

Dr. Steve O. Michael's Bio
Danubius International University



Adding to his vast international experience, Dr. Steve O. Michael currently serves as the Rector and CEO of Danubius International University (DIU), Romania, where he has been the Vice President of the University's Administrative Board since 2015. Before this appointment, Dr. Michael was the Executive Vice President of Academic Affairs and Provost at Charles R. Drew University of Medicine and Science (CDU), a California-based private, non-profit, medical and health sciences University in partnership with the University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA). During his 7-year tenure under the Carlisle Administration, Dr. Michael was instrumental in leading Charles R. Drew University through visionary strategic planning that resulted in an unprecedented campus growth, academic program expansion, and complete program and institutional accreditation, financial stability, curricular transformation, effective shared governance, restoration of Graduate Medical Education (GME), foundational plans for an additional medical education program, and astounding national rankings and recognition, to mention a few.

Dr. Michael was the Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs at Arcadia University, where he served for 5 years. Under the Greiner's Administration at Arcadia, Dr. Michael led the University through two strategic planning initiatives that resulted in the expansion of international programming, enrollment growth, academic program expansion, and the establishment of the College of Arts and Sciences, the College of Health Sciences, the School of Global Business, the School of Education, and the School of Continuing Studies.

At Kent State University, where he spent most of his career, Dr. Michael rose through the ranks to full professor and Vice Provost in charge of the University Diversity Program, Undergraduate Studies, International Affairs, and Faculty Professional Development. As a professor, Dr. Michael directed over 20 doctoral dissertations and several theses on topics that ranged from TQM in higher education, financing higher education, internationalization of higher education, to college presidents' effectiveness. His leadership advanced Kent State's diversity

agenda at the national level, enhanced diversity education in the undergraduate curriculum, established Kent State's China Office, revamped Kent State's Geneva Program, and expanded professional development programming for faculty, among other things.

Professor Michael was one of the principal founders of the National Association of Diversity Officers in Higher Education (NADOHE) and its first Vice President and Interim President. He was also one of the principal founders of the Association of Chief Academic Officers (ACAO)—the national association of provosts and chief academic officers in the United States. Dr. Michael was a co-founder and President of the Association for the Global Advancement of Universities and Colleges (AGAUC)—an association dedicated to internationalization of higher education.

Dr. Michael is a professor of higher education management with research interests that include the application of business strategies to institutional management, entrepreneurial higher education, and globalization of higher education. He has published widely in most of the leading international and national refereed journals in the field of higher education on topics such as diversity in higher education, cost reduction analysis and financial constraints in higher education, presidency and trusteeship, academic program reviews and discontinuation, and marketing of higher education. He is an active presenter at international conferences and a consultant on higher education issues.

Dr. Michael was a British/Commonwealth Scholar and the first recipient of the Sheffield Award for the best article published in the Canadian Journal of Higher Education. His awards include the Outstanding Dissertation Award from the Canadian Society for the Study of Higher Education, the Outstanding Faculty Award from Phi Beta Delta, the Dean's Awards for professional achievements, and a letter of recognition from the Governor of Alaska.

He was a guest professor at the European Peace University in Austria, Jiangxi University of Finance and Economics (JUFE), Nanchang, and Beijing Wuzi University in China. For several years, he served as the Liaison Officer for the Educational Management Association of South Africa. On the invitation of the former Minister of Education of Moldova, he was the first keynote speaker at the country's inaugural international conference on Higher Education. Dr. Michael served on the Editorial Board of the International Journal of Educational Management – the leading international refereed journal on education management; the American Psychological Association's Journal of Diversity; and as the associate editor of the Journal of Research in Education. He served as a reviewer of USAID/ALO international development grants and sat on the

Board of Project GRAD of Akron, Ohio. His book, entitled "Financing Higher Education in a Global Market," draws attention to the critical issue of finance in higher education.

Dr. Michael earned his doctorate from the University of Alberta, Canada. He is a graduate of Harvard Institutes for Higher Education and a trained accreditation consultant-evaluator by the Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools. Professor Michael was an American Council on Education (ACE) Fellow at Carnegie Mellon University with extended training at the University of Bath and City University of London, United Kingdom. In recognition of his works around the Black Sea region, Dr. Michael was awarded an Honorary Doctorate Degree from Danubius University, Galati, Romania, and, of recent, appointed to the membership of the American Romanian Academy of Arts and Sciences (ARA). His wide-ranging international background extends from Sub-Saharan Africa to Sub-Arctic Alaska. Professor Michael is a retired volunteer soccer coach and a golf enthusiast.