

**John Comly**

John Comly leads a team of more than 400 employees dedicated to unleashing potential and helping learners achieve possibilities. Since serving as president and CEO since 2017, Mr. Comly has led the company through rapid growth and transformation. In 2019, when the company was known as American Safety Council, Mr. Comly was named one of Orlando Business Journal's CEOs of the Year, recognizing his outstanding investment in technology and proven ability to drive growth. In 2021, Mr. Comly helped guide the company through a successful private equity-backed recapitalization with Ridgemont Equity Partners – a transaction recognized as the 2021 Private Equity Middle Market Deal of the Year. In 2023, after leading the company through a series of strategically and culturally accretive mergers and acquisitions, as well as strategic-organic growth, American Safety Council was rebranded as Certus – an evolution that reflects the company's proud history and positions it for its next phase of growth. Prior to joining Certus, Mr. Comly spent over six years at Red Ventures, a Charlotte-based technology company, where he held several senior leadership roles and served as president of multiple business units.

Susan Cates

Susan has over 25 years of experience in private equity, investment banking, and educational leadership. Prior to joining Leeds, Susan was Chief Operating Officer at 2U, Inc., where she oversaw all product and service delivery operations. She was a founding team member of ThinkEquity Partners, where she led the education banking vertical, and a partner at Best Associates, where she led investments in education platforms across the U.S. and Latin America. Susan served as President of Executive Development at the UNC Kenan-Flagler Business School and led the creation and growth of the school's ground-breaking online MBA program. Susan began her career as an investment banker at Wachovia Bank and Merrill Lynch.

Chancellor Karrie Dixon

Dr. Karrie Dixon was named 12th chief executive officer and seventh chancellor of Elizabeth City State University on December 14, 2018. Prior to her current role, Dr. Dixon was vice president for academic and student affairs. Prior to joining the UNC System, Dr. Dixon served a total of 10 years combined at two other UNC institutions. Most recently, she was an assistant vice provost at NC State University and remains an adjunct assistant professor at the College of Education's Department of Educational Leadership, Policy, and Human Development. Dr. Dixon was elected to serve on the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges board of trustees in 2021. In 2021, Dr. Dixon was appointed to the board of directors of the American Association of State Colleges and Universities for a three-year appointment and appointed to the Association of Governing Boards Council of Presidents. In 2020, Dr. Dixon was named to the newly formed national Women in Aviation advisory board by U.S. Transportation Secretary Elaine Chao. Dr. Dixon is a member of the American Association of State Colleges and Universities' Millennium Leadership Initiative, class of 2013. She was a recipient of the 2015 Alumni Distinguished Service Award from the University of North Carolina at Greensboro. Dr. Dixon serves as a presidential sponsor for the North Carolina American Council on Education (NC ACE) Women's Network. Dr. Dixon holds a bachelor's degree from NC State University, a master's degree from UNC Greensboro, and a doctorate from NC State.

Chancellor Philip Rogers

Dr. Philip G. Rogers became the 12th chancellor of East Carolina University on March 15, 2021. Prior to his appointment as chancellor, Dr. Rogers was the senior vice president for learning and engagement at the American Council on Education. The appointment as chancellor is a homecoming for Dr. Rogers, who first came to ECU as a policy analyst in 2007 and served as chief of staff from 2008 to 2013. As chief of staff, he was responsible for external relations for the university, including government relations, marketing and communications, public service, and policy development. Dr. Rogers earned a doctoral degree in higher education management with distinction from the University of Pennsylvania, a master's degree in public administration from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, and a bachelor's degree in communications from Wake Forest University.