

Bob Collins

Vice President, Financial Aid at Western Governors University

Salt Lake City, UT, US

Bob Collins has over 35 years of experience in student financial aid administration and serves as WGU's Vice President for Financial Aid.

Biography

Bob Collins joined Western Governors University in October 2012 as Vice President of Financial Aid. In this role, he is committed to expanding access to affordable higher education, and in 2016 WGU received national recognition from AAUA and WCET for its Responsible Borrowing Initiatives programs which encourage students to borrow only what they need resulting in a student loan default rate of 4.1 percent, half the national average.

Before coming to WGU, Collins had more than 35 years of experience in student aid administration. He has been a member of several technical review panels for the National Center for Education Statistics, participated on numerous negotiated rulemaking committees, and actively engaged in the Distance Education Demonstration Program with the U.S. Department of Education.

Collins is a member of the National Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators Forward 50 committee as a national thought leader on higher education public policy. He has published several topical articles on LinkedIn and has been quoted by Yahoo, Education Dive, Good Call, Huffington Post and U.S. News and World Report, among other media outlets.

Areas of Expertise

Student Financial Aid, Financial Literacy, Responsible Borrowing, Student Debt, Leadership, Higher Education

Affiliations

National Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators Forward 50 , Rocky Mountain Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators

Event Appearances

Higher Education Financial Wellness Webinar Series

Higher Education Financial Wellness Summit

Education

University of Phoenix

M.A. Public Administration

University of Colorado Denver
B.A. Business Administration and Management

Niagara University
General Business Administration and Management

Accomplishments

WCET Outstanding Work (WOW Award)
2016

WGU's Responsible Borrowing Initiatives (RBI) program recognized for “implementing exceptionally creative, technology-based solutions to contemporary challenges in higher education.”

AAUA Exemplary Models Award
2016

WGU's Responsible Borrowing Initiatives (RBI) program recognized for providing “an excellent solution to a common problem in higher education.”

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