massachusetts Dartmouth, where she attained the rank of professor and served as department chair and faculty union president and then as interim assistant to the president in 1981.

In 1983, she served as an American Council on Education Fellow at Brown University. From 1984 to 1987, she was dean of the College of Arts and Sciences at the University of Northern Colorado. She then moved to Plymouth State College (now University), where she served as dean of the college and one year as interim president, until 1994.

Kalikow holds a doctorate in philosophy from Boston University, a master’s in philosophy from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and a bachelor’s in chemistry from Wellesley College.

**Karen Kedem**

Karen Kedem is vice president-senior analyst and manager for Moody’s U.S. Higher Education and Not-for-Profit Team. She oversees a team of 15 analysts that conducts research and assigns credit ratings to more than 750 colleges, universities and other nonprofit organizations in the U.S.

She has direct analytical responsibility for a diverse portfolio of institutions, including Ivy League universities, large public university systems, complex academic medical centers and nationally prominent nonprofit organizations. Kedem also helps coordinate the work of credit analysts globally for a growing number of universities, including ratings on universities in Australia, the United Kingdom, Canada, Singapore and Mexico.

She has authored publications on topics including governance and management of U.S. universities, the importance of market position to U.S. higher education ratings, and privatized student housing and debt capacity.
Kedem holds a master’s in public administration from the Lyndon B. Johnson School of Public Affairs at the University of Texas at Austin and a bachelor’s from Brown University.

**Molly Kerr**

Molly Kerr is a leader in Bain’s performance improvement practice, focusing on full potential programs, organization redesign, cost reduction and major change programs.

She has worked in higher education, healthcare and a variety of other industries focusing on transformation work. She is an active member of Bain training and recruiting teams.

Prior to joining Bain, Kerr worked for Price Waterhouse Coopers and for Pacific Equity Partners, a private equity firm based in Sydney, Australia.

Kerr holds a master’s in business administration from Wharton School of Business and a bachelor’s from Stanford University.

**Paul J. LeBlanc**

Paul J. LeBlanc has been president of Southern New Hampshire University (SNHU) since 2003. He previously served as president at Marlboro College in Vermont from 1996 to 2003.

Under his leadership, SNHU has more doubled in size and is the largest provider of online higher education in New England. In 2012, SNHU was was the only university included on Fast Company magazine's "World's Fifty Most Innovative Companies." SNHU has been recognized by the Gates Foundation as a "Beating the Odds" school for its innovative programming to increase graduation rates and productivity, has been named to the The Chronicle of Higher Education's "Best Colleges to Work For" list every year since the listing was created, and in 2011 was named to the Honor Roll, earned a Carnegie Foundation Community Engagement classification in 2010, moved from Tier 3 to Tier 1 for regional universities in the US News and World Report ranking, and had its credit rating upgraded by S&P amidst the 2008 recession.

SNHU was recently featured in The Chronicle of Higher Education and LeBlanc has been asked to speak on innovation, online learning, and higher education reform by the Lumina Foundation, Rhode Island’s Board of Higher Education, Harvard’s schools of Business and of Education, IBM, the CTO Forum and others.

He won a New England Higher Education Excellence Award in 2012 and was named one of "New Hampshire's Most Influential People" by New Hampshire Business Review. He sits on a number of boards and steering committees including the Council of Adult and Experiential Learning, New Hampshire College and University Council, the New Hampshire Campus Compact, the Gates Foundation Data Metrics Project, and the OpenStudy Advisory Board. He is a past Commissioner for the NEASC Commission on Higher Education.

**Robert Lytle**

Robert Lytle is member of the Parthenon Group’s Education Practice, with a focus on global private education markets. For more than 15 years, he has led client engagements on general strategy, profit improvement, and investment due diligence across a broad spectrum of business models in the following sectors: pre-K, K-12 and postsecondary schools; educational publishing, assessment, and service provision; corporate training; test prep; educational technology; and consumer education products and services. His clients include high-growth companies, publicly listed Global 100 companies, financial investors and international governments.

