

William E. Kirwan

Chancellor, University System of Maryland

William E. Kirwan, Chancellor of the University System of Maryland, is a nationally recognized authority on critical higher education issues. A respected academic leader and adviser, Kirwan is a sought-after speaker on a wide range of topics, including access, affordability and completion; cost containment; diversity; research and innovation; sustainability; and the economic impact of higher education.

Kirwan chairs the National Research Council Board of Higher Education and Workforce; chairs the College Board's Commission on Access, Admissions and Success in Higher Education; and co-chairs the Knight Commission on Intercollegiate Athletics. He also serves on the Board of Directors of the Council for Higher Education Accreditation and is a member of the Business-Higher Education Forum. In addition, he serves on several economic development and business boards in Maryland.

Kirwan received the 2010 TIAA-CREF Theodore M. Hesburgh Award for Leadership Excellence and the Carnegie Corporation Academic Leadership Award in 2009. He also is an elected member of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences.

He served as President of Ohio State University for four years and President of the University of Maryland, College Park (UMCP) for 10 years. Prior to his UMCP presidency, he was a member of the university's faculty for 24 years.

Kirwan received his master's and doctoral degrees from Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey, and his bachelor's degree from the University of Kentucky. All three are in mathematics.