

New Report Highlights Challenges and Opportunities Shaping Higher Ed Governance

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/EINPresswire.com/ -- A new report from the Association of Governing Boards of Universities and Colleges ([AGB](#)) highlights the critical challenges and leadership priorities facing institution and foundation boards over the next two years as colleges and universities confront political pressures, financial uncertainty, and declining public confidence amid rapid technological change. The publication, *Top Strategic Issues for Boards 2026–2027*, provides board members, presidents, and [higher education](#) leaders with guidance on strategies to safeguard institutional autonomy, strengthen leadership, support student success, secure broad access to higher educational opportunities, and ensure the long-term vitality of their institutions.



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Ross A. Mugler, AGB president and CEO

“The challenges facing colleges and universities today are complex, interconnected, and evolving quickly,” said [Ross A. Mugler](#), AGB president and CEO. “Boards have a critical responsibility to lead with clarity and foresight. This publication equips board members and institution leaders with the insights they need to strengthen governance, support their presidents, and ensure their institutions remain resilient and mission-focused in a rapidly changing environment.”

The publication includes best practices to:

- Reaffirm boards’ roles and responsibilities.
- Develop and support higher education leaders.
- Improve student access and success.
- Ensure institutional vitality.
- Manage uncertainty.
- Renew higher education’s purpose.

“The next two years will test the ability of college and university leaders to guide their institutions

and foundations,” Mugler said. “Standing up for higher education and helping the public understand how important it is to the country and to our democracy is the job of every trustee. By equipping governing boards with strategic insight and practical guidance, this publication underscores the critical role trustees play in strengthening institutions and reaffirming the enduring public value of higher education.”

To learn more or order a copy of the publication, visit [AGB.org/TopStrategicIssues](https://www.agg.org/TopStrategicIssues).

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