In addition, Lytle has participated in numerous high-profile corporate turnarounds, mergers, divestitures and privatizations in Europe, North America, Latin America, the Middle East and Asia.
Lytle is a frequent speaker at leading global forums on the education sector. Prior to joining Parthenon, Lytle was with Bain & Company and served as a U.S. Army aviator.

He holds an M.B.A. from the Tuck School of Business at Dartmouth and a bachelor’s in economics from the Wharton School of Business.

Edward R. MacKay

Edward R. MacKay is a trustee of the Davis Educational Foundation and recently retired chancellor of the University System of New Hampshire (USNH).

Starting in 1987, he served the USNH in a number of senior roles, including responsibility for the system’s operating and capital budgets, policy analysis, management information systems and finance and treasury functions.

He was involved with the National Association of College and University Business Officers (NACUBO), serving as chairman of the board and was a recipient of the association’s highest recognition, the Distinguished Business Officer Award.

In New Hampshire, he is the chair of the College Savings ("529") Commission and board member for New Hampshire Public Broadcasting, the New Hampshire Business and Industry Association, and the Havenwood-Heritage Heights Trust Fund. He was the chair of the New Hampshire Higher Education Commission and the New Hampshire Higher Education Loan Corporation and a delegate to the New England Board of Higher Education.

MacKay holds a doctorate from Vanderbilt University, a master’s from Lehigh University and a bachelor’s from Bloomsburg University of Pennsylvania.

Josephine S. Modica-Napolitano

Josephine S. Modica-Napolitano is provost and vice president for academic affairs at Merrimack College.

After completing her doctoral studies, Modica-Napolitano was appointed as a postdoctoral research fellow in pathology at the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute, Harvard Medical School, and later as a senior research associate and assistant professor in the Department of Biology at Tufts University. She joined Merrimack College as an associate professor of biology in 1995 and was promoted to full professor in 2004.

Modica-Napolitano chaired the Department of Biology from 2006 to 2009, as the founding director of the Center for Biotechnology and Biomedical Sciences from 2007 to 2009. She served as dean of Merrimack’s School of Science and Engineering from 2009 to 2012. She was appointed provost and vice president for academic affairs in January 2012. Modica-Napolitano has authored numerous research and review articles in peer-reviewed scientific journals on mitochondrial dysfunction in human disease. Her primary research focus is on identifying differences between the mitochondria of normal cells and cancer cells that can be used as site-specific targets for novel anti-cancer agents.

She holds a doctorate in biology from Tufts University and a bachelor’s in biology from the University of Massachusetts Boston.
Dana Mohler-Faria

Dana Mohler-Faria is the 11th president of Bridgewater State University (BSU). An integral part of the campus community for more than 20 years and a lifelong resident of Southeastern Massachusetts, Mohler-Faria, like many of the students who go to Bridgewater, was the first member of his family to go to college.

During his presidency and since the turn of the millennium, BSU enrollments have risen by 46%; the number of degrees conferred has surged ahead by 76%; and freshmen-sophomore retention now exceeds 80%. At the same time, the university has expanded its full-time faculty ranks by 75%; added 10 new buildings; grown the number of formal international partnerships from four to 35; and quintupled the size of its private endowment. Mohler-Faria was also instrumental in establishing Connect, a partnership of public higher education institutions in Southeastern Massachusetts, that served as a model for collaboration in other parts of the nation.

In addition to his work as president, Mohler-Faria served concurrently for 18 months as Massachusetts Gov. Deval Patrick's special advisor for education; was instrumental in establishing the Executive Office of Education and Readiness Centers; and was a member of the statewide Board of Elementary and Secondary Education. He was the chair of the Commissioner of Higher Education’s Task Force for Collaboration and Efficiency, which successfully identified more than $10 million in collaborative savings projects. Currently, he serves as chair of the Partnership to Advance Collaboration and Efficiency, a proactive effort to harness savings and efficiencies across the nine Massachusetts state universities.

