

W. Todd Groce
President and Chief Executive Officer

W. Todd Groce has nearly 20 years of experience in non-profit administration and has led organizations in raising \$30 million for educational programming, capital projects, and endowment. A native of Virginia and a resident of Tennessee for over twenty years, Dr. Groce was educated at the University of Memphis, where he earned a B.A. (graduating *cum laude* and with honors in history), and the University of Tennessee, where he earned an M. A. and Ph.D. in history.

Before coming to the Georgia Historical Society in 1995, Dr. Groce taught history for three years at the University of Tennessee and then served five years as executive director of the East Tennessee Historical Society in Knoxville. During his tenure, ETHS built a new regional history museum, strengthened and reorganized its programs and publications, and launched the “First Families of Tennessee,” a project in honor of the state’s bicentennial, which eventually gained over 15,000 members.

The Georgia Historical Society has experienced a period of unprecedented growth during Dr. Groce’s tenure as CEO. Its operating budget has grown from less than \$200,000 to over \$2 million, its endowment has increased from under \$1 million to over \$7 million, and its membership has grown from under 2,000 to over 5,000, including nearly 200 local historical organizations. It has developed over a dozen new programs, privatized its previously state-operated library and archives, strengthened its publications, and enhanced its statewide visibility and presence.

In addition to his duties as a fund raiser and administrator, Dr. Groce is also an active scholar. He is the author of *Mountain Rebels: East Tennessee Confederates and the Civil War*, and is co-editor with Stephen V. Ash of *Nineteenth Century America: Essays in Honor of Paul H. Bergeron*, both published by the University of Tennessee Press. He has written nearly 40 articles, essays, and book reviews. He frequently lectures on the history of the American South and U.S. military history and has made television appearances on the Discovery Channel, Georgia Public Television, C-SPAN’s Book TV, and The History Channel.

Dr. Groce holds leadership positions in numerous professional organizations and has been appointed to several state government commissions. He is a 2003 graduate of Leadership Georgia, a past president of the Rotary Club of Savannah, a member of the Georgia Department of Economic Development’s Tourism Foundation, and is serving as Chief Advisor to the Georgia Civil War Sesquicentennial Planning Commission.