



**SENIOR DIRECTOR OF DEVELOPMENT, NATIONAL ACADEMY OF SCIENCES
THE NATIONAL ACADEMIES OF SCIENCES, ENGINEERING, AND MEDICINE
Washington, DC**

[The National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine](#)

*The National
Academies of* | SCIENCES
ENGINEERING
MEDICINE

The Aspen Leadership Group is proud to partner with The National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine in the search for a Senior Director of Development, National Academy of Sciences.

The Senior Director of Development will plan and implement all fundraising programs for the National Academy of Sciences collaboratively with program colleagues throughout the institution to build and nurture a culture of philanthropy.

The National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine represent three of the world's most influential scientific bodies. The National Academies' primary mission is to provide expert advice on the most pressing challenges facing the nation and the world. Their work helps shape sound policies, inform public opinion, and advance the pursuit of science, engineering, and medicine. Academy members are among the world's most distinguished scientists, engineers, physicians, and researchers and include more than 300 Nobel laureates.

As the COVID-19 pandemic grips the nation and the world, the National Academies have rapidly mobilized critical expertise in science, engineering, and medicine to inform government response and recovery efforts with evidence-based guidance, and are facilitating collaboration across research disciplines and between the public and private sectors.

The National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine has undertaken many projects and activities in recent months to help the nation respond to and recover from the COVID-19 pandemic including the Response and Resilient Recovery Strategic Science Initiative which engages an executive council of distinguished leaders with experience in crisis management from government, industry, civil society, and academia. The Academies recently issued a fast-track study on how to equitably allocate vaccines as they become available, and its Societal Experts Action Network (SEAN), which taps expertise across a range of social, behavioral, and economic sciences, provided guidance on promising strategies that decision-makers can use to encourage the adoption of protective behaviors such as wearing masks and cooperation with contact-tracing efforts. And since the early days of the pandemic, the Standing Committee on Emerging Infectious Diseases and 21st Century Health Threats has been providing rapid expert consultations to inform the federal government on urgent questions such as diagnostic testing, crisis standards of care, and virus seasonality.

REPORTING RELATIONSHIPS

The Senior Director of Development, National Academy of Sciences will report to Chief Development Officer Alison Purvis and will have a direct working relationship with the NAS President Dr. Marcia K. McNutt. The Senior Director is accountable to both the Chief Development Officer and the NAS President for the program's success.

PRINCIPAL OPPORTUNITIES

The National Academy of Sciences is distinctly qualified to provide nonpartisan, objective guidance for decision makers and the public to address today's challenges. As it has done since its founding in 1863, it marshals the energy and intellect of the nation's leading critical thinkers to respond to policy challenges with science at its core. Society is facing an array of complex challenges including climate change, racism and diversity in STEM, STEM Education and STEM workforce pipeline development, miscommunication of science, and COVID-19, offering the successful candidate the opportunity to profoundly impact the future of the sciences.

The mission of the National Academy of Sciences is to achieve a nation and world in which people understand science to be foundational in their lives, and recognize NAS scientific advice as the gold standard for evidence-based decision-making that benefits society. The NAS actively identifies and addresses critical issues with balanced and authoritative scientific evidence; and leads and inspires action on bold ideas to impact science and technology in the United States and globally. The NAS recently embarked on a strategic plan to prioritize among many important projects and issues deserving of its talent, resources, and attention in order to have maximum impact, avoid duplication, and further its mission to recognize and promote the most outstanding science in service to the nation.

With deep linkages to the top foundations and leading philanthropists in the United States and around the world, NAS is a stimulating place to work. This is an exciting opportunity for a seasoned professional to be a key leader in one of today's most distinctive fundraising opportunities and work closely with some of the world's most prominent figures in science.

