



## **Ashok Subramanian**

Dr. Ashok Subramanian is Dean and Professor in The W. A. Franke College of Business at Northern Arizona University. His educational achievements include a Ph.D. in Information Systems and an M.B.A., both from the University of Houston, and a B.Sc. in Chemistry and Physics from the University of Bombay, India. He has published in numerous academic peer-reviewed journals, and has extensive experience as a consultant and entrepreneur in the Information Technology sector. Prior to his current position, Dean Subramanian's leadership career includes the Dean and the Joel R. Stubblefield Endowed Chair of the College of Business at the University of Arkansas Fort Smith, Chair of the Information Systems department at the University of Missouri St. Louis, and Dean of the Harold Walter Siebens School of Business at Buena Vista University, Iowa.

Ashok is a seasoned academic leader with over 30 years of experience in higher education, 17 in service as a senior academic leader. Complementing his academic experience, Ashok has significant experience in the business sector as an independent consultant and entrepreneur. Drawing from these experiences, he understands persistent challenges and opportunities that a Dean must address, such as sustainable strategies for enrollment management and retention, academic value and brand development, fundraising, and external relations and community development. Given his unique and substantial leadership experiences in academe and the world of business, he has successfully leveraged his leadership temperament, capabilities, and knowledge to be an effective bridge between the academic, business and civic communities of stakeholders.

Describing himself as an educated risk-taker, Ashok is bullish about the prospects of academic institutions that have the courage to question conventional norms of doing business. In his view, traditional academic disciplines must adapt their content and pedagogies to a rapidly changing global economic and social environment. Traditional face-to-face, hybrid, and online delivery must be seamlessly aligned with content and curricula that are relevant today, and in the future.

In his long career, Ashok has compiled a significant record of accomplishment in a variety of change-initiatives including radical curriculum innovations, processes for enhancing student success, effective resource deployment, and fostering and leveraging stakeholder relationships. Among these, he considers his accomplishments in visioning, identity, strategy formulation and implementation as the most challenging and rewarding. This requires wide ranging discussions with members of the civic and business communities, deans of other colleges on campus, faculty, staff and students. The outcome is a vision for the college that balances the core capabilities of the institution with the desires and ambitions of its stakeholders. His aspiration for the W.A. Franke College of Business is to transform it from a college that may have viewed itself as a developer of "majors", to one that engages with all its stakeholders to be something bigger - a catalyst for intellectual, social and economic transformation of the region.

On the personal front, Ashok is married to his wife Julie and they have three boys Alex, Devyn, and Ishan aged 30, 17, and 13 respectively. His family also includes some furry members of the canine and feline variety. Originally from India, he is fluent in three languages, and enjoys travel, ethnic cuisine, and jazz music, with his multicultural family.