



Our Faculty

Dr. Betty Vandebosch

Dean, Graduate School of Management
PhD, MBA, and BS,
University of Western Ontario

Prior to joining Kaplan University, Dr. Vandebosch spent 15 years as an assistant and associate professor of information systems at Case Western Reserve University, including a stint as the Associate Dean of Executive Education and External Relations. Prior to entering academia, she spent 7 years as a consultant with McKinsey & Company in Toronto and Amsterdam.

Rebecca Herman

Dean, School of Business
ABD, MAOM, BS, SHPR

Ms. Herman joined Kaplan University in 2005 and previously served as an instructor and academic department chair. Ms. Herman was promoted to Assistant Dean of Faculty for the School of Business in 2006. Ms. Herman is currently writing her doctoral dissertation on servant leadership and workplace spirituality. Prior to her career in academia, Ms. Herman enjoyed a successful corporate career in human resource management and is a certified Senior Professional in Human Resources. Ms. Herman is a member of various professional organizations and currently serves as a division chair for the Institute of Behavioral and Applied Management.

School of Arts and Sciences

Sara Sander

Dean, School of Arts and Sciences
M.A. and B.A. University of Arkansas at Fayetteville

Ms. Sander began her career with Kaplan University in 1997. She has served in a variety of positions including professor of communications and languages and program coordinator for the School of Arts and Sciences. Her teaching experience spans the last 10 years in a variety of settings with a focus on online education for the past 4 years. Ms. Sander is currently pursuing her doctorate in adult education.

School of Criminal Justice

Frank DiMarino

Dean, School of Criminal Justice
Interim Dean, Graduate School of Criminal Justice
LL.M., George Washington University School of Law
J.D., Case Western Reserve University School of Law
A.B., Georgetown University

Mr. DiMarino joined Kaplan University in January, 2004, and has served as both an undergraduate and graduate faculty member in the School of Criminal Justice. In 2006, he received the Kaplan University award for Outstanding Graduate Faculty Member. He has taught criminal justice at various schools since 1979 and served as a United States Army Judge Advocate General's officer during Operation Desert Storm. Frank DiMarino has presented papers along with members of the Kaplan University graduate criminal justice faculty.

School of Education

Dr. Ron Kern

Dean, School of Higher Education Studies
PhD, University of North Texas-Denton
MA, University of Texas at San Antonio
BS, University of Central Oklahoma

Dr. Kern began his career at Kaplan University as chair for curriculum and accreditation for the School of Legal Studies. He comes to the Dean's position with an impressive history of senior leadership positions (including program coordinator, dean, and vice president for academic affairs) in higher education. Additionally, Dr. Kern has served as a faculty member, earning various teaching awards and numerous grants.

Becky L. Shermis

Dean, School of Teacher Education
MA, University of Texas
BS, University of Tennessee

Mrs. Shermis brings 25 years of teaching and school administrative experience to Kaplan University. She most recently served as Executive Director of the School Board of Broward County, Florida. In this capacity she managed development and professional quality for 300 schools and 30,000 employees. Her prior work includes administrative consulting in both Florida and Indiana, where she also served as Principal of a magnet school. Mrs. Shermis has taught and developed curriculum for gifted programs at the elementary level in Texas and Indiana. She has a Gifted Education Endorsement from the Texas Education Agency and an Elementary Administration and Supervision License from Indiana.

School of Health Sciences

Dr. Keith L. Smith

Dean, School of Health Sciences

Prior to Kaplan University, Dr. Smith served as the dean of the College of Professional Studies at the National University of Health Services. He has a broad range of higher education experience, including his previous accomplishments as a dean, assistant dean, and director of faculty for several universities. He was also the president of Paradigm 21, a consulting firm specializing in leadership, strategic management, organization performance, and personal development.

School of Information and Technology

Dr. Kamal Dahbur

Dean, School of Information Systems and Technology

Dr. Dahbur is an accomplished professor, researcher, and manager with over 23 years experience in computer science and information systems. The breadth of his work experience spans the commercial as well as the educational sectors in a wide variety of responsible and leading roles. He has over 15 years experience in designing, delivering, and monitoring courses, including online courses using a variety of distance learning technologies.

School of Legal Studies

Dr. William I. Weston

Dean, School of Legal Studies

Ph.D., Rutherford University

J.D., University of Maryland

A.B.M.L., Loyola College

Dr. Weston was previously an associate dean and professor of law at Concord Law School and a member of the faculty at Kaplan University. He has more than thirty years of teaching experience and has been widely published. Dr. Weston is active in the American Bar Association, where he chairs the Standing Committee on Professional Responsibility of the General Practice Division, and the Committee on Ethics and Technology of the Center for Professional Responsibility.

School of Nursing

Dr. Diann L. Martin

Dean, School of Nursing
DNSc and MSN, Rush University
BSN, Loyola University, Chicago

Dr. Martin brings 28 years of health administration and executive leadership experience to Kaplan University. Previously she was Director of Clinical Operations for Patient Care, Inc., Administrator for Elmhurst Memorial Home Health and Hospice, and Executive Vice President for CareMed in Chicago