

MICHAEL SHUNNEY '80

PRESIDENT & CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER, THE ADVOCATOR GROUP

Michael “Mike” Shunney '80 is the President & Chief Operating Officer of The Advocator Group, LLC., a nationwide advocacy organization dedicated to helping individuals apply for and obtain Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI) in the United States. The Advocator Group, LLC. was formerly known as Crowe Paradis, LLC. The company was founded in 2002 by Merrimack College alumnus Michael K. Crowe '92 P'17 and is based in Wakefield, Massachusetts.

Mike also serves as the Principal of Shunney and Associates, LLC., an advisory firm providing strategic leadership services as a consultant to companies in technology solutions and financial, insurance and medical services.

Before his time at the Advocator Group, Mike was Senior Vice President & General Manager, Employee Benefits Group at Sun Life Financial U.S. Operations (1999-2013). Sun Life Financial is a leading international financial services company providing financial planning, life insurance, health insurance, investments and more. Shunney retired in 2013 after nearly twenty years with Sun Life Financial. In his most recent position with Sun Life Financial, Shunney was responsible for the group insurance business in the United States, including the development of group life, disability, medical stop-loss and dental products, underwriting, strategic planning and execution, profitability management, and financial planning and analysis. Mike led the business to a top ten position in the U.S. employee benefits marketplace.

As a student at Merrimack College Mike was a member of the American Marketing Society, an active member of the athletics community, and a brother of the Sigma Beta Kappa Greek organization. Mike also received the Who's Who in American Colleges and University award.

Mike is an active alumnus of the College serving as a member of the Board of Trustees, the Executive Committee and is Chair of the Athletics Committee. Before joining the Board he was a member of the President's Advisory Board. Mike was also the Co-Chair of his 35th Reunion Committee.