

ANDREW BENTON

Magellan Executive Partners – EXECUTIVE PARTNER



Raised in Lawrence, Kansas, Andrew attended The University of Kansas, Oklahoma Christian University, and then the Oklahoma City University School of Law, receiving his Juris Doctor in 1979 and passing the bar later that same year. He is a member of the Oklahoma Bar, the United States Supreme Court Bar, and the American Bar Association.

Andrew was engaged in the work of higher education for 45 years, retiring in 2019. He spent ten years in an administrative role at Oklahoma Christian and then accepted a position at Pepperdine University in 1984. His Pepperdine career allowed him to represent the University in large, complex, and often controversial land use and regulatory approvals leading to the development of significant portions of the Malibu campus and educational centers throughout Southern California. Andrew worked with a remarkable team of colleagues and appeared in federal, California state, and Los Angeles County matters. All efforts were successful, and Pepperdine's students were well served.

On behalf of Pepperdine University, Andrew had the privilege of leading the acquisition efforts to purchase foreign-study properties in London, England (1987), Florence, Italy (1994), and Lausanne, Switzerland (1998). During that time, they acquired a property in Buenos Aires, Argentina, a leasehold interest in Shanghai, China, and a property in Washington, DC.

His Pepperdine assignments, particularly during his presidency, allowed him to chair the American Council on Education (ACE), which is the largest convening organization in American higher education, serve on the board of the Council on Higher Education (CHEA), which is the accreditor of all accrediting organizations, and to chair the National Association of Independent Colleges and Universities (NAICU). Andrew was also chair of the Association of Independent California Colleges and Universities (AICCU) and continues to serve on the board in an advisory capacity.

In retirement, Andrew is a trustee of Oklahoma City University, on the board of directors of The Christian Chronicle, and serves on the board of Ensysce Biosciences, a public company listed on NASDAQ.

Andrew and his wife of 48 years, Debby, dote (shamelessly) on their two grandchildren. He has been an active musician for over 50 years and still wishes he had practiced more. Lastly, he taught American Constitutional Law for 30 years at Pepperdine University and remains engaged in mining the depths of that important and guiding document in our nation's past, present, and future.

Current Roles:

- Executive Partner at Magellan Executive Partners
- Trustee of Oklahoma City University
- Board of Directors of The Christian Chronicle
- Serves on the board of Ensysce Biosciences
- Member of the Oklahoma Bar, the United States Supreme Court Bar and the American Bar Association

Leadership History:

- President Emeritus and Chief Executive Officer of Pepperdine University
- Chair the American Council on Education (ACE)
- Served on the board of the Council on Higher Education (CHEA)
- Chair the National Association of Independent Colleges and Universities (NAICU)
- Chair of the Association of Independent California Colleges and Universities (AICCU)
- Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer of Pepperdine University
- Vice President for University Affairs of Pepperdine University
- Vice President for Administration of Pepperdine University
- Assistant Vice President in Advancement of Pepperdine University

About Magellan Executive Partners:

Magellan's mission is to grow executives worth following and build businesses that thrive. Working with CEOs, business owners, leaders and companies around the country each year, Magellan is known for its expertise in corporate growth strategies and executive development.



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