

Christopher Blake, President



Christopher Blake, Ph.D., is president of Middle Georgia State University (MGA), an institution serving nearly 8,000 students on its five campuses in central Georgia and around the world via MGA's online campus.

Blake has led the institution through significant growth since becoming its first permanent president in 2014. Under his leadership, the University has expanded academic offerings and transitioned from a bachelor's-granting institution to a university offering master's degrees in a wide range of disciplines and its first doctoral degree in Information Technology.

Spearheading the development and implementation of strategic plans, Blake has used the identified priorities to steer the institution through incremental changes that continue to result in significant transformation. At the center of these priorities are students. With a focus on student success, the University has increased its graduates, setting a record in 2022 for the most in its history.

Originally from Wimbledon, England, Blake holds bachelor's and master's degrees in theology from the University of Oxford, Keble College, a postgraduate certificate in education from Westminster College (Oxford), and a Ph.D. in education from King's College of the University of London. Beginning in the classroom, he served in progressive positions within American higher education before joining Middle Georgia State.

Blake is currently serving on the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges' Board of Trustees, on the Board of Directors of the American Association of University Administrators, and as a member of the Board of Presidents and the Executive committee of the Southern States Athletic Conference.

Author of two books that explore aspects of World War I history, Blake is among the 2022 Georgia Writers Association's nominees for Author of the Year for his second book, *Reckless Misfortune: The Century We Inherited from the First World War*.

Blake and his wife, Dr. Melody Blake, live in Macon. He is the proud father to two adult sons and is an enthusiastic fan of professional football ("soccer" in the US), supporting Tottenham Hotspur in the English Premier League.

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