

## **ROLF WEGENKE, Ph.D.**

Rolf Wegenke is president and chief executive officer of the Wisconsin Association of Independent Colleges and Universities (WAICU). WAICU represents the 20 independent institutions of higher education in the state. Dr. Wegenke is also president/CEO of the WAICU Benefits Consortium and the WAICU Educational Technology Consortium. WAICU is the official organization of Wisconsin private (or independent) colleges and universities recognized in state statutes ss. 14.57, 15.377, 15.67, 16.979, 38.50, 39.285, 39.437(4)(a), 115.297, and 560.27, and in 2011 Governor's Executive Order 37.

Previously, Dr. Wegenke served in the administrations of five Wisconsin governors, directing the state's international trade and investment, business development, technology transfer, community development, and finance programs.

Dr. Wegenke serves as co-chair of the Wisconsin PK-16 Leadership Council. He serves as chair of the Wisconsin Educational Communications Board and the Wisconsin Public Broadcasting Foundation. He is president of the national Fund for Campus Servant Leadership. He sits on the executive committee of the Wisconsin Technology Council and chairs its Human Capital Committee. He serves on the Board of Directors of Competitive Wisconsin, Inc., and is chair of its Education Committee. He is a member of the National Association of Independent Colleges and Universities State Executives and of the Fund for Independent Higher Education. He serves on the following boards: the National Association of Independent Colleges and Universities (NAICU), the Wisconsin International Trade Council, (and as chair of its education committee), the Wisconsin College Savings Program Board, the Wisconsin Council on Workforce Investment and its executive committee, the Wisconsin Covenant College Access Council, Forward Wisconsin, Inc., the Governor's Early Childhood Advisory Council, the Governor's Economic Growth Council, the Wisconsin International Education Council, the Commission of Midwest Higher Education Compact and its executive committee, and the Governing Board of Wisconsin Lutheran Chapel and Student Center. He is a member of the Friends of the Wisconsin-Chiba (Japan) Sister State, Inc.,

Dr. Wegenke is past president of the national Council of State Community Affairs Agencies and of the Wisconsin Academy of Sciences, Arts, and Letters. Dr. Wegenke has served as chair of the following: the National Association of Independent Colleges and Universities State Executives (NAICUSE), the Universal (Telecommunications) Service Fund Council, the Board of the Wisconsin Venture Fairs, the Governor's Task Force on International Education, the Board of Regents of Wisconsin Lutheran College, and the Dane County Economic Development Summit. In addition, he has served on the steering committee of the Wisconsin Economic Summit, the Governor's Council on Workforce Investment, the Wisconsin Center for Academically Talented Youth Board of Directors, the Wisconsin Innovation Network Foundation Board of Directors, the Wisconsin Education Network Collaboration Committee, the Advisory Committee of the Wisconsin Youth Arts Festival, as a member of the Governor's Blue Ribbon Commission on 21st Century Jobs, and the editorial advisory boards for *Academic Leader* and *Administrator*.

Dr. Wegenke is the recipient of many awards and honors including the Governor's Exceptional Performance Award, the *Pro Gloria Dei* Award of Wisconsin Lutheran College, the Robert Marshall Award for the advancement of entrepreneurialism and technology transfer, and a Doctorate in Humane Letters (honors causa) from both Beloit and Ripon Colleges.

Dr. Wegenke is a native of Montello, Wisconsin, and a Phi Beta Kappa graduate of the University of Wisconsin-Madison. He earned his master's and doctoral degrees at the University of Chicago.