HUSCH BLACKWELL



Mary Jones

DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS

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OVERVIEW

Mary draws on a decades-long career inside higher education in her role as director of operations for the firm's Healthcare, Life Sciences, & Education industry unit.

Mary works with the unit's managing director, overseeing daily operations, and continually seeking opportunities for process improvement to drive innovation. Her role includes assisting with strategic planning, human capital management, and client relationship management and development, as well as economic growth. In short, Mary's job is to find innovative ways to better serve the firm's attorneys and clients.

Prior to joining Husch Blackwell, Mary devoted more than 30 years to higher education positions including faculty assignments and administration. Mary earned an M.B.A. as well as a Ph.D. in higher education administration. Her background covers a wide variety of operational services, including administrative leadership, direction, and evaluation of all academic activities; budget and financial management; human resources functions including faculty and staff reviews, personnel issues, promotions, and compensation; policy development; risk management; oversight of marketing and enrollment processes; and strategic planning.

Mary first joined the firm in 2019 as a senior education consultant, a role where she helped education clients create lasting solutions to organizational challenges and supported Husch Blackwell's dedicated Education practice with business development and strategic marketing efforts. Four years later, she was promoted to her current position and is thrilled to have the opportunity to

Industries

Education
Healthcare
Life Sciences

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support healthcare and the life sciences as well—industries that are just as life-changing and personal to her as education.

Known for her ability to speak clients' language and understand their challenges and perspectives, Mary loves supporting both clients and the attorneys who serve them. She challenges herself to always to leave things better than she found them, and she's never happier than when she identifies a solution or initiative that will improve firm operations or client satisfaction.

Experience

- Oversaw all academic affairs as provost and chief academic officer for traditional students and professional and graduate programs at three private universities, including faculty oversight, regional Higher Learning Commission (HLC) accreditation, compliance, curriculum, academic quality and budget. Assisted in strategic planning efforts, including identifying key performance indicators.
- Led university efforts in successful Higher Learning Commission (HLC) accreditation visit resulting in 10-year affirmation. Served as Accreditation Liaison Officer to HLC for five years. Also responsible for Federal Compliance, Title IX and Section 504 of Rehabilitation Act.
- Served on multiple Higher Learning Commission (HLC) peer evaluation teams assessing institutions for accreditation reviews.

Education

- PhD, University of Missouri-Kansas City
    - Educational Administration-Higher Education
- M.B.A., Rockhurst University
    - Management
- B.S., Emporia State University
    - Business Administration

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Community Leadership

- Gateway of Hope, Board Member, 2015-present
- Homeowners Association, President

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