He holds a doctorate in higher education administration from the University of Massachusetts at Amherst, master's and bachelor's degrees in history from Boston University, and an associate's degree from Cape Cod Community College. He has participated in the Oxford Roundtable, the Millennium Leadership Institute, the New England Resource Center for Higher Education and Harvard University's Institute for Education Management and Senior Executives Program.

Carol A. Moore

Carol A. Moore was president of Lyndon State College for 13 years until her retirement in 2011. Moore started her career in education as a high school science teacher. After three years, she moved to the college level as professor of biology, division chairperson of science and technology, and subsequently assumed administrative roles at several private two-year and four-year educational institutions. In 1992, she became provost and vice president of academic affairs at Mercy College in New York, where she was responsible for the overall academic leadership of three branch campuses, 13 satellite sites, libraries and computer services. In 1998, she assumed the presidency of Lyndon.

Throughout her administrative career, Moore has been committed to strategic planning, establishing a clear vision to ensure student success, new program development, retention, assessment, building a development effort, curricular “rightsizing” and women’s advancement in higher education.

During her tenure at Lyndon, Moore became deeply involved in local and regional economic development issues. She partnered with Northeastern Vermont Regional Hospital to help solve the shortage of qualified nursing candidates and worked with Northeastern Vermont Development Association to build a manufacturing training initiative critical for business growth. As chair of the Northeast Kingdom Collaborative—a consortium of regional education, community, and business leaders—Moore dedicated herself to developing a comprehensive economic and community development action plan.

Between 1991 and 1992 she was a Senior Fellow at the American Council on Education (ACE). In 2007, ACE appointed her chair to its Commission on Women in Higher Education after having served on the Commission on Leadership and Institutional Effectiveness from 2004 to 2007. Moore served a one-year term as president of the Vermont Higher Education Council. Since 1991, she has been a visiting scientist at the Marine Science Institute of Northeastern University.

Moore holds a doctorate in marine biology from Northeastern University and master’s and bachelor’s degrees in biology from Montclair State University.
Mark R. Nemec

Mark R. Nemec is president and CEO of Eduventures, an industry leader in research, data, consulting and advisory services for the higher education community.

He joined Edvisors in 2011 after serving on Forrester Research’s executive team. Nemec brings to Eduventures extensive leadership experience and research and advisory expertise along with a passion for higher education. He is responsible for creating value for clients and shareholders through the strategic guidance and growth of the company. Previously, he was on the faculty in political science at Davidson College, where his work focused on how organizations and their leadership manage innovation and navigate constraints.


Nemec holds a doctorate in political science and a master’s in education from the University of Michigan, where he was awarded a Regents Fellowship and a Rackham Dissertation Fellowship. He has a bachelor’s from Yale.

Zorica Pantić

As Wentworth Institute of Technology’s first female president and the first female engineer to lead a higher education institution of technology in the U.S., Zorica Pantić oversees strategic efforts that position Wentworth as a leader in engineering, technology, design and management education.

With an emphasis on experiential learning that combines interdisciplinary, project-based curricula with real-world experience through a comprehensive co-op program, service-learning projects and entrepreneurship efforts, the institute prepares students for career success. Wentworth’s graduates are highly skilled professionals and well-rounded citizens who fuel the economic growth of the region and beyond.

Pantić is recognized as an academic entrepreneur, technology advocate, agent for change and champion for diversity. Under her leadership, Wentworth became a master’s degree-granting institution by starting graduate programs in architecture, construction management and facility management. The institute also focused on extending its science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) offerings by introducing six new undergraduate engineering programs as well as its first three-year program, Applied Mathematics, and its first interdisciplinary program, Computer Information Systems. Wentworth earns annual recognition in regional and national rankings by *U.S. News & World Report*, The Princeton Review, and payscale.com.

Lisa Petrides

Lisa Petrides is president and founder of the Institute for the Study of Knowledge Management in Education (ISKME), an independent, nonprofit research institute based in Half Moon Bay, Calif.

