



Richard D. Legon became AGB's fourth president in 2006 following his several assignments with the association. Prior to joining AGB, Rick served in local and national government, as well as in national association positions. He also served as the first fundraiser for a small college in Chicago.

During his presidency, AGB has enhanced its leadership role in recognition of the heightened focus on board and institutional governance. Rick has led the association in high profile initiatives in recent years, mostly focused on policy issues challenging higher education's unique form of governance, as well as urging a new level of board and presidential collaboration.

The association's release of the report of its National Commission on The Future of Higher Education Governance calls upon boards to engage in "consequential governance" following the commission's seven specific recommendations. The report is a call to action for boards and institution leadership to strengthen higher education during a time of change. AGB is committed to advancing the recommendations of that report.

Rick also led the association's successful three-year effort to persuade the Securities and Exchange Commission to provide board members with an exclusion to its proposed changes in the definition of a "municipal advisor" as part of the Dodd-Frank legislation to address Wall Street reforms. AGB's leadership in this effort helped to save the structure of higher education board governance and retain its independence.

Under Rick's leadership, AGB has taken the lead on such issues as intercollegiate athletics, education quality and outcomes, conflict of interest, external influences impacting higher education independence, conflict of interest, risk assessment, state threats to institution independence, and others. In 2010, he led the launch of AGB Search, which quickly became a leader in new approaches to selecting and developing higher education leadership. In 2015, along with AGB's Board of Directors, he introduced the association's newest enterprise, AGB Institutional Strategies, an AGB auxiliary that focuses exclusively on the business and operational challenges facing universities and colleges.

Rick has written extensively about board governance—in AGB's Trusteeship magazine and other AGB publications, and in other association magazines. He is also the author of AGB's Margin of Excellence, a work that addresses the governance of institutionally related foundations.

He has led hundreds of board retreats and workshops and is a regularly sought-after voice on higher education leadership issues.

Rick, who holds undergraduate and graduate degrees from George Washington University as well as an honorary Doctorate from the University of Charleston (West Virginia.), currently serves on the Board of Trustees of Spelman College. He formerly served on the Board of Visitors of Virginia State University.



Dr. Kevin P. Reilly is president emeritus and regent professor with the 26-campus University of Wisconsin (UW) System, having served as president from 2004-2013.

In collaboration with the UW Board of Regents and the campus chancellors, he developed the “Growth Agenda for Wisconsin,” a long-term vision and strategic framework for what the university needed to do to help Wisconsin and the nation be more competitive in the global knowledge economy. Under his leadership, enrollment grew to 182,000--an all-time high--and sponsored research continued to expand beyond \$ 1 billion annually. One of his final innovations as president was to establish competency-based degree programs in the UW System, the first of their kind offered by a public university system.

Dr. Reilly served as chancellor of UW-Extension from 2000 to 2004 and as provost and vice chancellor from 1996 to 2000. A native of New York City, Reilly came to Wisconsin from the State University of New York (SUNY) System, where he was associate provost for academic programs and then secretary of the university. Earlier in his career, he led the New York State Board of Regents office that evaluated and accredited all public, private, and for-profit colleges and universities in the state.

He is a member of the Higher Education Working Group on Global Issues for the Council on Foreign Relations. He has advised the University of Nizwa in Oman and Qatar University on the development of their institutions. He has also served as the president of the National Association of System Heads.

He is author and editor of books and articles on higher education leadership, policy, accreditation, and board governance, among other topics in literature and Irish studies. At UW-Madison he has taught the undergraduate course on James Joyce, and a graduate seminar on Major Challenges in American Higher Education.

Dr. Reilly earned his B.A. at the University of Notre Dame, and his M.A. and Ph.D. at the University of Minnesota.