

Edmondson elected to board for statewide advocacy group

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Dr. Charles M. Edmondson, president of Alfred University since July 2000, has been elected a member of the Board of Directors of the Commission on Independent Colleges and Universities (cIcu), a group that represents and promotes the more than 100 private colleges and universities in New York State. Edmondson is the 13th president of Alfred University. During his tenure as president, Alfred University has expanded its academic programs to include a bachelor's degree in Biomedical Materials Engineering Science, and a new major in Global Studies in the College of Liberal Arts & Sciences. Edmondson was instrumental in establishing a Phi Beta Kappa chapter at Alfred University's College of Liberal Arts & Sciences, a distinction afforded to only 270 colleges in the U.S. He has also just secured the largest gift in Alfred University's history to build a new 500-seat main stage theater at the Miller Performing Arts Center as the University prepares to launch its next capital campaign. In addition to his membership on the board of cIcu, Edmondson also serves as a member of the board and treasurer of the Independent College Fund of New York and is a member of the International Association of University Presidents. Edmondson came to AU after serving as vice president for Academic Affairs and provost at Rollins College in Winter Park, FL, for seven years. Edmondson had served Rollins College in various capacities over the past 30 years. Administrative positions included associate provost (1992-93); dean of the Hamilton Holt School (evening programs for adult students, 1991-93); and director of College Planning (1988-90). He joined the faculty at Rollins College in 1970 as an assistant professor of History, and was made a full professor in 1981. His research has focused on Soviet history. Dr. Edmondson was a visiting professor at Wuhan University, Wuchang, Hubei Province, People's Republic of China, in 1983. He was named a Phi Beta Delta International Scholar in 1992, and received a Pew Faculty Fellowship in International Relations from the Pew Memorial Trust and the John F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University, 1991-92, and is a three-time recipient of Arthur Vining Davis Fellowships. In 1989 and 1990, he was director of a National Endowment for the Humanities Summer Seminar for School Teachers, and participated in the Fulbright Seminars Abroad Program in its Seminar on Korean Culture and History in Seoul, Korea, in 1987. He has also received numerous awards for distinguished teaching. Edmondson earned a B.A. degree, magna cum laude, and an M.A. degree in history both from the University of Mississippi. He received a Ph.D. degree in history from Florida State University, and has continued his education at the Newberry Library Institute for Family and Community History and at the Harvard Institute for Educational Management.