Dedicated to improving the practice of continuous learning, collaboration and change in the education sector, ISKME conducts social science research, develops research-based innovations, and builds capacity to improve information access and knowledge-sharing.

Petrides has led research that contributes to the ways in which those in K-20 formal and informal education foster sharing of data and information, apply it to well-defined problems and create knowledge-driven environments focused on improved learning and organizational success. Petrides also brings extensive experience as an innovator working at the forefront of understanding how developments in open-source learning and social media impact educational practice and policy. This includes the creation of OER Commons, a teaching and learning network that supports and facilitates the creation and sharing of open-educational resources as well as Big Ideas Fest, a dynamic, action-oriented convening focused on education innovation.
Petrides is a former professor in the Department of Organization and Leadership at Columbia University’s Teachers College. She holds a doctorate in education from Stanford University and a master of business administration from Sonoma State University.

Claire Ramsbottom

Claire Ramsbottom is executive director of Colleges of the Fenway Inc. (COF), a collaboration of six Boston colleges.

She has worked in higher education administration for 32 years, holding positions at SUNY Cortland, Simmons College and Wheaton College. She was extensively involved in Wheaton’s transition from an all-women’s college to a coeducational institution.

In 1996, she was hired to help develop COF, which was formally incorporated as a 501(c)(3) in 2003 as a collaboration of six Boston colleges: Emmanuel College, Massachusetts College of Art and Design, Massachusetts College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences, Simmons College, Wentworth Institute of Technology and Wheelock College. COF was created to add value to student academic and co-curricular opportunities while seeking innovative methods of investing in services and containing higher education costs. Ramsbottom works closely with the college presidents and senior leadership to identify and implement opportunities to strengthen the individual colleges and the collective through collaborative initiatives including shared services, cross-registration, professional development, joint academic programs and joint contracts.

Ramsbottom is the current president of the Association for Collaborative Leadership (ACL) and president-elect of the Framingham State University Alumni Association Board of Directors. She is one of the founding faculty for ACL’s Summer Institute.

She holds a master’s degree from Springfield College and a bachelor’s from Framingham State University.

William S. Reed

William S. (Will) Reed is chair of the Davis Educational Foundation Board of Trustees.

Reed has held a variety of high-level positions in higher education. His career includes work with the U.S Atomic Energy Commission, the Ford Foundation, Princeton University as director of personnel, Kenyon College as vice president for development and alumni affairs, Williams College as vice president for finance and administration and treasurer, and Wellesley College as vice president for finance and administration and treasurer.

He played a key role in the creation of United Educators insurance company and the Boston Consortium for Higher Education.

Jamienne S. Studley

Jamienne S. Studley was appointed deputy under secretary of the U.S. Department of Education in September 2013.

She will join Deputy Under Secretary Jeff Appel and together provide coordination and oversight of the Education Department’s ambitious postsecondary policy initiatives and workstreams to increase access, affordability, quality and completion. Their responsibilities will include a strong focus on higher education policy development and outreach. They will also support research to deepen the evidence-base to strengthen the nation's postsecondary system, student experiences and outcomes.

Formerly, Studley served as deputy and acting general counsel of the Education Department in the Clinton administration from 1993 to 1997. During that time, she had responsibility for implementing the negotiated rulemaking process, led the negotiated rulemaking on financial responsibility and served on the White House Regulatory Reinvention Group. In March 2010, she was appointed her to the National Advisory Committee on Institutional Quality and Integrity (NACIQI), which she has chaired since 2012.
She has rich experience in addressing the needs of low-income, underrepresented students from her previous work as president and CEO of Public Advocates Inc., president of Skidmore College, associate dean of Yale Law School, board member of the American Association of Colleges and Universities, and a member of the policy committees of the National Association of Independent Colleges and Universities, Campus Compact and the New York State Council of Independent Colleges and Universities. At Yale, she helped to establish the loan-forgiveness program.

She holds a her law degree from Harvard Law School, where she served as president of the Student-Faculty Government, and a bachelor’s from Barnard College.

