

## **Message from the President**

It is an honor to have been selected as the 15th president of West Chester University. I am tremendously proud of our University's history and of all that has been accomplished. Working together, I know that we will create an even brighter future for West Chester University in the years ahead.

As you may know, I started teaching here in 1983, while working on my doctoral degree in economics. I was an assistant professor, the dean of what is now called the College of Business and Public Management, and in 2013, became the vice president for External Operations. From April 2016 until early January, I served as the interim president. I believe my years of leadership at WCU have prepared me very well for the challenges and opportunities that lie ahead, both at the University and at the State System level.

During my interim presidency, I held a series of luncheons on campus – and a dinner for second- and third-shift employees – to talk to WCU employees in small groups and learn what was on their minds. We discussed a number of topics that are critical to West Chester University's continued success, including campus climate, facility plans, efforts to close the equity gap, and graduate education.

These lunch and dinner conversations were both illuminating and enjoyable. Now, I would like to continue the conversation with you, our alumni. I know that many of you live and work far from West Chester. (We have alumni in every state in the nation and in 36 countries.) But, if you are able, I encourage you to attend Alumni Weekend, May 19-21. My wife, Sue, ('86) and I will be joining many events throughout the weekend. In particular, the Friday night wine and cheese reception will provide me with an opportunity to talk to you informally about WCU plans and priorities. In the meantime, if you have ideas or suggestions, please contact me [president@wcupa.edu](mailto:president@wcupa.edu).

Thank you for all that you have contributed to West Chester University. I appreciate your ongoing interest and involvement in your alma mater!