



Council of Trustees
West Chester University | West Chester, Pennsylvania 19383
www.wcupa.edu

**UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED
BY THE
COUNCIL OF TRUSTEES
November 16, 2022**

RESOLUTION
COUNCIL OF TRUSTEES
WEST CHESTER UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA
NOVEMBER 16, 2022

HONORARY DEGREE

BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE COUNCIL OF TRUSTEES OF WEST CHESTER UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA CONFERS THE HONORARY DEGREE, DOCTOR OF PUBLIC SERVICE, UPON THE FOLLOWING RECIPIENT

GARY W. SMITH

APPROVED PENDING ACTION BY THE COUNCIL OF TRUSTEES
TO BE BESTOWED AT THE COMMENCEMENT CEREMONIES IN DECEMBER 2022.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Chris Fiorentino".

Christopher M. Fiorentino, Ph.D.
President

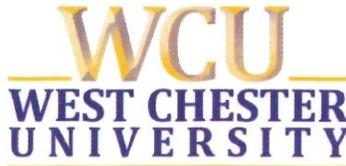
November 16, 2022
Date

APPROVED BY VOTE OF THE COUNCIL OF TRUSTEES

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Bob Tomlinson".

Robert M. Tomlinson, Chairperson
Council of Trustees

November 16, 2022
Date



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The West Chester University of Pennsylvania (WCU) seeks to confer upon Gary W. Smith the degree of Doctor of Public Service, *honoris causa*.

Gary Smith, President, and CEO of the Chester County Economic Development Council (CCEDC), is a nationally respected leader and pioneer in the world of economic development. In his 46 years serving both the county and the Commonwealth, Mr. Smith has made immeasurable contributions, securing more than \$13 billion in project financing while nurturing thousands of businesses through their growth cycles and shaping countless communities through his passion and advocacy for smart economic growth.

Instrumental in Chester County's evolution as an economic powerhouse — while preserving its rich agricultural heritage — Mr. Smith pioneered award-winning programs of below market-rate financing, agricultural economic development, brownfields redevelopment, conduit funding for commercial construction, industry partnerships, urban revitalization, and multi-agency collaboration. During his tenure, the Council has created 165,000 new jobs, engaged more than 100,000 individuals in workforce development programs, and helped thousands of businesses to establish roots and grow in Chester County. Today, the Council employs 35 economic development professionals.

In addition to his work with the CCEDC, Mr. Smith was executive director of the Business and Industry Chamber for Chester County and established the first county-wide Chamber of Commerce for Business and Industry. He also founded and directed the Southeastern Economic Development Company of Pennsylvania, the state's largest U.S. Small Business Administration Certified Development Company. He has served on numerous local, regional, and national boards, including the Council of Development Financing Agencies, the Pennsylvania Economic Development Association, and the National Council of State Agricultural Finance Programs.

Mr. Smith earned a Bachelor of Arts (1974) and a Master of Science in urban and regional planning (1986), both from West Chester University.