

Denise A. Battles

Denise A. Battles is president of SUNY Geneseo, a role she has held since July 1, 2015. Battles received her bachelor's degree in geology from Colgate University (Hamilton, NY) in 1984 and her Ph.D. in geology from the University of California, Los Angeles, in 1990.

Battles served as a geology faculty member in the Department of Geology and Geography at Georgia Southern University from 1990 to 2005. In 1994, she moved into the first of several administrative roles at that institution, eventually serving as assistant dean and later associate dean of the Allen E. Paulson College of Science and Technology. During the 2000-01 academic year, she was placed at Auburn University as an American Council on Education (ACE) Fellow, where she was mentored by former Auburn President William V. Muse. In 2005, she was recruited to be the founding dean of the College of Natural and Health Sciences at the University of Northern Colorado. She held the decanal position until 2012, when she was named provost and vice chancellor for academic affairs at the University of North Carolina Wilmington, leaving that role to assume the presidency at SUNY Geneseo.

In addition to her faculty and administrative appointments, Battles has held leadership roles in multiple higher education associations. She served as president of the Council of Colleges of Arts and Sciences (2008-09), a national organization serving academic deans of arts and sciences, and vice president and president-elect of the Association of Chief Academic Officers (2014-15), an organization she helped establish. She recently completed service as chair of the ACE Council of Fellows, the alumni organization for the ACE Fellows program; president of the Council of Public Liberal Arts Colleges (COPLAC); and member of the board of directors of the American Association of State Colleges and Universities (AASCU). Battles additionally served for six years (2011-16) on the editorial board of the *Journal of Diversity in Higher Education*, a publication of the American Psychological Association and the National Association of Diversity Officers in Higher Education.