

Blake Thompson, Ph.D.

Vice President and Secretary of the Board

Dr. Blake Thompson currently serves as Secretary and one of three elected Officers of The Ohio State University Board. As Board Secretary, he is responsible for the leadership of the university's governing board office, strategy and agenda development, and coordination of the Board's academic, financial, governance, audit, and advancement committee functions. He is also Vice President of the Office of Government Affairs where he has broad responsibility for management of the university's local, state and federal relationships.

Since joining Ohio State in 2009, he has played an active role in the creation of The Ohio State Wexner Medical Center Board, served as administrative staff to the Presidential Search Selection Committee, and was part of the Presidential Transition Team. He has been active in the John Glenn College of Public Affairs, leading the creation of its Battelle-endowed Center for Science and Technology Policy and teaching in the areas of public and non-profit leadership and public policy analysis. In addition, he oversees the Ohio State Government Internship program.

Prior to being named Secretary, he was Vice President for Economic and Workforce Development in the Office of Academic Affairs and Special Assistant to the President at Ohio State. As part of these responsibilities, he also served as President of the Science and Technology Campus Corporation where he led the planning and management of the campus research and technology park. Dr. Thompson has also held the joint Vice President for Institutional Affairs position at Ohio State and Battelle, and before that was Director of University Partnerships for the Oak Ridge National Laboratory where he built institutional partnerships with local, state and federal communities.

Previously, Dr. Thompson served as the Deputy Staff Director of the United States Senate Committee on Appropriations. He also served as Legislative Director to Senator Thad Cochran of Mississippi, where he worked across the Congressional appropriations process to help secure health, education and infrastructure funding. Dr. Thompson received his Ph.D. from the University of Mississippi School of Pharmacy and an Executive Master's degree from Georgetown University's McDonough School of Business. He also received Bachelor and Master of Science degrees in Pharmaceutical Sciences from the University of Mississippi School of Pharmacy where he currently serves on the School's Board of Visitors and is a member of its Hall of Fame.

Dr. Thompson's wife Jana is an honors graduate of the University of Mississippi School of Pharmacy and has practiced pharmacy in several settings. Blake and Jana are both from Rienzi, Mississippi and currently reside in Columbus, Ohio with their three children.



PRIMARY RESPONSIBILITIES

- Leadership of the Office of the Board of Trustees and Office of Government Affairs
- Member of President's Cabinet
- Institutional Governance
- Strategy and Planning
- Institutional Partnerships
- Economic Development
- Public Policy and Budget
- External Relations across University Stakeholder Groups

WORK HISTORY

- The Ohio State University
- Battelle Memorial Institute
- Oak Ridge National Laboratory
- U.S. Senate Appropriations Committee

EDUCATION

- Ph.D., Pharmaceutical Sciences, University of Mississippi
- Executive Master's, Georgetown University School of Business
- M.S., University of Mississippi School of Pharmacy
- B.S., University of Mississippi School of Pharmacy