



About WGU

News Brief - 12/3/07

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Western Governors University Appoints New Chief Technology Officer

SALT LAKE CITY -- Western Governors University (www.wgu.edu) has named Dave Wilson as its new Chief Technology Officer, according to WGU President Dr. Robert Mendenhall. Wilson joins the university following a long and varied career path.

A technology visionary who leverages entrepreneurial enthusiasm and a diverse skill set, Dave Wilson is a veteran project manager and team builder, with broad hands-on abilities and current technical skills. He brings with him more than two decades of experience with application design, software engineering and information technology across a wide range of industries and technological disciplines, as well as strong problem-solving, leadership, planning and management skills.

At Genova Diagnostics, Wilson led the creation of new information systems which radically improved business intelligence, the customer experience, and staff communications while reducing overall costs. At KOZ.com, he built and led the top-tier multidisciplinary engineering team that created the award-winning KOZ Community Publishing System, which was then leveraged to create some of the first commercial online offerings for K-12 and university education. At Link Flight Simulation, Wilson was a key contributor to several highly immersive learning environments created for pilot training. He holds a B.S. in electrical engineering from Clarkson University.

"I am incredibly excited about joining Western Governors University, as I think WGU's approach represents the future of adult education," says Wilson. "The information age brought with it both the need for society to embrace learning as a life-long endeavor and incredible new potential to let each of us learn at our own pace, where we are, and when we can. WGU has shown visionary leadership in the realization of that potential. Together we can, and will, accelerate the pace at which the latest technological innovations are harnessed to serve the interests of online learners everywhere."

Dr. Mendenhall is extremely pleased that Dave Wilson is joining the university's top management staff. "The Chief Technology Officer's position is critical to moving forward technically as WGU experiences a continuing period of high growth. Dave's ability to be innovative and lead detailed technical projects is key to further streamlining WGU's online access and delivery system for students and staff," says Mendenhall. "Dave Wilson's work will ensure that we continue to develop, implement, and maintain the most efficient systems and best practices in technology for our online university."

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 AT&T, Dell, Hewlett-Packard, Microsoft, Oracle and Sun Microsystems. WGU offers bachelor's and master's degrees in business, information technology, teacher education and health professions, with students in all 50 states. 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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