

CURRICULUM VITAE

Jake Bucher

EDUCATION

- Ph.D. Sociology, Emory University
- M.A. Sociology, Emory University
- M.A. Criminology, University of Memphis
- B.A. Sociology, Philosophy and Religion, Baker University

EMPLOYMENT

- **Provost**, Regis University, 2023 – Present.
- **Founding Dean**, College of Applied Social Sciences, Dominican University, 2017–2023.
- **Dean**, School of Professional and Graduate Studies, Baker University, 2015 – 2017
- **Chair**, Criminal Justice, Baker University, 2013 – 2017
- **Professor**, Sociology, Baker University, 2007 – 2017
- **Research Associate**, Applied Research Services, INC., 2005 – 2007
- **Research Associate**, Center for Community Criminology, Memphis TN, 2003 – 2004
- **United States Army**, 1998 – 2007

ADMINISTRATIVE RESPONSIBILITIES AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS

2023 – Present Provost and Chief Academic Officer, Regis University

Roles and Responsibilities

Regis University is the only Jesuit Catholic university in the Rocky Mountain region and serves a diverse population of students through a robust academic portfolio. Regis works with ~4500 students that span disciplines, degree levels (certificate to doctoral), and modalities. With a proud claim of teaching excellence, the University also has a very productive culture of research, as well as a high engagement with business, industry, and community partnerships.

The Provost serves as the Chief Academic Officer, overseeing the three academic colleges (College of Arts and Sciences, Anderson College of Business and Computing, Ruckert-Hartmann College of Health Professions), the library, the Community for Belonging and Equity, the Global Inclusive Program, Prison Education Program, Registrar, Assessment and Compliance, Accreditation, Online Consortium of Independent Colleges and Universities, Center for Sponsored Research, Teaching and Learning Excellence, Business Development, and various other academic service offices and programs with an operating budget over \$50M. In early 2024, the division of Student Affairs was moved under the provost. These units include the Dean of Students, Student Life, Campus Safety, Student Health and Wellness, Career Services, Internships, Service Learning, Study Abroad, Disability Services, Advising and Retention, and the Parent and Family Liaison.

Select Accomplishments

- Led integration of multiple artificial intelligence agents into structural operations.
- Reorganized university resources to create the Community for Belonging and Equity (formerly the Office of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusive Excellence), Community for Global Commitment, and Community for Cura Facultas.
- Established new search and hiring processes to ensure equity and increase compositional diversity.
- Built a Strategic Plan, and we have completed all scheduled items to date, and are ahead of schedule on most future items.
- Worked with faculty to develop and launch a University Faculty Senate.
- Established an office for Teaching and Learning Excellence.
- Established a Grants office to support research and capacity grant efforts. Grant success has increased tremendously from prior years, to include \$3M+ funding for research, program development, student support, and capacity building.
- Developed strategic plan related to our Hispanic-Serving Institution designation.
- Developed the Student Achievement and Retention services unit. Total withdrawals dropped 60% in first year.
- Created partnerships with two- and four-year institutions, including significant partnerships with international institutions, and local/regional/international business, industry, and community partners. Examples include our partnership with an international firm on the development of nursing robotics and related curriculum, our partnership with CISCO and our cybersecurity center, dual-degree partnerships with U.S. and international institutions, and our Spirituality and Healthcare certificate with area hospitals.
- Rebuilt the Higher Learning Partners/Online Consortium of Independent Colleges and Universities. Regis was a pioneer in this space, but the productivity had fallen off. We have rebuilt it, adding in non-degree and certificate programming.
- Led the university through three difficult budget cycles to bring the university out of a \$35M deficit to a balanced budget.
- Increased High-Impact Practice through culture and infrastructure developments.
- Developed University Assessment Plan. Achieved regional accreditation for the institution, as well as professional accreditation for eleven programs.

