



Charles W. Lepper, Ph.D. Bio

Dr. Charles W. Lepper has had an extensive career in higher education with more than 25 years of leadership experience at universities and community colleges.

Before becoming Grand Rapids Community College's 11th president in 2023, Dr. Lepper served as vice president for Student Affairs and Enrollment Management at Salt Lake Community College (SLCC), which serves more than 60,000 students across 10 campuses.

As a creative and innovative leader focused on student support and success, Dr. Lepper developed the SLCC Promise, which has provided more than \$5 million in free tuition since 2016. He helped lead SLCC's Guided Pathways program and re-engineered the college's admissions, advising, and financial aid processes. Concurrent enrollment increased by 12% over a two-year period.

Prior to his time at SLCC, he held leadership positions at Tidewater Community College in Virginia and Ivy Tech Community College of Indiana.

Dr. Lepper earned a Bachelor of Arts in Human Resources and Personnel Management from Ball State University, a Master of Education in Secondary, Higher, and Adult Education from Grand Valley State University, and a Doctor of Philosophy in Educational Leadership, Administration, and Foundations from Indiana State University.

President Lepper currently serves on the board of directors for the Michigan Community College Association, The Right Place, and West Michigan Works!.