

Dr. Mary K. Grant presently serves as the Senior Administrative Fellow for Civics and Social Justice at Bridgewater State University (BSU) where she leads the Martin Richard Institute for Social Justice. Additionally, she will be leading a newly established BSU task force and initiative focused on racial justice and racial equity.

Dr. Grant served as the seventh chancellor at UNC Asheville after having served for 12 years as president of Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts (MCLA). UNCA and MCLA, under Dr. Grant's leadership, were consistently ranked among the top ten public liberal arts colleges nationally. Dr. Grant served as chair of the Council of Public Liberal Arts Colleges (COPLAC) providing leadership to shape the strategic plan that led to the growth and strengthening of COPLAC, while raising the profile of this critically important sector of public higher education. On June 30, 2020 Dr. Grant served as the keynote speaker at the annual, national COPLAC meeting.

Dr. Grant previously served as President and CEO of The Edward M. Kennedy Institute for the U.S. Senate, positioning the Institute as a hub for civic engagement, participatory democracy, and invigorating civil discourse. She was the Chief Academic Officer and Deputy CEO of UMassOnline and a Senior Fellow at the John W. McCormack Institute of Public Affairs at UMass Boston, where she led the institute's master's program in public affairs and served as director of the Center for Social Policy.

Dr. Grant has served on the national board of Campus Compact. In September 2020 she will become the Vice Chair of the Board of Trustees of the Norman Rockwell Museum and she is a member of the Civics Collaboratory. As President of MCLA, Dr. Grant was appointed by Governor Patrick to serve on the STEM advisory board and served as member of ACCU's Presidents Council. She earned her PhD at the Heller School for Social Welfare Policy at Brandeis University, Master's Degree in Public Affairs from UMass Boston, a bachelor's degree from MCLA/North Adams State and holds an honorary doctorate from Williams College.

Dr. Grant has served on search committees for two Chancellors within the UMass System. As a president and chancellor she brought to the committee experience and perspective on the complexities and rewards of the role including working with governing boards, faculty, staff, students, donors, alumni, and elected officials.

She was called upon by the board of the community college in the Berkshire Region to help think through the needs of the campus and community as part of the search process for president. As a College President, Dr. Grant has recruited/hired senior staff at the vice president level, including provost, chief advancement officer, general counsel, dean of admissions/enrollment management, and dean of graduate studies.

Dr. Grant served as the chair for the search committee for the executive officer for the Massachusetts Council of State University Presidents and served on the search committee that hired the first, full-time executive director of COPLAC.