- Launched eight new programs in first two years.
- Brought medical and counseling services for students in-house. It was an auxiliary service, and I created a model where those services live in our College for Health Professions, thereby increasing and enhancing the services available to students, while creating clinical opportunities for graduate students in the relevant programs.
- Collaborated with a partner to develop Artificial Intelligence agents to support student retention, accreditation, grant work, and more. This has been done with intentionality around information security and human involvement.

2017 – 2023: Founding Dean, College of Applied Social Sciences, Dominican University

Roles and Responsibilities

A premier Catholic university, Dominican is repeatedly named among the top master’s-level universities in the Midwest by U.S. News & World Report, which has also cited Dominican as the top-ranked institution in the region (and top-5 in the United States) for “Social Mobility”, and the top-ranked institution in Illinois for “best value” education. The University is recognized for academic excellence and its continuing commitment to social justice. The University has an enrollment of about 3,500 students and close to 400 faculty members (about 170 of them full-time). The average class size is 17, the student-faculty ratio is 11 to 1 and professors not only teach all classes but they also mentor students.

In 2017, the University adopted a Collegiate organizational structure, assigning academic units into four Colleges, two of which (College of Health Sciences and College of Applied Social Sciences) were new units to the University. As Dean of the College of Applied Social Sciences I was responsible for overseeing the students, staff, and faculty of the *School of Education, School of Information Studies, School of Social Work, and Continuing Studies Programs*. Across these areas we offered fifteen undergraduate degrees (not including an in-development associate’s degree), nineteen master’s degrees or credentials, the University’s only two doctoral degrees, and a variety of non-degree programming. Our college had 35 full-time faculty, 26 full-time staff, and works with an additional cadre of approximately 90 part-time faculty. Our college had roughly 1100 students and I was responsible for a ~\$13M operating budget.

The Founding Dean of the College of Applied Social Sciences provided the vision, experience, advocacy, and energy necessary to lead the strategic and collaborative processes of reorganizing four autonomous schools, each with its own institutional history and culture, satellite campuses, budgets, and accreditations. Collaborating with an Associate Dean, an Assistant Dean of Student Services, and Directors of each of the schools, my colleagues and I effectively achieved this task and have established the College as a viable and vital unit in the institution.

Selected Accomplishments

- Empowered by the President to lead University-wide efforts on Adult Learning, Veteran/Military-Aligned Programming, Graduate Culture, and International Programming.
- Established a city-based campus for an Associate Degree and other professional certificate programs.
- We achieved a faculty profile in the College to include 45% faculty of color (up from 23% in 2017) and a staff profile to include 60% staff of color (up from 0% in 2017). This has been accomplished through deliberate recruitment efforts, the addition of an “equity advisor” on each search committee, and a commitment to diversity, representation, and inclusivity in all stages of the hiring process from the line request to the final offer.
- Created effective financial planning to organize and reallocate resources to create new faculty and staff lines, faculty development opportunities, and student support infrastructure. We have increased net revenue and contribution margin in each year of my tenure.
 - o Oversaw a YoY increase in gross revenue since 2019, and a YoY increase in contribution margins since 2017.
- Received approximately \$250,000 in revenue from non-degree programming in FY22. Examples include, among others, continuing education partnerships with the Brookfield Zoological Society, Chicago Botanic Gardens, Archdiocese of Chicago, and international University delegations.
- *National Science Foundation* Noyce Grant (\$250,000) for supporting underrepresented groups in Teaching.
- *Health Resources and Service Administration* Behavioral Health Training and Interprofessional Grant (\$2.5M) grant for supporting Social Work in healthcare settings in underserved communities.
- *Health Resources and Service Administration* Horizon Grant (\$3.75M) to support economic disadvantaged and minority students in pursuit of a Master of Social Work degree.
- Westlake Foundation Grant (\$400,000) to support the development of integrated health curriculum and practicum partnerships.
- Collaborated with the Associate Dean and DEI Committee to pursue an organizational equity audit.

