



Robert B. Gagosian, Acting President, Desert Research Institute (DRI), President Emeritus, Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution and President Emeritus Consortium for Ocean Leadership

In 2016 Gagosian was named Acting President of the Desert Research Institute in Nevada. From 2007 until 2015 Gagosian was the first President/CEO of the Consortium for Ocean Leadership, an ocean science and policy membership organization. As President, he oversaw the management of major research and education programs, accounting for an annual budget of roughly \$250 million. Gagosian also coordinated the ocean science community's advocacy efforts, articulating to policy makers the importance of ocean research and education to the nation.

Previously, Gagosian served as President and Director of the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution (WHOI) for 12 years, following a 22 year career as a marine geochemist that included positions as Chair of the Chemistry Department and Director of Research.

A Massachusetts native, Gagosian graduated from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, where he completed a bachelor's degree in chemistry in 1966, and then moved to Columbia University, where he received a PhD in organic chemistry in 1970. From 1970 to 1972, he was a National Institutes of Health Postdoctoral Fellow at the University of California, Berkeley.

Gagosian has been appointed and elected to various positions of distinction, including a Fellow of The American Academy of Arts & Sciences and Faculty Fellow of the World Economic Forum, as well as to the Science Advisory Panel of the U.S. Commission on Ocean Policy and a commissioner of the U.S. National Commission for UNESCO. Other selected honors include Monmouth University's Champion of the Ocean Award and Honorary Doctor of Science Degrees from Long Island University and Northeastern University.

He currently serves on the Board of Trustees for the Bigelow Laboratory for Ocean Sciences and the Desert Research Institute Foundation, the External Advisory Board for the University of New Hampshire's School of Marine Science and Ocean Engineering and NEON Inc. He is also a Member of the Corporation of WHOI, the Board of Overseers of the Sea Education Association, and is a Member of the Leadership Council of the Joint Ocean Commission Initiative in Washington DC.

His op-ed pieces and editorials have appeared in a number of publications including The Washington Post, The New York Times, and Science magazine and his views on the importance of the oceans to the future of our society have been expressed in numerous personal presentations worldwide. He has also served on a wide variety of visiting and advisory committees and research panels for the National Academy of Sciences, National Science Foundation, Office of Naval Research, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and universities and research organizations in the US and internationally and participated in numerous ocean related activities with the US Congress and White House.

He and his wife Susan split their time between homes in Woods Hole, MA and Reno, Nevada. They are avid hikers, travelers and cross country skiers. They have two children, Travis and Alex who live, ski and rock climb in the Boston area.