# **Eric Kirby**

Assistant Professor of Management and Business Law at Southern Utah University Cedar City, UT, US

Specializing in student success strategies, civil litigation, and student retention and first year experience in higher education

### **Biography**

Dr. Eric Kirby is an Assistant Professor of Management, Leadership, and Business Law in the Dixie L. Leavitt School of Business at Southern Utah University. Kirby brings over 20 years of leadership and managerial experience from the private and public sectors. He has developed a wide-array of leadership perspectives and managerial insights while practicing law, working in the construction industry and in the federal court system, managing numerous departments and employees at SUU, and starting businesses. Kirby successfully passed the bar exams in three states and interned, clerked, and worked in numerous capacities within the legal field. While practicing law for nearly a decade, Kirby?s practice primarily focused on business law, civil litigation, and construction law. More recently, Kirby served as the Assistant Vice President for Student Affairs at SUU where he managed a myriad of departments and helped create innovative campus-wide programs which increased institutional retention and completion rates to historical highs and garnered national recognition. Kirby is the co-author of a management and leadership book focused on retention and persistence in higher education. He co-hosts a weekly podcast series discussing innovative management and leadership tools for higher education and interviewing industry leaders from across the nation to discuss their best thinking on the challenges and opportunities within higher education. His research interests include innovative and unique retention and completion practices, leadership development, and the success of marginalized student populations (with a particular focus on Native American students). He has given presentations, workshops, and consult with various organizations across the nation on leadership development, managing generational differences (Gen Z), management/leadership strategies, organizational restructure, employee retention, and shifting business culture. Kirby is the recipient of numerous awards and honors for scholastic excellence, distinguished advising and mentoring, commitment to excellence, achievement in experiential learning, distinguished integration, distinguished service awards, and for being a campus influencer. He has a Bachelor?s degree from Southern Utah University, a Master?s degree in Administration and a Juris Doctorate (law degree) from the University of Denver, and a Ph.D. in Global Leadership from the College of Business at Indiana Institute of Technology (Indiana Tech).

## **Industry Expertise**

Education/Learning, Research, Legal Services, Management Consulting

# Areas of Expertise

Non Traditional Students in Higher Education, Second Year Retention in HIgher Education, Student Success Strategies, Student Retention in Higher Education, Political Science, First Year Experience, Higher Education, Event Planning & Management, Constitutional Law, Civil Litigation, Administration in Higher Education

#### **Education**

**University of Denver** J.D. Law

**Indiana Institute of Technology** 

Ph.D. Global Leadership and Academic Administration

University of Denver M.S. Administration

**Southern Utah University** 

**B.S. Political Science** 

#### **Accomplishments**

Commitment to Excellence
Southern Utah University Thunderbird Award

Five-time Legal Rising Star
Thomson Reuters Super Lawyers

**Board of Trustees Award of Excellence** 2016

Advisor of the Year Southern Utah University

Outstanding Mentor Southern Utah University

Gerald R. Sherratt Award Southern Utah University

**SUU Campus Influencer Award** 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022

**SUU?s Distinguished Service Award** 2020, 2021

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