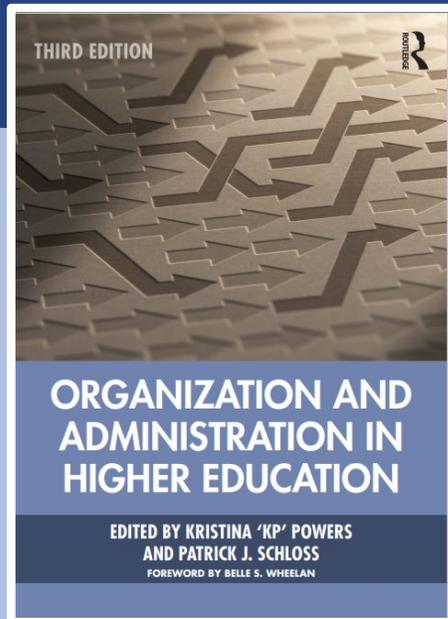


Organization and Administration in Higher Education – 3rd Edition



Foreword Guide

Foreword

Authored by:

Belle Wheelan, PhD

- Chapter guide created by: [The Institute for Effectiveness in Higher Education \(IEHE\)](#).
- More book resources are available on the [Organization and Administration in Higher Education book website](#).

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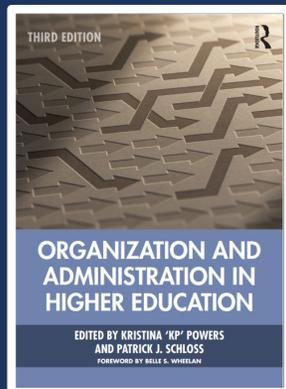
Foreword Author



Belle Wheelan, PhD

President

**Southern Association of Colleges
and Schools Commission on
Colleges (SACSCOC)**



Belle Wheelan, PhD

President – Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges

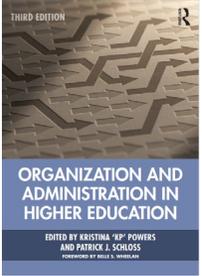
Author of the Foreword in *Organization and Administration in Higher Education – 3rd Edition*

Dr. Belle Wheelan currently serves as President of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges and is the first African American and the first woman to serve in this capacity. Her career spans over 40 years and includes the roles of faculty member, chief student services officer, campus provost, college president and Secretary of Education. In several of those roles, she was the first African American and/or woman to serve in those capacities.

Dr. Wheelan received her Bachelor's degree from Trinity University in Texas (1972) with a double major in Psychology and Sociology; her Master's from Louisiana State University (1974) in Developmental Educational Psychology; and her Doctorate from the University of Texas at Austin (1984) in Educational Administration with a special concentration in community college leadership.

She has received numerous awards and recognition including six honorary degrees; the Distinguished Graduate Award from Trinity University (2002), and from the College of Education at the University of Texas at Austin (1992); Washingtonian Magazine's 100 Most Powerful Women in Washington, DC (2001); and the AAUW Woman of Distinction Award (2002).



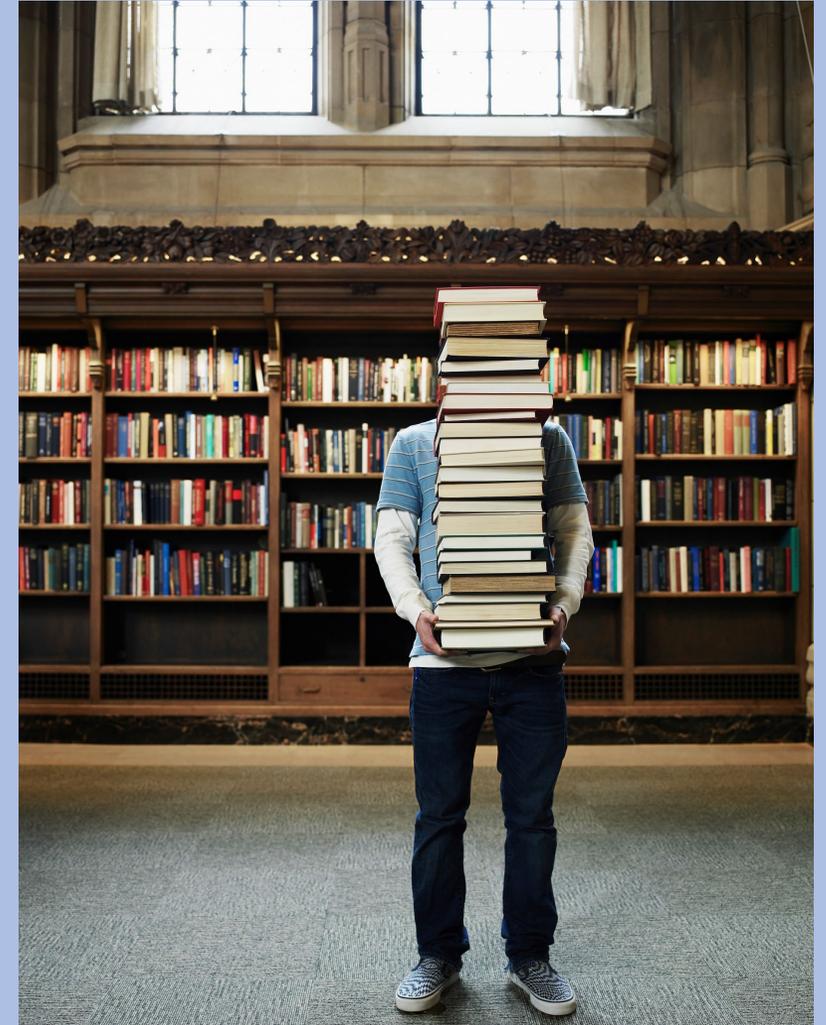


Overarching Principle

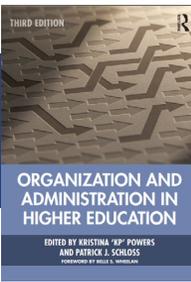
No one can deny that higher education has changed over the past 10 years, and not always for the better.

How does a person prepare for leading our institutions given all of these changes?

This third edition is designed to answer some of these questions and provide guidance for up-and-coming administrators and students of higher education administration in preparing for leadership positions.



Recent Challenges to Higher Education



- Diminished confidence that higher education is the best way to rise out of poverty
- Rising cost of higher education resulting in increased debt taken on by families
- Mental health issues and food insecurities among college-going students
- Physical destruction to campuses due to natural disasters
- Viral pandemic presented by COVID-19
- Declining student enrollments
- Increase in institutional mergers, consolidations and closures
- Emphasis on outcome measures (graduation and licensure rates)
- Market need for workforce/training
- Demographic changes - migration of citizens to the South

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