



Executive Vice President, Government and Community Affairs

The University

Columbia University is a private, Ivy League, research university in Upper Manhattan, New York City. Established in 1754 as King's College by royal charter of George II of Great Britain, Columbia is the oldest college in New York State and the fifth chartered institution of higher learning in the country, making it one of nine colonial colleges founded before the Declaration of Independence.

After the revolutionary war, King's College briefly became a state entity and was renamed Columbia College in 1784. A 1787 charter placed the institution under a private board of trustees before it was renamed Columbia University in 1896, when the campus was moved from Madison Avenue to its current location in Morningside Heights, occupying land of 32 acres. Columbia is one of the 14 founding members of the Association of American Universities, and was the first school in the United States to grant the M.D. degree.

The University is organized into 20 schools and colleges, including Columbia College, the School of Engineering and Applied Science, and the School of General Studies. The University also has global research centers in Amman, Beijing, Istanbul, Paris, Mumbai, Rio de Janeiro, Santiago, and Nairobi. It has affiliations with several other institutions nearby, including Teachers College, Barnard College, and Union Theological Seminary, with joint undergraduate programs available through the Jewish Theological Seminary of America, Sciences Po Paris, and the Juilliard School. Columbia annually administers the Pulitzer Prize.

Notable alumni and former students (including those from King's College) include five founding fathers of the United States; nine justices of the United States Supreme Court; 20 living billionaires; 29 Academy Award winners; and 29 heads of state, including three

United States presidents. Additionally, some 100 Nobel laureates have been affiliated with Columbia as students, faculty, or staff.

Mission Statement

Columbia University is one of the world's most important centers of research and at the same time a distinctive and distinguished learning environment for undergraduates and graduate students in many scholarly and professional fields. The University recognizes the importance of its location in New York City and seeks to link its research and teaching to the vast resources of a great metropolis. It seeks to attract a diverse and international faculty and student body, to support research and teaching on global issues, and to create academic relationships with many countries and regions. It expects all areas of the University to advance knowledge and learning at the highest level and to convey the products of its efforts to the world.

Academics

For more than 250 years, Columbia University has provided rigorous academics, a strong alumni network, and a multitude of opportunities to its students. Columbia was ranked 2nd among US colleges for 2017 by Wall Street Journal and Times Higher Education and 2nd among Ivy League Schools and was ranked 4th overall among US national universities and for 2016 by *US News & World Report*. In 2017, Columbia was ranked 8th in the world by *Academic Ranking of World Universities*, 18th in the world by *QS World University Rankings*, 14th globally by *Times Higher Education World University Rankings*, and 8th in the world by *US News and World Report*.

Columbia University, which has a total undergraduate enrollment of 6,113 and graduate enrollment of 18,971, utilizes a semester based academic calendar, and has a rich history of providing students with quality education through small classes, highly accessible faculty, and diverse experiences in the exciting, cultural hub of Manhattan. The renowned Core Curriculum unites all Columbia undergraduates by providing a common foundation in literature, philosophy, science, art, history and music, and caps classes at 22 students to afford close interaction with Columbia's renowned faculty.

Students choose among over 100 majors and concentrations and thousands of research, internship and job opportunities. The University offers access to New York City, the ultimate classroom, but also guaranteed four-year housing within a traditional campus surrounded by a residential neighborhood lined with bookstores, cafes and parks. Called "the quintessential great urban university," Columbia is diverse in every way: students come from 50 states and over 90 foreign countries; over half of undergraduates are students of color, and over 500 student organizations are offered, including 31 Division I Ivy League athletic teams and dozens of community service organizations, performance groups, political clubs and publications.

As the birthplace of FM radio, the fields of genetics and anthropology, the nation's oldest literary magazine, and first Black student advocacy group on a multi-racial campus,

Columbia has carried on a tradition of both social and scientific innovation for over 250 years. Notable Columbians include Barack Obama, Isaac Asimov, Madeline Albright, Langston Hughes, Jack Kerouac, Julia Stiles, and many more spanning every professional field. Columbia offers extensive need-based financial aid and meets the full need of every student admitted as a first-year with grants instead of loans.

