

PETER O. NWOSU, Ph.D.: Short Bio

Dr. Peter Nwosu (the “N” is silent), American Council on Education (ACE) Fellow and Fulbright Scholar, started his tenure in 2019 as Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs and Student Success at the Herbert H. Lehman College, a Hispanic and Minority Serving Institution and a senior college of the 25-member colleges of the City University of New York (CUNY), the nation’s largest urban public university system. Prior to this role, he served as Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs at Clark Atlanta University (CAU), Atlanta, Georgia, a private Historically Black College and University, and Associate Vice President for Academic Programs and Accreditation Liaison Officer at California State University, Fullerton, a Hispanic Serving Institution. A passionate advocate for access to high quality education for our nation’s increasingly diverse student body, and a systems thinker and strategic planner with a strong belief in the power of collaboration and shared governance, he has led strategic initiatives to foster institutional effectiveness, advance student success outcomes, and enhance these institutions’ national reputation and visibility as engines of upward mobility and community engagement.

Dr. Nwosu began his career at California State University, Sacramento, one of the 23 campuses of the California State University System, rising through the ranks to become tenured full Professor of Communication Studies. A nationally recognized teacher-scholar of intercultural and international communication, Dr. Nwosu has served as journal editor, presented at regional, national, and international conferences, and authored/co-authored more than 90 scholarly writings, including three books, refereed journal papers, book chapters, and training manuals. A graduate of the Harvard Institutes for Higher Education, he earned his Ph.D. in Communication Studies from Howard University in Washington, D.C.

Dr. Nwosu serves as Principal Investigator, CUNY-NYC-Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation in STEM involving 12 CUNY colleges and funded by the National Science Foundation as well as co-director of the CUNY Leadership Institute funded by the Mellon Foundation. He also chairs the board of directors of the CUNY Mexican Studies Institute and the CUNY Institute for Health Equity. In addition, he serves as vice chair of the board of directors of the Washington, D.C.-based Institute for Higher Education Policy (IHEP), a nonprofit research and advocacy organization committed to promoting access and success in higher education for all students, and sits on the advisory boards of the American Association of State Colleges and Universities’ Committee on Academic Innovation and Transformation, the national Association of Chief Academic Officers (ACAO), and the Sacramento-based California Urban Partnership (CUP). He was formerly member of the board of directors of the American Council on Education (ACE) Fellows Program, chaired the Western States Communication Association Intercultural Communication Interest Group, and served as secretary of the International and Intercultural Communication Division of the National Communication Association. His work has taken him to more than 40 U.S. states and 30 countries.