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## **WSOS Executive Director Announcement**

After an extensive search that yielded a strong applicant pool, the Washington State Opportunity Scholarship (WSOS) Board of Directors is delighted to announce Kimber Connors as the new Executive Director. Connors previously held the position of WSOS Deputy Director.

“We feel incredibly fortunate to have in Kimber such an inspiring, results-driven leader who is ready to spearhead the next phase of our organization’s growth,” said Brad Smith, WSOS Board Chair and President of Microsoft. “Throughout her career, Kimber has been a tireless advocate for educational equity with a deep commitment to removing barriers for students across our state.”

Connors has a strong track record of success at WSOS. She moved quickly into a senior leadership position, earning respect among her colleagues for her strategic vision and her ability to lead with students at the heart of every decision. She helped steward the organization’s tremendous growth while launching improved Scholar programming and tightening the organization’s mission alignment and outcomes.

In addition to her tenure at WSOS, Connors brings with her tremendous education experience including work as an educator in Native American classrooms, experience as a data analyst and a master’s degree in education policy from the University of Washington.

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WSOS builds pathways into high-demand Washington careers for Washington students. Through a unique public-private partnership, WSOS helps Washington students fill workforce shortages and unlock their potential through financial assistance, career services and student support. We maximize the state’s return on investment while responding strategically to workforce needs through private sector collaboration.