
DARRIN MARTIN

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PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

Experienced educational leader with over 30 years of progressive leadership roles, including interim president and dean positions, specializing in strategic planning, academic program development, and stakeholder engagement. Proven track record in enhancing institutional effectiveness, fostering collaborative environments, and ensuring financial stability. Passionate about driving Bluefield State University towards academic excellence and community impact.

SKILLS

- Strategic Planning & Visionary Leadership
- Financial Management & Budgeting
- Academic Program Development
- Stakeholder & Community Engagement
- Crisis Management & Problem Solving
- Fundraising & Donor Relations
- Accreditation & Compliance
- Collaborative Leadership & Team Building

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Interim University President, 12/2023 - Current

Bluefield State University – Bluefield, WV

- Provide strategic leadership and vision for the university.
- Oversee academic programs, ensuring curriculum quality, accreditation, and student success.
- Ensure financial stability and growth of the institution.
- Manage crisis response and emergency situations impacting the university.
- Build relationships with community stakeholders, alumni, and donors to enhance the university's reputation and secure support.
- Supervise campus infrastructure development and maintenance.
- Serve as the chief advocate and spokesperson for the university.
- Oversee and support faculty and staff in their roles.
- Established a culture of accountability by setting clear expectations and holding individuals responsible for results.
- Prepared annual budget forecasts and monitored performance to meet organizational objectives.
- Established and maintained strong relationships with customers, vendors, and strategic partners.

- Increased dorm capacity by 18%
- Achieved a 96% occupancy rate in the dormitory.
- Increased enrollment by 1% during the FAFSA crisis and with three athletic coaches leaving late in the academic year.

President and CEO, 01/2011 - 06/2024

Martin's Consulting – Bluefield, VA

- Founded and managed a consulting firm specializing in educational improvement.
- Led teams to develop strategic plans and enhance institutional effectiveness.
- Conducted data analysis to guide decision-making and set measurable goals.
- Worked with diverse stakeholder groups to create a collaborative and effective organizational culture.
- Scheduled and managed presentations for a 180 day school calendar.
- Established a culture of accountability by setting clear expectations and holding individuals responsible for results.
- Reduced operational costs through strategic cost management initiatives.
- Inspired innovation by creating an environment that encouraged creative thinking and problem-solving capabilities.
- Hired and managed employees to maximize productivity while training staff on best practices and protocols.

National Educational Consultant, 01/2011 - 06/2024

Martin's Consulting – Bluefield, VA

- Assisted educational organizations in strategic planning and capacity building.
- Focused on improving achievement, graduation rates, and organizational effectiveness.
- Provided leadership development and mentoring for district and school leaders.
- Facilitated collaborative cultures and implemented policies to drive organizational improvement.
- Collaborated with school board officials to assess areas for improvement in curricula, classrooms, testing, and student activities.
- Streamlined communication between parents and teachers, fostering a collaborative educational environment.
- Analyzed test results and other relevant data sources to identify areas requiring improvement within the educational program.

- Enhanced curriculum development by incorporating innovative teaching techniques and resources.
- Presented to 30-40 schools per month.
- Worked with a variety of schools in 25 states across America.
- Conducted assessments to evaluate student progress and inform instructional planning.
- Advised on the development of student assessment tools, leading to more accurate measures of learning progress.

Dean of Academic Support , 07/2019 - 11/2023

Bluefield University – Bluefield, VA

- Directed the Academic Center for Success, overseeing academic support services and co-curricular activities.
- Collaborated with academic leadership to design and implement student success initiatives.
- Supervised and evaluated the performance of the center's personnel.
- Analyzed data to identify strategies for improving student achievement.
- Taught hybrid Academic Success Seminar courses and supervised educational leadership projects online.
- Increased student-athletes GPAs by 0.5.
- Served on various university committees, including the Executive Leadership Team, University Leadership Team, Chair of Grade Change Committee, and General Education Steering Committee.
- Served as Faculty President

Director of Graduate Education, 01/2022 - 11/2023

Bluefield University – Bluefield, VA

- Managed graduate programs in education, coordinating administration and student support.
- Acted as the liaison among graduate students, faculty, and the university.
- Led recruitment and admissions efforts for the graduate program.

Interim Dean of the College of Ed. & Soc. Sciences, 08/2022 - 06/2023

Bluefield University – Bluefield, VA

- Represented college faculty to the central administration, ensuring their perspectives were integrated into university policies.
- Administered college programs in alignment with university strategic goals.

- Fostered collaboration among faculty to promote the university's mission.
- Engaged with stakeholders to support college initiatives and fundraising efforts.
- Ensured compliance with university and board policies.
- Directed academic integrity, personnel development, financial management, and administrative operations.

School Improvement Specialist, 08/2007 - 01/2011

West Virginia Department Of Education – Charleston, WV

- Provided ongoing support to counties in developing and implementing school improvement strategies.
- Assisted in developing and implementing strategic plans for schools.
- Collaborated with various educational agencies to ensure school improvement.
- Collaborated with teachers to develop differentiated instruction techniques, resulting in increased student engagement.
- Analyzed student achievement data to identify trends and inform instructional decision-making processes.
- Improved school performance by developing and implementing targeted improvement strategies.
- Conducted data analysis to identify areas in need of academic enhancement.

Director of Teacher Education, 08/2000 - 08/2007

Concord University – Athens, WV

- Cultivated a positive work environment that fostered employee engagement, increased retention rates, and boosted overall team morale.
- Developed high-performing teams by providing mentorship, guidance, and opportunities for professional growth.
- Proactively identified potential risks and implemented mitigation strategies to minimize negative impacts on projects or business operations.
- Enhanced team collaboration through regular communication, goal setting, and performance evaluations.
- Served on various university committees, including the Board of Governors and Faculty Senate.
- Led curriculum development initiatives for educational leadership programs.
- Secured \$750,000 in grant funding over a three-year period.
- Developed three educational programs.

- Established a culture of continuous improvement by fostering open communication channels and empowering employees to voice their ideas.

High School Building-Level Administrator, 07/1995 - 08/2020

Tazewell County Public Schools – Tazewell, VA

- Handled sensitive information discreetly, maintaining strict confidentiality at all times as required by board policy or legal regulations.
- Maintained personnel records and updated internal databases to support document management.
- Served as a liaison between departments, fostering open communication channels that improved overall organizational function.
- Improved employee productivity with effective time management strategies for daily tasks.
- Supervised 80 faculty and staff.

EDUCATION

Doctor of Education: Educational Leadership And Policy Studies, 05/2000

Virginia Polytechnic University - Blacksburg, VA

Master of Science: Educational Leadership, 05/1995

Radford University - Radford, VA

Bachelor of Science: Mathematics Teacher Education, 05/1991

Bluefield State University - Bluefield, VA

Associate of Science: Mechanical Engineering Technology, 05/1990

Bluefield State University - Bluefield, WV

PUBLICATIONS

- *Beginning Teacher Handbook: An Interactive Guide to Effective Teaching* (2005).
Kendall/Hunt Publishing. Dubuque: Iowa.
- *Teacher Performance Assessment Instrument* (2005).
- *Dissertation: The Change Process: Stages of Concern of The Standards of Learning in Superintendents' Region Seven in Virginia.*

ORGANIZATIONS

- Westminister Presbyterian Church - Elder

- Board of Governors - Bluefield State University
- Town of Bluefield Virginia - Planning Commission
- Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity
- Board of Directors - Wade