



Dr. Steven Johnson
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A longtime leader in Texas higher education and policy, Dr. Steven E. Johnson is currently the Chancellor of WGU Texas, a state-endorsed, nonprofit, accredited university launched in August 2011 to expand access to affordable, high-quality education throughout the state. Johnson is a founding member of the Governor's Broadband Development Council, a current member of the Texas Association of Business and Chambers of Commerce Foundation (TABCC) and was recently appointed to serve on the Nursing Shortage Reduction Grant Program Workgroup at the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board.

Prior to joining WGU Texas, Johnson served in a number of prominent roles in Texas higher education and education strategy and policy. Most recently, he was Senior Vice President and Chief Operating Officer (COO) at the Texas Association of Community Colleges and served as a key advisor for the 50 community college chancellors and presidents in Texas.

In his role as COO, he directed the budget and operational management of TACC and affiliated organizations. For more than 10 years at the TACC, he was Vice President of Public Affairs, responsible for governmental relations and advocacy efforts. He created and implemented "Texas Success," an innovative statewide advocacy program designed to improve student success in college. While at TACC he served as Co-Chair of the Statewide Dual Credit Taskforce, a joint convening of the University of Texas System and the TACC.

His previous experience includes serving as Special Assistant for Governmental Relations at the Texas Telecommunications Infrastructure Fund Board, Chief-of-Staff for a leading member of the Texas House of Representatives, and Director of Student Financial Services at Concordia University Texas.

He earned a Ph.D. in Educational Leadership and Higher Education from the University of Nebraska—Lincoln. His doctoral research focused on the structure and unique characteristics of public advocacy at institutions of higher education. He holds a Master of Public Affairs from the LBJ School of Public Affairs at The University of Texas at Austin and Bachelor of Arts in History from Concordia University Texas. He has more than ten years of experience as an adjunct faculty member teaching undergraduate courses in government and public policy at Concordia.

A 4th generation Texan, Dr. Johnson and his family make their home in Austin, Texas.