



## **Biography: Rogan Kersh**

*Named fifth Provost of Wake Forest University  
Jan. 26, 2012*

Rogan Kersh was born in New York City and moved during grade school to Brevard, North Carolina. He got to know Winston-Salem during a summer at Governor's School, and enrolled at Wake Forest in the fall of 1982 among the first cohort of Reynolds Scholars.

During four unforgettable years at Wake, Dr. Kersh worked in a U.S. Senate office, the British Parliament, and with political parties in Italy and Germany. After graduation he spent two years in Washington, DC, working as a reporter-researcher for New York Newsday and at the Roosevelt Center, a nonpartisan 'think tank.' He subsequently received two masters degrees and a Ph.D. in political science from Yale, where he also began his teaching career.

During graduate school, Dr. Kersh spent a year in Tokyo as a Luce Scholar, working for the former Japanese Prime Minister Nakasone. He subsequently moved to Syracuse University's Maxwell School, the nation's top-ranked school of public administration; during his decade there he spent two years as a Robert Wood Johnson Fellow at Yale, where he developed a research interest in health policy.

In 2006 he was hired as associate dean at NYU's Wagner School of Public Service. At NYU, along with his extensive Wagner School administrative activities, Dr. Kersh was involved in helping conceive and create NYU campuses in Abu Dhabi and Shanghai, as well as launch a new Global Institute of Public Health.

He has published two books (a third, *Governing America*, is due in January 2013 from Oxford University Press), and more than 45 academic articles, and has provided commentary on US politics to over 50 different media outlets, including CNN and The New York Times. He has been invited to testify or speak to a wide range of organizations, including the U.S. Senate and the Institute of Medicine, especially on health reform, obesity politics, and interest groups/lobbying.