- Collaborated with the Associate Dean and a faculty committee to create a *Roles and Responsibilities* document, an appendix for the University Faculty Handbook detailing the expectations and performance standards for faculty in the College.
- Collaborated with the Associate Dean and School Directors to create an *Administrative Policy Manual*, building policy for the College and for each School in the College.
- Collaborated with faculty and students to create *CASS Community Values*, a statement on collegiality and interpersonal dynamics.
- Collaborated with School Directors, faculty, students, and other University stakeholders to create a Strategic Plan for the College and served as a consultant on updated Strategic Plans for the School of Education and School of Information Studies.
- Established faculty governance in the College, including among others, a Curriculum Committee, a Committee on Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion, and Faculty Development Committee. The latter established the University's first peer-review process.
- Established an onboarding, review, and engagement model for part-time faculty.
- Collaborated with faculty and University stakeholders to launch new programs including Bachelor of Professional Studies, BA in Special Education, BS in Informatics, MaEd in Diverse Learners, MaEd in Inclusive Instruction, MaEd in Integrative Education, MaEd in Educational Technology, Master of Arts in Youth Literature, Master of Arts in Trauma-Informed Leadership, PhD in Applied Social Justice, and a unique University program – Associates in Liberal Arts (Fall 2024).
- Established an online or hybrid pathway for every degree in the College.
- Received professional re-accreditations from the American Library Association and the Council for Social Work Education.
- Established international articulation agreements; Anhui Finance & Trade, Qingdao University of Science & Technology, Wuhan Polytechnic University, Universidad Autónoma de Aguascalientes, Palacký University Olomouc, Huayin Institute of Technology, University of Hassan II, Siberian Institute of Management, Handan University, and Universitas Indonesia.
- Created Inside-Out Prison Exchange program at the University. The Inside-Out Prison Exchange Program is a national teaching model that brings university students together with incarcerated students in a shared learning environment. As faculty, I ran the first Inside-Out program in Kansas for 10 years. As Dean at Dominican University, I created and was the instructor for Dominican's first Inside-Out course at Cook County Jail.
- Creation of Excellence in Teaching Awards, research stipends for full/part-time faculty.

- Creation of an Alumni Networking event, Themed Information Sessions, and a college mentoring program.
- By the third year in my tenure, we had arrested decline in graduate enrollment and all programs in our college exceeded enrollment projections for each of AY20, AY21, AY22, and AY23.

2015 – 2017: Dean, School of Professional and Graduate Studies, Baker University

Roles and Responsibilities

Baker University, affiliated with the United Methodist Church, was the first University in the State of Kansas and is included among the top master's-level universities in the Midwest by U.S. News & World Report. Baker boasts a 99% graduate school and job placement rate and is ranked first in the state of Kansas for *Return on Investment*. The University has an enrollment of about 3,000 students and close to 200 full and part-time faculty members.

The School of Professional and Graduate Studies at Baker University housed the University's graduate programs including a Master of Liberal Arts, Master of Nursing, Master of Business Administration, Master of Organizational Leadership, Master of Science in Sports Management, and a number of non-degree "continuing education" programs. Additionally, the School operated Associates and Bachelors programs in Business, Liberal Arts, and Criminal Justice for adults and degree completers. In my role I was responsible for ~70 full and part-time faculty, and a staff of seventeen. The school operated on five campuses across Kansas and Missouri and was the University's sole operator for online programming. During my tenure we served about 1200 students per year, and I was responsible for an operating budget of approximately \$11M.

Selected Accomplishments

- Brought School policy, practice, and programs in line with university mission and liberal arts identity. Accomplished this through, among other efforts, establishing a model for shared governance, building a liberal arts "core", increased student engagement, and pursuing professional accreditation(s).
- Pursuit and establishment of Accreditation Council for Business Schools and Programs accreditation for Business programs.
- Established faculty governance which had not existed prior to my term.
- Developed online teaching academy.
- Established Academic Advising Unit. Prior to my tenure, advising was done through a third-party vendor. I helped terminate that contract and built a new in-house Advising unit.
- Creation of a new master schedule to provide accessibility to increase the time to completion for students and create efficiency in operational and financial margins.

