

Dr. Tonya Wagner



Wednesday, May 20, 2026, 1:00-2:00 pm

Open Forum - Western Employees
Coleman 123 and zoom

Thursday May 21, 2026, 10:45-11:45 am

Open Forum – Western students, and community members
Coleman Center room 123 and zoom <https://westerntc.edu.zoom.us/j/98691041214?from=addon>

Dr. Tonya Wagner is a passionate advocate for educational pathways that strengthen communities and elevate students' economic mobility. Drawing on experience as a business leader, business dean, and humanities faculty member, she understands both the complexities of today's workforce and the importance of durable skills such as creativity, critical thinking, and adaptability.

She began her more than 15 years of experience in higher education as a faculty member serving a diverse group of first-generation adult learners. This experience shaped her perspective of the importance of providing access to high quality education that has influenced her time as grant leader, dean, and vice president.

Dr. Wagner holds a Bachelor of Arts in International Studies and Comparative Religion from the University of Washington, a Master of Arts in Theological Studies from McCormick Theological Seminary, and a doctorate in Career and Technical Education from University of Wisconsin–Stout.

Throughout her career, Dr. Wagner has distinguished herself through building strategic partnerships and developing aligned credentials in technology, business, and healthcare and seeking state, federal, and foundation grants. She is also a dedicated community advocate, serving on the boards of Vernon Health, Weber Center for the Performing Arts, and the La Crosse Medical Health Science Consortium.

Dr. Wagner currently serves as Vice President of Academic Affairs and Institutional Effectiveness at Viterbo University. She lives in Viroqua, WI with her family.