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Professional Summary

In his career in higher education, Dr. John Shannon has served as a faculty member, department chair, program director, academic dean, vice president for academic affairs, interim vice president for advancement, provost and senior vice president, and university president. In all of these roles, his focus has been steadfastly on students and their success, and to him, students are successful when they are learning, persisting in their studies, completing their educational program, and going out to become productive, responsible, caring members of their community.

His instructional experience includes teaching at the rank of instructor, assistant professor, associate professor, and full professor. He believes one of the most important functions of a professor is to help students develop as learners and grow as people, and to do that by being available and accessible to them, both inside and outside of the classroom.

Moreover, he has had significant experience in enrollment management, with academic areas under his responsibility growing in student enrollment year in and year out. According to Dr. Shannon, one way to accomplish enrollment growth is through the addition of new programs. To that end, he has led the implementation of new associate degree programs in information technology, manufacturing technology, nursing, and surgical technology; bachelor degree programs in actuarial science, computer science, exercise science, forensic science, cybersecurity, mechatronics and robotics, extended reality, and nursing; and graduate programs in physician assistant studies, nursing, engineering management, business analytics, physical therapy, and information technology, among others. These programs all grew enrollment because they were of interest to prospective students and led graduates to career opportunities.

Lastly, his values as an academic leader include always being respectful to others, empowering people with real responsibilities, communicating transparently, acting ethically, and embracing innovation and a dynamic approach to leadership. To that end, he follows a rule respect in his interactions with others, always striving to maintain his composure and treat others as he would want them to treat him. He strives to empower colleagues by giving them responsibilities without micromanaging them. He believes that the best solutions to problems occur at the most local level possible, which further empowers people to take responsibility for their work. When he communicates, he does so without ulterior motives, saying what he means and meaning what he says in as transparent a manner as possible. By acting ethically, he constantly strives to do the right things in the right way. Perhaps most importantly in today's every changing world, he values innovation and being dynamic, not static, promoting a workplace culture that embraces innovation and has employees who are willing to change in an effort to improve processes and outcomes. He believes that the values mentioned above lead to continuous improvement, quality assurance, and institutional integrity, which represent the three pillars of academic accreditation.