- Launched three new degrees, including Master of Business Administration in Health Administration, Master of Business Administration in Supply Chain Management, and Master of Science in Sports Management.
- Redesigned the MBA, resulting in having the highest enrolled online MBA in the Kansas City area at the end of my tenure.
- Oversaw the negotiation and departure from a large Online Program Management partnership. This shift was vital in addressing financial needs at the University and enabled the school to regain program oversight and quality.
- Co-led effort to re-brand the School and our programming.
- Establishment of Honor Society for adult learners.
- Established review and development infrastructure for part-time faculty.
- Created multiple partnerships, including with multiple Community Colleges and the State of Kansas for articulations and employee tuition discounts, and with Stormont Vail Hospital for a deep and expansive partnership.
- Built supported and accelerated pathways for undergraduate students at the University to matriculate to graduate programs.
- Established an international branch campus in the United Arab Emirates.
- Created partnerships with the Kauffman Foundation, Amazon, Honeywell, Deloitte, local high schools, and others for degrees and college-preparation programming.

2013 – 2017: Chair, Criminal Justice, Baker University

Roles and Responsibilities

As a faculty member in the Department of History, Culture, and Society (which was home to majors in Sociology, History, Religion, and Communication), there was a desire to create a major in Criminal Justice. I was tasked with building out a new Department of Criminal Justice, including the curriculum, hiring full and part-time faculty, and establishing an employer network.

Selected Accomplishments

- Built program curriculum and delivery in budget-neutral process.
- Established an Advisory Board and employer network.

- Created ground and online modality for delivery.
- Led annual program review/assessment.
- Within two years, the major had the second highest enrollment in the school and was in the top 10 at the University.

SCHOLARSHIP

- Bucher, Jacob and Suhad Tabahi (2025). "Reevaluating Reparative Justice: Insights from Initiatives in a Midwestern U.S. Municipality." *Social Alternatives*, Vol. 43 (2).
- Bucher, Jacob; Tabahi, Suhad; Gonzales, Nicki; and Erin Winterrowd (2025). "The Privilege to be Authentic: Positionality and Leadership." *International Journal of Higher Education Management*, Vol. 11 (2).
- Bucher, Jacob (2022). "Allyship Accountability in Academic Leadership: The Power and Responsibility in Privileged Roles." *Journal of Higher Education Management*, Vol. 37 (2).
- Villarreal Sosa, Leticia; Garcia, Gina; and Jacob Bucher (2022). "Decolonizing Faculty Governance at Hispanic Serving Institutions." *Journal of Hispanic Higher Education*.
- Bucher, Jacob and Esmie Tseng (2022). "The Armed Elephants in the Room: The Impact of Officer Presence on the Inside-Out Prison Exchange Model." *Journal of Criminal Justice Education*, Vol. 34 (1).
- Bucher, Jacob (2021). "Inductive Reasoning," edited by J.C. Barnes and David Forde, in *The Encyclopedia of Research Methods in Criminology and Criminal Justice*. Wiley. ISBN: 978-1-119-11072-9.
- Tabahi, Suhad and Jacob Bucher (2020). "The Social Construction of Arab Identity in America: The Historical Complicity and Modern Responsibility of Social Work." *Journal of Sociology & Social Welfare*, Vol. XLVII (2).
- Member of the Editorial Board, *Media, War & Conflict*. 2019 – 2023.
- Member of the Editorial Board, *InterAgency Journal*. 2016 – 2023.
- Bucher, Jacob (2015). "Why Study Sociology," edited by Kishor Vaidya, in *Sociology for the Curious*. The Curious Academic Publishing. ISBN 978-1-925128-59-8.
- Bucher, Jacob; Michelle Manasse; and Jeffrey Milton (2015). "Soliciting Strain: Examining Both Sides of Street Prostitution through General Strain Theory." *Journal of Crime & Justice*, Vol. 38 (4).

