



An Association of Research Institutions

January 4, 2023

COGR Announces Matt Owens as Incoming COGR President

The Council of Governmental Relations (COGR) is pleased to announce that Matt Owens will join COGR in March as the organization's President. Matt is currently the [Executive Vice President and Vice President for Federal Relations](#) at the Association of American Universities (AAU). At AAU he is responsible for providing strategic leadership and management to the association's priorities and overseeing AAU's federal relations activities.

Matt has served in a multitude of leadership roles at AAU and on various committees and has testified before Congress on matters of importance to higher education. Prior to Matt's [20-year career](#) at AAU he was Assistant Director of Government and Community Relations at Stanford University. He received a Masters in Public Administration from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and a Bachelors degree in English from the University of California at Davis.

On being informed of his appointment Matt stated "COGR plays a vital role in the partnership between research institutions and the federal government. I am honored to serve as COGR's next president and to build on the great work of Wendy Streitz and her predecessors. I look forward to working with the board, members, and staff to help ensure research is efficiently regulated, effectively conducted, and expertly administered. This is critical to advancing high-quality research, fostering public trust, and serving the national interest."

Jeffrey Silber, Chair of COGR's Board of Directors, led the search committee and indicated that "After an exhaustive national search we are confident that Matt Owens is the right person to build on COGR's legacy of excellence. I am excited to begin working with him in this new role. I am also deeply appreciative of the highly qualified candidates who stepped forward for our consideration, and the search committee, COGR board, and COGR staff for their critical participation in this process."

Matt succeeds Wendy Streitz whose upcoming retirement after 20 years of service to COGR, and four as President, was announced in August. Once again, we wish Wendy well for the future.

**Sent via the COGR Listserv 1/4/23*