

# **Bernie Savarese**

## ***University of Tennessee System***

Dr. Bernie Savarese is the Vice President for Academic Affairs, Research and Student Success for the University of Tennessee System. In this role, he works closely with leaders at the university's five campuses to coordinate and promote high-quality academic and student experiences. At the UT System office in Knoxville, Bernie leads teams in academic affairs, research, student success, institutional effectiveness, access and engagement, and health and wellness while also serving as a staff liaison to the UT Board of Trustees and representing the university in state, regional, and national conversations.

Prior to joining the University of Tennessee, Bernie served as the Assistant Vice President for Student Success and the Student Experience at New York University (NYU). In this role, he oversaw the creation of the Office of Student Success, led NYU's Student Success Steering Committee, and served as a subject matter expert to the campus community. Prior to his time at NYU, Bernie worked at The Ohio State University for almost two decades, most recently serving as the director of the university's nationally recognized First Year Experience (FYE) program and leading teams in Undergraduate Admissions. Before his time in FYE, Bernie held various leadership roles in Ohio State's Division of Student Life

Bernie holds a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science and an MBA from The Ohio State University, a Master of Arts in College Student Personnel from Bowling Green State University, and a Doctor of Education (Ed.D.) from New York University where his dissertation focused on efforts that support the success of Black men at research universities.

Bernie has been recognized with honors such as Bowling Green State University's President's Award for Distinguished Service, NYU's Making a Difference Award, and he was inducted into the 2016 Class of "Forty Under 40" by Columbus Business First. Bernie is active on numerous boards including the National Advisory Board of the National Resource Center for the First-Year Experience and Students in Transition and serving as Board Chair for the Ohio State University Alumni Association's Board of Directors. Bernie lives in Knoxville, Tennessee with his wife, Krystyne – a fellow higher education leader, and their two sons.