



NEW JERSEY

Association of State Colleges and Universities

150 West State Street, Trenton NJ 08608

Phone (609) 989-1100

Quick Takes!

December 3, 2015

William Paterson University President Kathleen Waldron Participates in American Council on Education Leadership Forum

“Leadership is not telling people what to do. It is presenting a problem that needs to be solved; asking smart people to offer solutions; gaining consensus on how to resolve the problem and then empowering people to act. But if consensus and action cannot be achieved in a reasonable amount of time, then the leader needs to make a decision and move forward.”

William Paterson University President Kathleen Waldron

President Waldron served as a panelist for the 86th National Women’s Leadership Forum of the American Council on Education (ACE), held December 2-4, 2015 in Arlington, Virginia. Dr. Waldron discussed her personal journey to the presidency as part of the panel, “Lessons from the Lives of Women Presidents,” along with Tuajuanda Jordan, president of St. Mary’s College of Maryland, and Cynthia Lundquist, president of Cankdeska Cikana Community College in North Dakota. Forty senior-level female deans and vice presidents attended the forum, designed to shed light on the presidency and the different paths to leadership. The ACE National Women’s Leadership Forum is one of a number of the organization’s programs designed to foster greater diversity and inclusion in higher education, particularly within the senior leadership.

The seventh president of William Paterson University, one of New Jersey’s largest public universities with more than 11,500 students, Dr. Waldron indeed has had an interesting personal journey to her position of leadership in higher education. With 17 years of experience in higher education, Dr. Waldron served as president of Baruch College of the City University of New York from 2004 to 2009, and Dean of the College of Business at Long Island University from 1998 to 2004.

Prior to her transition to higher education administration, President Waldron spent 17 years working in international banking. She worked at Citibank for 14 years where she directed strategic planning for the Global Private Bank and served as president of Citibank International in Miami.

President Waldron holds a doctorate in Latin American history from Indiana University and a bachelor’s degree in history from the State University of New York at Stony Brook. Even though her academic expertise is in Latin America and Venezuela, Dr. Waldron’s roots are the New York City area: she was born in Brooklyn, grew up on Long Island, and paternal family ties, coincidentally, to Paterson, New Jersey.

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