

Howard Grimes | Chief Executive Officer

Dr. Grimes is a noted research scientist who excels in developing and leading multi-disciplinary teams working to solve diverse sets of global challenges. His expertise spans all aspects of program, project, and personnel management, including accountability and resource management in dynamic research environments. Dr. Grimes currently serves as Associate Vice President and Associate Vice Provost for Institutional Initiatives at the University of Texas at San Antonio. He is establishing the Cybersecurity Manufacturing Innovation Institute in coordination with 20 other Tier I research universities, three national laboratories, and leading US companies across manufacturing, IT, telecommunications, and other sectors.

Dr. Grimes has 25 years of success in directing complex university and national laboratory research programs and entrepreneurial start-up initiatives. The latter include several university spin-out companies that were funded via an industry consortium model. As the Director for Innovation and Industry Partnerships at INL's Center for Advanced Energy Studies (CAES), Dr. Grimes led multiple university efforts for nationwide workforce development and training for advanced manufacturing grants, including being on the REMADE team and SMART Manufacturing Leadership Coalition. In his multiple research, teaching, and executive positions at Washington State University, he secured uninterrupted research funding from DOE, USDA, and NSF for 21 years. As the founding vice president for research, he increased research funding by 190% by establishing partnership models with the private sector and developing integrative research frameworks engaging the end users in the scientific process. Securing a \$50+M investment from WA State, Dr. Grimes spear-headed a public-private partnership between the Governor, PNNL Lab Director, Industry Giants (Boeing, Weyerhaeuser, and Gevo), and WSU to stand up a program in aviation biofuel production from farm to plane. This program resulted in winning the largest USDA award (\$40M) and the first cross-country flight on biofuels by Boeing.

Dr. Grimes is an elected AAAS Fellow with 59 peer-reviewed publications, multiple op-eds, and two patents to his credit. He has published extensively on areas ranging from molecular biosciences to creating new paradigms for IP management in the developing world. Dr. Grimes is a highly sought-after speaker on a wide array of cybersecurity, biochemistry, climate change, and other topics.

Relevant Key Accomplishments

- Development of successful partnership models linking industry innovators with university and national laboratory researchers
- Management of large, complex DOE, NSF, and USDA-funded research programs
- Development of innovative algorithms that match early-state technologies to global vertical markets
- 8+ years of cybersecurity program experience, including Organizer and Chairperson for Idaho Technology Council's 2017 Cybersecurity Conference
- CEO of the Idaho Regional Optical Network
- Demonstrated commitment to undergraduate- and graduate-level education
- Fellow, American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS)
- 59 peer-reviewed publications; 41 invited talks
- 2 patents (US and China)