- Bucher, Jacob (2014). “But He Can’t Be Gay: The Relationship between Masculinity and Homophobia in Father-Son Relationships” *Journal of Men’s Studies*, Vol. 22 (3).
- Bucher, Jacob (2014). “Military Deviance,” edited by Heith Copes and Craig Forsyth, in *Encyclopedia of Social Deviance*. SAGE Publications. ISBN: 978-1-452-24033-6
- Bucher, Jacob (2012). “Soldiering with Substance: Substance and Steroid Use among the Military.” *Journal of Drug Education*, Vol. 42 (3).
- Bucher, Jacob (2012). “Old and Young Dogs Teaching Each Other Tricks: The Importance of Developing Agency in Community Partners.” *Teaching Sociology*, Vol. 40 (3).
- Bucher, Jacob (2011). “General Issue (G.I.) Strain: Applying Strain Theory to Crime among the Military.” *Deviant Behavior*, Vol. 32 (9).
- Bucher, Jacob and Michelle Manasse (2011). “When Screams are not Released: The Criminalization of Acquaintance Rape Situations.” *Women & Criminal Justice*, Vol. 21 (2).
- Bucher, Jacob; Manasse, Michelle; and Beth Tarasawa (2010). “Undocumented Victims: Exploring the Victimization of Undocumented Male Migrant Workers in the South.” *Southwest Journal of Criminal Justice*, Vol. 7 (2).
- Agnew, Bob; Matthews, Shelley; Bucher, Jacob; Welcher, Adria; Keyes, Corey (2008). “Socioeconomic Status, Economic Problems and Delinquency.” *Youth and Society*, 2008.
- Bucher, Jacob (2006). “The Impact of Methamphetamine on Georgia.” Technical report submitted to The Governor’s Criminal Justice Coordinating Council, Statistical Analysis Center Committee.
- Bucher, Jacob (2006). “Probation Management Act Annual Report.” Technical report for Georgia Department of Corrections.
- Bucher, Jacob (2003). “Project Safe Neighborhoods in Memphis.” Technical report for Center for Community and Crime Research.
- Bucher, Jacob (2003). “Risk Assessment for Children in Memphis.” Technical report for Child Health Data Consortium.

HONORS AND AWARDS

- Alpha Sigma Nu Honor Society (2024).
- Topeka Correctional Facility Volunteer of the Year (2014)

- State of Kansas Employee of the Quarter (August 2014)
- Baker University Award for Distinguished Scholarship (2012)
- Baker University Kopke Award for Distinguished Teaching (2010)
- SAGE/Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences Junior Faculty Teaching Award (2010)
- Sigma Beta Delta Honor Society
- Phi Beta Delta Honor Society
- Pi Gamma Mu Social Science Honor Society
- Phi Sigma Tau Philosophy Honor Society
- Commandant's List, Leadership Developmental Course
- Army Achievement Medal
- Kansas Army Reserves Medal
- Department of the Army Certificate of Achievement

PRESENTATIONS

- College Vine's Vineyard Residency on *Artificial Intelligence and Higher Education*. San Diego. (2026).
- National Organization for Victim Advocacy. Nellis Air Force Base, Nevada. (2025).
- National Organization for Victim Advocacy Online Seminar (2024).
- Collegis Education Summit. Nashville, TN. (2023).
- American Association of Colleges and Universities. San Francisco, CA. (2022).
- American Society of Criminology. Chicago, IL. (2021).
- Relais Prison Society: Conference on *Criminal Justice for Juveniles in Morocco*. Rabat, Morocco. (2018)
- Chicago Sister Cities International Social Services Consulting Delegation. Casablanca, Morocco. (2018)

