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## Douglas A. Hensler: A Biography

Hensler, Douglas A.

Monterey, California, Naval Postgraduate School

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**Dr. Douglas A. Hensler**  
**Provost**  
**Naval Postgraduate School**  
**Monterey, California**



Dr. Douglas A. Hensler became the Naval Postgraduate School provost in June 2013.

Since 2008 Dr. Hensler was the Dean of the W. Frank Barton School of Business at Wichita State University (WSU). The Barton School of Business is the leading business school in Kansas placing most of its graduates in international businesses, innovative organizations, and state-of-art industries. Dr. Hensler led organizational changes that streamlined the Barton School’s ability to respond to students, companies, and collaboration initiatives with other colleges and schools at WSU. Enhanced faculty participation, innovative thinking, and open decision making led to a revised Executive MBA curriculum, deep review of the MBA program with integration of student, business and faculty input, an ongoing undergraduate international projects enterprise, and an examination of the learning facilities, along with other initiatives.

Prior to WSU, Dr. Hensler served as Dean and Sid Craig Endowed Dean’s Chair in the Craig School of Business at California State University, Fresno for three years. For eight years prior to that, Dr. Hensler served at the University of Colorado at Boulder as the W. Edwards Deming Distinguished Professor of Management, a joint appointment to the College of Engineering and Applied Science and the Leeds School of Business. He also served as Co-Executive Director of the Robert H. and Beverly A. Deming Center for Entrepreneurship.

Dr. Hensler has travelled extensively and built a network of international contacts and partnerships. He has served as Special Advisor to the Australian Organisation for Quality (NSW) and as an adviser to the Special Adviser team of the Scottish First Minister. From 2002 to 2005 he served on the Academic Advisory Board of e-TQM College in Dubai, UAE. He is a member of The Berne Initiative.

Before returning to the academic community, Dr. Hensler achieved a highly successful management career that includes 13 years in project, staff and line management positions at two technology driven companies. These positions include nuclear industry quality assurance management and aerospace industry quality engineering management, plant quality management, production management leading an organization of 250 personnel, and R&D management leading an organization developing state-of-the-art process improvements involving applied research. Dr. Hensler has provided training and consulting to American Airlines, CH2M-Hill, Texas Utilities, Sulzer, Louisiana-Pacific Corporation, Micro Motion, FEMA, Sporian Microsystems, and the Electricity Generating Authority of Thailand, and the Fulfillment Corporation of America. Doug’s most recent appointment includes working with CEO’s and other executives of the Wichita aviation community including Spirit AeroSystems, Cessna, Bombardier/Learjet, Boeing and Hawker Beechcraft, along with Koch Industries and Coleman (The Outdoor Company).

A frequent invited keynote speaker and presenter at international conferences, Dr. Hensler has authored and co-authored several articles and manuscripts on a diverse and cross-disciplinary set of topics including value creation, innovation and learning organizations, technology development, strategy and change, initial public offerings, manufacturing, emerging economies, risk and performance measurement, intellectual capital and the knowledge economy, sustainability, competition and cooperation, and leadership.

Dr. Hensler’s academic preparation includes a BSE in Aerospace and Mechanical Sciences from Princeton University, an MBA from the University of Portland, and a Ph.D. in Finance from the University of Washington. He is a licensed professional engineer in Quality Engineering in the State of California.