Capital Campaign

The University has launched an ambitious capital campaign, [Columbia Commitment](#), which aims to raise \$5 billion by June 2021. The Columbia Commitment is a renewal of Columbia's bond with the world and its shared future. In addition to underscoring Columbia's dedication to its faculty and students, the Campaign emphasizes the University's resolve to engaging the most serious and challenging issues of our time. It includes commitments to arts and ideas, climate response, data and society, the future of neuroscience, global solutions, just societies, and precision medicine.

Manhattanville Campus

In conjunction with the Manhattanville Development Group, the University is undergoing an expansion in West Harlem. The [Manhattanville campus](#) is a 17-acre site just north of Columbia's historic Morningside Heights campus, and consists primarily of the four large blocks from 129th to 133rd Streets, between Broadway and Twelfth Avenue. The plan includes approximately 6.8 million square feet of space for teaching, research, underground parking, and support services. It features new facilities for civic, cultural, recreational, and commercial activity as well as a permanent site for the newly opened Columbia-assisted public secondary school for math, science, and engineering. Its improved, pedestrian-friendly streets and new publicly accessible open spaces will reconnect West Harlem to the new Hudson River waterfront park.

The first phase of the campus, which was recently completed, includes: the Jerome L. Greene Science Center for research with implications for the treatment of Parkinson's, Alzheimer's, and other neurological diseases; new homes for Columbia Business School; the School of International and Public Affairs; and the School of the Arts. Subsequent phases, to be completed over the next two decades, will emphasize interdisciplinary scholarship, including biomedical engineering, nanotechnology, systems biology, and urban and populations studies, as well as housing for graduate students and faculty. The new campus is designed to be a cluster of buildings that "encourages the University and community to engage with and strengthen one another."

In recognition of the impact that such projects have on area residents, the University and the Manhattanville Development Group endeavor to keep its neighbors and their representatives informed of major renovations and construction projects, on and off campus. The [Manhattanville campus](#) expansion website contains detailed information about planning and design efforts, community engagement, jobs and opportunities and recent news concerning the project site.

Community Partnerships

Columbia University has a long-standing history of working together with the local community. In addition to the developing Manhattanville campus, the University is also expanding and enhancing a variety of programs and services. Two major agreements codify the University's commitment to new investment in the local community; specifically the [Community Benefits Agreement](#), in partnership with the West Harlem Development Corporation, and the [Declaration of Covenants and Restrictions](#) with Empire State Development (ESD).

Highlights of the agreements include:

- \$76 million to fund community benefits for the West Harlem community through the West Harlem Development Corporation;
- \$20 million to an affordable housing fund;
- Up to \$4 million in housing legal assistance for West Harlem residents;
- \$20 million to the Harlem Community Development Corporation (HCDC), an Empire State Development (ESD) subsidiary that plans and facilitates community revitalization; and,
- More than \$130 million already paid to minority-, women- or locally-owned (MWL) construction trade firms.

The University also relies upon [Community Impact](#), the University's largest student services organization, to meet the needs of the community. The organization seeks to advance the public good by engaging Columbia University students in high-quality service in partnership with community organizations that meet critical community needs, develop student leadership, connect service and learning, and foster an environment of mutual respect in the neighborhoods surrounding the university. Community Impact serves over 8,000 neighbors each year in the Upper Manhattan neighborhoods of Harlem, Washington Heights, and Morningside Heights.

In addition, Columbia continues to find ways to broaden its impact, globally and internationally. To that end, the University has launched several enterprises including, [Columbia World Projects](#), [World Leaders Forum](#) and [Columbia Global Centers](#).

