



Prof. Dr. Ramon O'Callaghan

PRESIDENT OF THE GISMA UNIVERSITY OF APPLIED SCIENCES

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As President of GISMA University of Applied Sciences, Prof. Dr. Ramon O'Callaghan brings a distinguished international career and outstanding academic expertise to the institution. He holds a PhD in Business Administration from Harvard Business School, an MBA from IESE Business School, and both a BSc and MSc in Telecommunications from UPC Technical University in Barcelona. His education was rounded off with additional programs at MIT and ESCP Paris.

Before joining GISMA, Prof. Dr. O'Callaghan held key leadership positions, shaping the strategic direction of several prestigious institutions. He served as Dean of Porto Business School in Portugal, Tias Business School at Tilburg University in the Netherlands, and Deusto Business School in Spain. He was also the founding dean of the Graduate School of Business at Nazarbayev University in Kazakhstan, developed in collaboration with Duke University's Fuqua School of Business.

His teaching and research focus on technology and innovation management, a critical field in today's business world. He has taught at leading institutions such as INSEAD, MIT Sloan, IESE, and London Business School and has been involved in multiple European Commission projects. His academic contributions have been published in reputable journals and books, including the Journal of Marketing and the European Journal of Information Systems.

In addition to his academic career, Prof. Dr. O'Callaghan serves on boards and advisory councils worldwide, including EFMD in Belgium, ISM in Lithuania, and Kozminski University in Poland. His early professional experience at Texas Instruments and his ongoing involvement in executive training and consultancy highlight his ability to integrate theory with practice, reinforcing GISMA's commitment to industry-relevant education.

Focus themes

Technology Adoption, AI Innovations, and Digital Transformation in Organizations

In an increasingly digitalized world, it is crucial for leaders to stay abreast of the latest technological advancements. Prof. O'Callaghan pursues a clear vision of how digital transformation and technological innovations can be integrated into leadership education. By leveraging advanced technologies, he ensures that students are well-prepared for the future of business.

The Future of Work and the Skills Required by Tomorrow's Leaders

The world of work is evolving rapidly, and leaders must continuously adapt. Prof. O'Callaghan recognizes the importance of a holistic education that fosters not only technological knowledge but also interpersonal and strategic skills. At Gisma University, these competencies are deliberately cultivated to provide future leaders with the essential tools they need.

The Transformative Power of Business Education for Individuals and Society

Business education should not only be focused on career success but also contribute to social responsibility. Prof. O'Callaghan emphasizes the importance of leaders acting as responsible and ethical players. At Gisma University, students are prepared not only to transform businesses, but also to make a positive impact on society.

Gisma University

The Gisma University of Applied Sciences is a state-recognized private university. On its campus at Jungfernsee in Potsdam and Berlin, it brings together students and lecturers from over 80 nations around the world. In its 14 programs, it trains students to become sought-after talents for the global business world in management, leadership, data sciences, AI and software engineering. Students learn from lecturers with a strong research background as well as from top executives and founders.

The university cooperates with a network of global companies from business and education, such as Zalando, Ebay and Vattenfall, and is a member of "SAP University Alliances". Its aim is to provide innovative impetus for business and society by preparing its students for management practice in a world characterized by constant change and increasing complexity.

All of Gisma's degree programmes are state-recognized and are assessed by the Foundation for International Business Administration Accreditation (FIBAA) and the Accreditation Council. Gisma is also part of GUS Germany GmbH (GGG), a dynamic network of higher education institutions with more than 15,000 students at locations in Germany, Europe and beyond. www.gusgermany.com

President

GISMA University of Applied Sciences, Germany
Since 2024

Dean

Porto Business School, University of Porto, Portugal
2015–2023

Founding Dean

Graduate School of Business, Nazarbayev University, Astana, kazakhstan
2013–2015

Dean

Tias Business School, Tilburg University, Netherlands
2007–2012

Founding Dean & Vice-Rector

Deusto Business School, Deusto University, Bilbao, Spain
2004–2007

Associate Dean & Full Professor

School of Economics and Management, Tilburg University, Netherlands
1997-2004

MBA Director & Associate Professor

Nyenrode Business Universiteit, Netherlands
1994–1997

Assistant Professor

IESE Business School, Barcelona, Spain
1989–1993

Research Associate & Doctoral Candidate

Harvard Business School, USA
1984-1989

Commercial Controller

Codorniu S.A., Spain
1983-1984

Digital Systems Engineer

Texas Instruments in Spain, Italy, and USA
1977-1981