- International Talent Training and Youth Career Development for Universities of Applied Sciences. Huayin Institute of Technology, Huai'an, China. (2018).
- International Conference for the Arab American Foundation for Multicultural Education and Students' Understanding. University of Hassan II, Morocco (2014)
- Midwest Sociological Society. Omaha, NE (2014)
- American Society of Criminology. Atlanta, GA (2013)
- Educate Haiti Now *Teacher Summer Institute*. Croix-des-bouquets, Haiti (2013)
- American Society of Criminology. Washington D.C. (2011)
- Midwest Sociological Society. Des Moines, IA (2009)
- American Society of Criminology. Atlanta, GA (2007)
- American Society of Criminology. Denver, CO (2003)

ORGANIZATIONS

- Ignatian Colleagues Program, Cohort 17. 2024 – Present.
- American Conference of Academic Deans. 2017 – Present.
- Association of Jesuit Colleges and Universities (AJCU) Leadership Institute. 2023 –2024.
- EAB New Provosts Intensive. 2023 – 2024.
- Board of Directors – Companions Journeying Together. 2022 – 2023.
- Oak Park Reparative Justice Task Force. 2022 – 2023.
- Illinois Council for Higher Education in Prison. 2021 – 2023.
- Academic Excellence Committee, *Archdiocese of Chicago*. 2019 – 2023.
- Cook County Sheriff's Education Advisory Board. 2019 – 2023.
- Council for Chicago Area Deans of Education. 2019 – 2023.
- International Social Work Exchange Program. 2018 – 2023.
- Advisory Board, *Creating Sustainable Communities*. 2018 – 2023.

- Health Professions Education Consortium. 2018 – 2023.
- Associated Colleges of the Chicago Area. 2017 – 2023.
- West Suburban Deans. 2017 – 2023.
- Illinois Council on Continuing Higher Education. 2017 – 2023.
- Penn State Academic Leadership Academy. 2021 – 2022.
- Oak Park/River Forest Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors. 2021 – 2023.
- American Conference of Academic Deans (ACAD) Board of Directors. 2021-2022
- Board of Directors, *International Trade Council of Greater Kansas City*. 2016 – 2017.
- Advisory Board, *KC Degrees*. 2016 – 2017.
- Advisory Board, *Blue Valley Center for Advanced Professional Studies*. 2015 – 2017.
- American Society of Criminology
- Phi Beta Delta
- American Sociological Association

UNIVERSITY SERVICE

Regis University

- Chair of Vice President of Mission Search Committee
- Chair of Student Journey Group
- Co-Chair of Artificial Intelligence Governance Council
- Co-Chair of Operational Excellence Group
- Co-Chair of University Budget Committee
- Co-Chair of Academic and Student Affairs Committee, Board of Trustees

Dominican University

- Co-Lead of the “Pilsen Project” a community-based/neighborhood-informed hub for academic programming and community partnerships (2022-2023)

- University Center of Lake County, Council of Member Institutions (2022-2023)
- Title IX Investigator and Advocate (2021-2023)
- Academic Partnerships (2021-2023)
- Adult-Learner Task Force (2020-2023)
- HSI Consultant Report Workgroup (2020)
- Global Advisory Council (2019-2023)
- University Planning and Budgeting Committee (2019-2023)
- Deans Team (2017-2023)
- University Curriculum Committee (2017-2023)

Baker University

- Director of Advising, School of Professional and Graduate Studies (2015-2017)
- University Academic Council (2013-2017)
- Education Program and Curriculum, (2010-2013)
 - o Chair of EPC (2011-2012)
- University Diversity Committee (2009-2017)
- Education and Technology Committee (2008-2010)
- Faculty Growth and Enrichment Committee (2010-2012)
- Faculty Sponsor:
 - o *Mungano* Student Diversity Group (2008-2011)
 - o *PEER Educators* (2008-2009)
 - o *Students for Globally-Based Initiatives* (2009-2010)