

Michael Tidwell, Ph.D.
Dean, College of Business
Eastern Michigan University

Biographical Sketch

Dr. Michael Tidwell is Dean of the College of Business at Eastern Michigan University. He is originally from Southern California, but attended Ball State University in Muncie, Indiana. After undergrad, he married his high school sweetheart (Karen) and they both started graduate school in the Pacific Northwest at Washington State University. Upon completion of his master's degree he launched his career in the high tech industry. After a stint in corporate America, Michael returned to Washington to work on his PhD and has been in higher education ever since.

His current research deals with the impact of personality characteristics on the socialization of new employees. Over his career, Dr. Tidwell has published in scholarly journals including the International Journal of Management Theory and Practices, the Journal of Business Communication, and the journal of Nonprofit Management and Leadership. In addition to speaking at numerous national and international conferences, he has spent time traveling and working on four continents.

He has held several administrative posts over the years and is responsible for leading teams that have designed new programs that impact the personal and professional development of students and programs that are community focused. His current work involves the launch of a project called the Center for Advancing Social Enterprise (CASE). CASE was established in 2014 to be a catalyst for Michigan's social entrepreneurship ecosystem, including social enterprises, the firms that fund them, the researchers that examine them, and the agencies that regulate them. CASE does this by working with stakeholders to stimulate creativity and innovation, strengthen leaders, enhance operational excellence, and by serving as thought leaders on behalf of the ecosystem.

Michael also serves on numerous community and Chamber of Commerce advisory/strategic planning committees, the Eastern Michigan University Investment Committee, and the Business Development Board for Ann Arbor SPARK.

Michael and Karen just celebrated their 20th wedding anniversary and are parents to Cyrus, a student at the College of William and Mary, and Bradley, a 9th grader.