

Archived Information

Robert W. Mendenhall

Robert W. Mendenhall is the President and Chief Executive Officer of Western Governors University (WGU). WGU is a private, not-for-profit, online university offering competency-based degrees. It was founded and is supported by 19 governors as well as 24 leading corporations and foundations, and is the only competency-based university with accreditation status. It currently offers degrees at the Associate's, Bachelor's and Master's level in business, information technology and education. WGU's mission is to expand access to higher education and promote competency-based degree programs.

Dr. Mendenhall has more than 20 years of experience in the development, marketing and delivery of technology-based education. Prior to joining WGU, he had his own consulting business and previously was general manager of IBM's K-12 education division. He has served as executive vice president of Jostens Learning Corporation. From 1980 to 1992, he was a founder, president and CEO (from 1987) of Wicat Systems, Inc., a leader in providing computer-based curriculum, instructional management and testing to schools, and technology-based training to government and industry.

Dr. Mendenhall has served on the NGA/ASTD Commission on Technology & Adult Learning, on IBM's Education Advisory Council, on the National Forum on 21st Century Skills Education Advisory Board, and on a Technology Working Group for the California Postsecondary Education Commission. He has also served on the Boards of the Department of Business and Economic Development for the State of Utah, the Oquirrh Institute, and the Gina Bachauer International Piano Foundation.