



Welch has 19 years of higher education experience. From 2006–2015, she held various positions within student affairs and academic affairs at Indiana University South Bend, culminating in her role as the director of advising for the School of Education. During her tenure at Indiana University South Bend, she gained academic experience in curriculum development, program accreditation processes and teaching. As director of advising, she focused on enrollment management and retention, and with her at the helm, her advising team increased education student retention.

Dr. Welch also served as associate vice chancellor for student affairs at Ivy Tech Community College in South Bend, Indiana, where she was again responsible for enrollment management and retention. Under her leadership, the Ivy Tech South Bend campus closed the gap of enrollment.

At Valparaiso University, Welch oversaw institutional retention, programs, initiatives, and support services, which included the management of four retention-based committees. She developed, coordinated, facilitated, and evaluated the University's retention efforts and took the reins on broader issues of persistence and completion, playing a critical role in the University's overall goals for student enrollment.

Welch also served as Vice President for Enrollment Management at Chicago State University. In her role, she created and implemented a comprehensive strategic enrollment management plan. The plan included priorities to improve policy and operations in the offices of admissions, financial aid, and registrar; coordinating technological improvements; creating marketing/communication initiatives and establishing strong internal and external partnerships.

Most recently, Welch served as Vice President for Enrollment and Marketing at Hiram College. With her team and campus collaborations, the college exceeded enrollment and student net tuition goals, implemented new marketing and branding strategies. In addition to admission, financial services, and marketing, Welch also played a lead role in developing retention strategy for academic support services, student affairs, and athletics.

Throughout her personal and professional experiences, she has acquired a passion for advocacy for student access and success. She has served in numerous capacities as a change agent to increase communication and collaborative initiatives within and across institutions. Creating a culture of student-driven and data-informed practices has been a successful strategy in each of her higher education experiences.

Welch has mentored and served many underrepresented student populations. She is also a frequent guest lecturer and has presented at national conferences including the Association for the Study of Higher Education (ASHE), NASPA-Student Affairs Administrators in Higher Education and the National Symposium on Student Retention (NSSR).

Welch holds a Bachelor of Science in Interpersonal Communication from Ohio University — Zanesville, Ohio, a Master of Science in Education in College Student Personnel from Ohio University and a Doctorate in Higher Education Leadership from Indiana State University.