Dr. Benjamin Ola. Akande was named the 21st president of the 164-year-old Westminster College on May 8, 2015.

Dr. Akande, is an accomplished higher education leader and visionary. His tireless efforts have contributed to the transformation of institutions and organizations in the public and private sectors by positioning them to fulfill their missions and surpass their goals. Previously, he served as Dean of the George Herbert Walker School of Business & Technology at Webster University, and Webster University’s Chief of the Office of Corporate Partnerships, where he is credited with developing and nurturing numerous corporate and donor partnerships. He is a globally recognized consultant to Fortune 500 companies in the areas of corporate strategy and responsibility, leadership development and market positioning.

Dr. Akande is regularly sought out as an economic and policy commentator on local, regional and national media outlets; his appearances include NPR Marketplace Public Radio, Anderson Cooper 360 and CBS Evening News. He is a former consultant to the World Bank and the United Nations Development Program (UNDP).

A Nigerian-born American citizen, Dr. Akande holds two Masters degrees and a Ph.D. in Economics from the University of Oklahoma, and a Bachelor in Business Administration from Wayland Baptist University. He has completed post-doctoral studies at the John F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University and the Saïd School of Business at Oxford University.

Dr. Akande is married to Bola Taiwo-Akande, a registered pharmacist, and they have three daughters: Moyosola, 22, Anjola, 20, and Reni, 14.