## THE WORLD SUSTAINABILITY FORUM

## Secretariat

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## PROFILE OF THE FOUNDING PRESIDENT

Professor Stokes earned a Ph.D. in economic thought, international relations and complex adaptive systems theory at York University, Canada. At York University he was Senior Associate of the Economic Research and Systems Planning Group.

Professor Stokes began his global career as Aide Spécial au L'Conseil Scientifique International with the Paris-based L'Institut de la Vie; was attached to the International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis (Austria), and seconded to the Institute for Systems Studies and the All Academy of Sciences Computer Centre (Moscow) where he contributed algorithms to the Soviet nuclear winter scenarios. He subsequently taught and conducted award-winning research in Japan advancing to the role of Senior Associate Dean. Professor Stokes held a co-appointment in France as Directeur de Le program International Inter-Universitaire d'Études Supérieures to help establish a network of universities of the Global South.

Professor Stokes served as an academic Dean at U.S. comprehensive universities advancing interdisciplinarity and globalization. He has been engaged as a senior consultant by governments and international organizations in the design and development of major science, technology and innovation initiatives and their financial engineering. Author of five books and numerous articles, he is an international award winning scholar who was recently recognized as among the top 2% most cited authorities in his field of research.

Professor Stokes is also a serial entrepreneur. He was: Co-founder and Chief Financial Officer of Metasystems Engineering Inc, and Synnovation LLC; Co-founder and Executive Director of the Institute for Innovation Management, and Chairman of InnovoNet Holdings LLC. Dr Stokes was Co-founder and Chairman of the U.S. - Mexico Chamber of Commerce SE and founding member with former president of Mexico the Rt Hon Vicente Fox of the Commission on North American Prosperity. He has long been associated with the Asia-Pacific CEO Association (Beijing).

Since 2015 Professor Stokes served as Chair of the Founding Commission for the University for Sustainability. He presently serves as University's founding president.