



Brief Biography

David M. Dooley
President
University of Rhode Island

Dr. David M. Dooley became the 11th president of the University of Rhode Island in July 2009. He joined the University with nearly 30 years of experience in public and private higher education.

Prior to joining the University, Dr. Dooley was the provost and vice president for Academic Affairs at Montana State, which was the school's second highest-ranking administrative position. There he played a central role in the development of the college's vision, values, and core messages, which emphasized excellence in scholarship, creative work, teaching, and engagement. Dr. Dooley brings to URI a collaborative leadership style that encourages entrepreneurial approaches to problem solving and program development.

Earlier at MSU, Dr. Dooley led the university's chemistry and biochemistry department and served as a chemistry professor. As provost, he also maintained an active laboratory with research funded by the National Institutes of Health and the National Science Foundation. He had been a central figure in attracting research dollars to Montana State, helping to grow that budget to \$100 million during his tenure. MSU is now ranked among the top tier of research universities, as classified by the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching. URI, which is ranked in the second tier, aspires to that goal.

Actively engaged in teaching and research throughout his academic career, Dr. Dooley began as an assistant professor of chemistry at Amherst College in Amherst, Mass. in 1978 and left in 1993 to chair the Montana State chemistry department. Six years later he became the interim, then full provost and vice president for Academic Affairs.

Dr. Dooley earned a B.A. in Chemistry from the University of California in San Diego and a Ph.D. in Chemistry from California Institute of Technology in Pasadena. Dr. Dooley's wife, Lynn Baker-Dooley, is a Baptist minister. The couple has two adult children, Chris and Samantha, and a dog named Rhody.



"My leadership philosophy and style emphasize collaboration as the primary mechanism to foster both innovation and mutual accountability. I actively encourage and reward decentralized, entrepreneurial approaches to problem solving and program development."

-- President David M. Dooley