

## **Bruce T. Murphy**

Dr. Bruce Murphy is a consultant with the Registry for College & University Presidents Inc. of Peabody, Massachusetts. He was the fifth President of Nicholls State University in Thibodaux, Louisiana for four years. He was also a Professor of Educational Leadership at Nicholls.

Under his leadership Nicholls achieved regional accreditation with no recommendations, opened a \$12 million Culinary Arts building, established the state's first US Department of Education approved program for students on the Autism spectrum, and hosted the university's first NCAA DIV I playoff game, among other accomplishments.

Prior to his presidency, he served for eight and a half years as Vice President for Academic Affairs at the Air Force's Air University in Montgomery, Alabama. Under his academic oversight the institution transitioned from Level III (masters) to Level V (doctorate) membership in the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS). Dr. Murphy led efforts to successfully add the Ph.D. in Military Strategy as well as the nation's first Master of Flight Test Engineering degree taught by the USAF Test Pilot School in Mojave, California.

Dr. Murphy has spent his entire career in the study, teaching and practice of leadership. He served in the U.S. Army completing both Airborne (parachutist) and Ranger (commando) training and taught Leadership at West Point. Following military service, Dr. Murphy taught for three years in the Department of Human and Organization Development at Vanderbilt University and was the Founding Director of the Master of Science in Organizational Leadership Program and Chair, Walker School of Business at Mercyhurst College in Erie, Pennsylvania. Bruce was the founding Dean of the School of Business and professor of management at Point Park University in Pittsburgh.

Bruce was elected by the SACS membership to serve on its Commission on Colleges as a trustee for five years and subsequently on the Commission's Appeals Committee. After becoming President of Nicholls State, he was again elected to a trustee position with Compliance & Review Committee chair responsibilities. He has led the review of over 100 institutions and deliberated on over 400 institutional cases.

Murphy received a Bachelor of Arts in English from the University of California at Berkeley and Master of Business Administration and Master of Science in Systems Management degrees from the University of Southern California. He also earned a Master of Arts from Teachers College at Columbia University and a Doctorate in Education from Vanderbilt University. He is a graduate of the Institute for Educational Management (2007), the New Presidents Seminar (2014) and the Seminar on Advancement Leadership for Presidents (2015) at Harvard University.

Both Dr. Murphy and his wife, Jeanne Murphy, are retired from the U.S. Army. They achieved the ranks of lieutenant colonel and colonel, respectively.