The Role of the Executive Vice President

The Executive Vice President will serve as an integral member of the University's senior administration and advocate on matters of importance in support of all aspects of Columbia's educational, research, and public-service missions. This position advises the President and senior administration, as well as oversees the day-to-day activities of the Office of Government and Community Affairs. This individual will work in close partnership with the Vice President for University Facilities and Operations, General Counsel, Executive Vice President for Communications, Vice President for Government and Community Affairs for Columbia University Medical Center, and the International Students and Scholars Office.

This individual will be responsible for communicating policy issues to Columbia's key internal and external stakeholders, who represent the various interests of higher education and the University-based research community. In addition, the Executive Vice President will partner with policymakers, government leaders, and lobbyists to influence public policy, monitor government initiatives, and advocate for specific plans to advance Columbia's mission locally and globally.

Opportunities and Challenges

With the opening of the Manhattanville campus, the creation of several new centers and institutes, and the launch of an ambitious fundraising campaign, the next Executive Vice President for Government and Community Affairs arrives during an exciting time for Columbia. The University seeks an executive who will embrace the following opportunities and challenges:

- **Play a lead role in the strategic vision for the Government and Community Affairs Office.** The office was initially created in conjunction with the Manhattanville project and was primarily responsible for the development of partnerships with key stakeholders, community members, and state officials to oversee the planning and development of the initiative. With the construction and planning efforts well underway, the focus of the EVP's role has shifted to mostly project management with continued emphasis on community interaction. This paradigm creates an opportunity for the next EVP to craft a new strategy and direction for ways in which the Government and Community Affairs Office will have a significant impact on the University to support research and teaching on global issues, and to create academic relationships with many countries and regions, as well as the city and state.
- **Serve as a liaison between the University and city, state, and federal elected officials, government offices and agencies, and community representatives and stakeholders to facilitate the achievement of Columbia's mission.** The Department is responsible for working in conjunction with various legislative offices to ensure the University's programs and interests are positively advanced by legislation in Washington, Albany, and New York City. The Department also ensures that proper protocol is followed when communicating with elected officials, community representatives, the Mayor's Office, and government agencies.
- **Provide leadership and direction to the Government and Community Affairs Department.** The EVP will monitor legislative and government developments that will impact Columbia's community, educate policy makers on the University's public policy mission, design plans for government outreach, and develop strategies to create productive relationships with newly elected city officials. This individual will serve as a champion for community relationships and seek new approaches and perspectives to advance Columbia's partnerships and alliances with its global, diverse, and culturally inclusive community.

- **Attract additional resources to allow Columbia to fulfill its mission.** Working closely with the Office of Development and Alumni Relations, the Executive Vice President for Government and Community Affairs will further enhance the financial standing of the University by continuing to engage key supporters in order to grow Columbia's emerging strategic vision and diversify its resource base. The Executive Vice President will skillfully manage a high degree of visibility with trustees, community leaders, and potential donors. S/he will be able to make a persuasive and eloquent case for supporting the University's ongoing mission to advance knowledge and learning at the highest level and to convey the outcomes of its efforts to the world.

Qualifications and Personal Characteristics

Columbia University seeks an Executive Vice President for Government and Community Affairs who is an exceptional negotiator and a genuine leader who thrives in a complex, dynamic academic environment. The ideal candidate will:

- Demonstrate a passion for Columbia's mission to higher education for a broadly diverse student population;
- Have a sophisticated understanding of the local, state and federal legislative challenges facing colleges and universities in the 21st century;
- Be courageous and resourceful in seeking solutions to the above challenges;
- Have the experience leading the development and implementation of a strategic vision for a complex organization;
- Be willing to work closely with elected officials at the local, state, and federal levels to develop and strengthen partnerships that benefit both the University and the region;
- Communicate in an open and transparent manner with all constituencies;
- Lead substantial change in an urban environment by impacting state and local interactions;
- Possess excellent communication, interpersonal, and listening skills; and,
- Bring a collaborative approach to leadership, coupled with the ability to make decisions respectfully with the highest level of integrity.

Contact

Please send all nominations and applications, electronically and in confidence, to:

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[For more information, please visit: Columbia University](#)

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