

John W. Wilkinson

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Vice President for Finance and Business Affairs / CFO

EDUCATION & CREDENTIALS

- ♦ Master of Business Administration in Accounting - (2008) Indiana Wesleyan University, Indiana.
- ♦ Bachelor of Arts in History – (2000) Miami University, Ohio

PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY:

A seasoned financial executive with over two decades of experience in strategic financial planning, operational leadership, and team management within non-profit and academic sectors. Recognized for implementing innovative financial frameworks that enhance transparency, efficiency, and strategic decision-making.

- Expertise in developing and executing financial models driving organizational growth and sustainability.
- Proven leader in managing cross-functional teams to achieve financial and administrative excellence.
- Successful in leveraging non-profit experience to foster financial stewardship, operational efficiency, and mission alignment.
- Dedicated to fostering an inclusive work environment, committed to providing resources for staff success, including job-specific training and a culture rooted in integrity, respect, open communication, and trust.

CORE COMPETENCIES:

Strategic Financial Planning

Financial Modeling & Analysis

Entrepreneurial Innovation

Data-Driven Business Insights

Leadership & Team Development

International Collaboration

TECHNICAL SKILLS:

Workday HCM-Payroll Finance ERP Systems | Advanced Microsoft Excel | Financial Forecasting Tools |
Online Collaboration Platforms | NCAA Division II and III Compliance, Accounting

CAREER EXPERIENCE

GUILFORD COLLEGE, Greensboro, North Carolina.

May 2021- Present

CFO / VICE PRESIDENT OF ADMINISTRATION & FINANCE

- Senior leader of Finance, Accounting, HR, IT&S, Facilities, Convention, and Events.
- Created and implemented a five-year financial forecast for post-COVID-19 restructuring.
- Implemented the Workday HCM-Payroll and Finance ERP system. Strategized and collaborated with the President to establish alternative revenue streams. Worked with the Board's Investment Committee on these projects and monitored ROI for all initiatives.
- Developed departmental strategy with the AVP of Finance, improving the college's debt profile from negative to neutral, and oversaw operational and capital project cash flows.
- Presented monthly financial projections, prepared Board Finance Council reports, and completed monthly financial statements for compliance and Board meetings.
- Managed risk tolerance and negotiated insurance policies. Crafted and negotiated operational contracts with legal counsel.
- Developed IT strategy to mitigate security breaches, serving as PCI Compliance Officer.
- Recruited, mentored, and managed high-performing teams. Set performance goals, assigned responsibilities, and conducted evaluations.
- Fostered a collaborative work environment and innovation, providing leadership to cross-functional teams and vendors. Ensured appropriate staffing, succession planning, and talent development.

TUSCULUM UNIVERSITY, Greeneville, Tennessee

January 2018 – October 2020

VICE PRESIDENT OF FINANCE / CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER

- Senior Cabinet member leading financial management and operations.
- Created systems for accounting, budget management, financial systems, and fiscal planning, used this to devise a sustainable plan during the coronavirus outbreak.
- Invested in technology infrastructure to support increased bandwidth usage during the transitioning to an online platform during and after the pandemic.
- Obtained a deferment from debt service, saving \$2.1 million in bond payments during COVID-19
- Implemented a five-year financial forecast for restructuring financial stability, used to strategize with the board to establish alternative revenue streams, including the College of Optometry (paused due to pandemic). Developed and compiled financial statements for audit and accreditation.
- Provided input and analysis of the investment portfolio during Investment Committee meetings, monitoring ROI for projects and initiatives, including operational and capital project cash flows.
- Recruited, mentored, and managed high-performing teams, set performance goals, assigned responsibilities, and conducted evaluations.

- Created an inclusive work environment encouraging innovation and teamwork and provided leadership and guidance to cross-functional teams and ensured appropriate staffing, succession planning, and talent development.

MITCHELL COMMUNITY COLLEGE, Statesville, NC. May 2014 – Jan. 2018

VICE PRESIDENT FOR ADMINISTRATION / CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER

- Managed HR, Facilities, IT, budgeting, cash accounting, finance, risk management, and internal audit.
- Responsible for the annual \$32M budget and audit processes, led significant capital improvement plan as part of a \$3B statewide referendum for collegewide infrastructure needs secured local funding, and completed Health Science building demolition in six months.
- Oversaw employee compensation and benefits, reviewed annual packages, developed incentive plans, and assisted with budgeting.
- Recruited, mentored, and managed high-performing teams, set performance goals, and conducted evaluations that fostered innovation and teamwork, provided leadership to cross-functional departments.
- Ensured appropriate staffing, succession planning, and talent development, created a Diversity and Inclusion program for the college to respond to widening concerns over hiring and equity of leadership.

OTHER CFO NON-PROFIT EXPERIENCE

CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER ROLES

- J Strategic Advisors LLC. Partner - (2019 – 2022) Provide financial and technology advice to public and private non-profit and educational institutions.
- Robert Half and Associates – (2013 -2014) CFO contract to Children’s Home of Northern Kentucky
- All Saints Academy, Winter Haven, FL – (2012-2013) Chief Financial & Administrative Officer
- Lakota Local School District, Liberty Twp, Ohio – (2010 – 2012) Treasurer / Deputy CFO
- Three Rivers Local Schools, Cleves, Ohio – (2004 – 2010) Treasurer / CFO
- Springboro City Schools, Springboro, Ohio (1999-2002) Chief Business Officer

PUBLICATIONS

John Wilkinson Knows the Circuitry of Finance

From electrician to CFO, John Wilkinson reflects on the universal lessons of his many roles in the workplace.

<https://profilemagazine.com/2020/john-wilkinson>

John Wilkinson's interviews with Jeff Slingo

Enrollment in higher education, what do campuses do?

[Video](#) – [Video 2](#) – [Video 3](#)