**Kumble R. Subbaswamy**

Kumble R. Subbaswamy became the 11th chancellor of the University of Massachusetts Amherst in 2012.

A physicist, Subbaswamy was provost at the University of Kentucky from 2006 until his appointment to UMass Amherst chancellor. He joined Kentucky’s physics faculty in 1978 after serving as a postdoctoral fellow at the University of California, Irvine. During his first 18 years at Kentucky, he served as associate dean of arts and sciences and as chair of the Department of Physics and Astronomy.

Subbaswamy was also dean of the college of arts and sciences at the University of Miami from 1997 to 2000, when he left to become dean of arts and sciences at Indiana University in Bloomington, serving until 2006. He promoted life sciences-related economic development efforts in Indiana and Kentucky. He has been active in academia nationally and internationally, including serving on the American Council on Education and the German-American Fulbright Commission.

He was elected a fellow of the American Physical Society in 1989. His primary research area as a physicist is the optical properties of novel materials and nonlinear excitations. He has published more than 60 articles and co-authored a book on the local density theory of polarizability.

Subbaswamy holds a doctorate in physics from Indiana University, a master’s in physics from Delhi University and a bachelor’s in physics from Bangalore University.

**Michael K. Thomas**

Michael K. Thomas is president and chief executive officer of the New England Board of Higher Education (NEBHE).

Thomas works extensively on higher education issues with governors, state legislators, K-12 commissioners, state higher education commissioners, college presidents/chancellors and other business, education and government leaders.

Thomas joined NEBHE in 2002 as director of policy and research. He subsequently served as senior director and senior vice president. He has worked in corporate training and human resources and has held administrative positions at both public and independent higher education institutions, including executive assistant to the president at Lesley University.

He has been a faculty member, adjunct professor and lecturer at several New England universities and served as trustee and vice chair of the board of Worcester State University.

Thomas holds a bachelor’s degree in philosophy from Brigham Young University and master’s degrees in higher education from Teachers College, Columbia University and Harvard University. He holds a master of business administration from Boston University and a doctorate in education and social policy from Harvard.

In 2008, Thomas was selected as a Millennium Leadership Initiative Fellow by the American Association of State Colleges and Universities (AASCU), recognizing the next generation of America’s higher education leadership. He serves as a senior fellow at the American Association of Colleges and Universities (AAC&U).
Michael Townsley

Michael Townsley is a senior consultant at Stevens Strategy, where he has provided financial strategies and forecasts for many private institutions on the East Coast.

Previously, he was the special assistant for finance to the president and professor of business at Becker College in Massachusetts. He was also president of the Pennsylvania Institute of Technology and senior vice president for finance and administration for Wilmington College in Ohio.

Townsley has authored *Weathering Turbulent Times* and *The Small College Guide to Financial Health Beating the Odds* and produced numerous financial templates such as: The Financial Toolbox for Colleges and Universities, Capital Investment, and Strategic Turnarounds. He has published widely on financial management, strategic management and other major issues facing colleges and universities and has made presentations at national conferences on finance and management in higher education.

Ben Wildavsky

Ben Wildavsky is director of higher education studies at the State University of New York’s Rockefeller Institute of Government, and policy professor at SUNY-Albany.


As an editorial and strategic consultant, he has provided advice to education leaders and written influential policy reports. He graduated from Yale University (Phi Beta Kappa, summa cum laude).

Rebecca Wyke

Rebecca Wyke has served as the University of Maine System’s vice chancellor for finance and administration and treasurer to the UMS Board of Trustees since 2008. Her major focus of work has been a systemwide initiative to ensure the long-term financial sustainability of Maine’s public university system.

Prior to joining the University System, Wyke served for five years in Gov. Baldacci’s cabinet as the commissioner of the Department of Administrative and Financial Services.

Wyke also served in the administration of three Maine secretaries of state, serving as the chief deputy secretary of state for eight years.

Wyke holds a doctorate in education from the University of Pennsylvania and master’s and bachelor’s degrees from the University of Maine.