



About WGU

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Dr. Thomas H. Kemp Named New Director of Business Programs at WGU

SALT LAKE CITY -- Dr. Thomas H. Kemp has been named the new director of business programs for the College of Business at Western Governors University. Dr. Kemp joins the university following a long and distinguished career at University of Phoenix. There, he spent 23 years in teaching and leadership in graduate and undergraduate business education. He received a distinguished teaching award in 1990 and numerous commendations for leadership in business and research programs and projects.

Prior to that, Dr. Kemp also worked in human resources at Utah's two major aerospace companies, Hercules and Thiokol, and was an education consultant. Dr. Kemp also taught at several other institutions of higher education, including BYU and Weber State University during the course of his career.

Dr. Kemp earned his degrees in political science and public management at the University of Utah, culminating in his doctorate in 1976. He was appointed as master's of public administration program director there, a post he held for six years.

"We are delighted to have someone of Dr. Kemp's experience at Western Governors University," says WGU President Dr. Robert Mendenhall. "He has worked extensively in the undergraduate and graduate business disciplines and will contribute significantly to the further building of our College of Business."

"Western Governors University began, in my opinion, from the genius of those who saw the urgent need to provide business and society with people who can actually do the job they are trained and educated to do. Competency-based education is the answer to that need," says Dr. Kemp. He believes WGU does what many universities have failed to do for non-traditional adults learners, and that is to provide educational advantage and opportunity to both the learners and their employers.

About Western Governors University (WGU)

WGU is the only accredited university in the U.S. offering online competency-based degree programs. The private non-profit university was founded and is supported by 19 governors, as well as more than 20 leading corporations and foundations, which include corporations and foundations such as Hewlett-Packard, AT&T, Dell, Sun Microsystems, the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation, and the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation. WGU offers bachelor's and master's degrees in business, information technology, teacher education and health professions, with students in all 50 states and 10 foreign countries. More information is available at www.wgu.edu.

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"Competency-based..."

"I like the idea of a competency-based program. In some areas I already had expertise and skills so I could take an independent study class and build the portfolio and take the exams. In other areas I needed more instruction."

—Gretchen Burr, WGU graduate, high school teacher

"I am an expert..."

"Western Governors has raised the bar for online courses. Instead of graduating from their courses and saying, "I have passed all of the requirements," they want their students to say, "I graduated from WGU and I am an expert in the field of..."

—Jeffrey Cravy, WGU graduate student

"Competency-based..."

"Google has pioneered the idea of access to information. The reason Google thinks WGU is such a good idea is because WGU has pioneered the concept of competency-based education whenever you want it."

—Eric Schmidt, CEO of Google Inc.

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