PRIMARY RESPONSIBILITIES

The Senior Director of Development, National Academy of Sciences will

- provide support and guidance for the President in all fundraising activities for the Academy;
- participate in the delivery of a major comprehensive campaign;
- manage a portfolio of donors including identification, cultivation, solicitation, and stewardship with an active program of face-to-face meetings and travel;
- participate in strategic planning efforts;
- identify funding sources and opportunities;
- prepare annual fundraising plans;
- actively participate in building a culture of teamwork, collaboration, creativity, and high performance;
- represent the Office of Development in conferences, seminars, and other public and private events to advance the goals of the organization;
- provide leadership and mentorship, including training and development of employees for current and future roles; and
- form effective teams and cultivate a work environment that fosters teamwork.

KEY COLLEAGUES



Marcia K. McNutt
President
National Academy of Sciences

Marcia K. McNutt is a geophysicist and President of the National Academy of Sciences. From 2013 to 2016, she served as Editor-in-Chief of the *Science* journals. Prior to joining *Science*, she was Director of the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) from 2009 to 2013. During her tenure, the USGS responded to a number of major disasters, including earthquakes in Haiti, Chile, and Japan, and the Deepwater Horizon oil spill. McNutt led a team of government scientists and engineers at BP headquarters in Houston who helped contain the oil and cap the well. She directed the flow rate technical group that estimated the rate of oil discharge during the spill's active phase. For her contributions, she was awarded the U.S. Coast Guard's Meritorious Service Medal.

Before joining the USGS, McNutt served as President and Chief Executive Officer of the Monterey Bay Aquarium Research Institute (MBARI), in Moss Landing, California. During her time at MBARI, the institution became a leader in developing biological and chemical sensors for remote ocean deployment, installed the first deep-sea cabled observatory in U.S. waters, and advanced the integration of artificial intelligence into autonomous underwater vehicles for complex undersea missions.

McNutt began her academic career at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), where she was the E.A. Griswold Professor of Geophysics and directed the Joint Program in Oceanography/Applied Ocean Science & Engineering, jointly offered by MIT and the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution. Her research area is the dynamics of the upper mantle and lithosphere on geologic time scales, work that has taken her to distant continents and oceans for field observations. She is a veteran of more than a dozen deep-sea expeditions, on most of which she was chief or co-chief scientist.

McNutt received a B.A. in physics from Colorado College and her Ph.D. in earth sciences at the Scripps Institution of Oceanography. Her honors include membership in the American Philosophical Society and the American Academy of Arts and Sciences. She holds honorary doctoral degrees from the Colorado College, the University of Minnesota, Monmouth University, and the Colorado School of Mines. In 1988, she was awarded the American Geophysical Union's Macelwane Medal for research accomplishments by a young scientist, and she received the Maurice Ewing Medal in 2007 for her contributions to deep-sea exploration.

McNutt served as President of the American Geophysical Union (AGU) from 2000 to 2002. She was Chair of the Board of Governors for Joint Oceanographic Institutions, responsible for operating the International Ocean Discovery Program's vessel JOIDES Resolution and associated research programs. She is a fellow of AGU, the Geological Society of America, American Association for the Advancement of Science, and International Association of Geodesy.



Alison Purvis
Chief Development Officer

National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine

Alison Purvis joined the Academies in January 2018 as Campaign Director. Alison previously served as interim Co-Chief Executive Officer and Director of Development of the Foundation and Friends of the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew in London where she supported the successful closure of the £100 million *Breathing Planet* campaign and oversaw the transition and integration of the Foundation into the governance structure of the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew. Alison led the Development Department at the Natural History Museum, London, where she completed the *Darwin Centre* campaign, designed and delivered the *Evolution* campaign, and brought the world's most complete Stegosaurus fossil to the collections for public display.

Alison brings years of fundraising leadership experience across a wide range of sectors; from an international NGO focusing on small business development, including the creation of the first Fair Trade organizations in Vietnam, to raising funds for complex, global, scientific research organizations, to a National Museum with public engagement, scientific, and educational objectives. Alison earned her Bachelor's degree in English Literature from St. Lawrence University in New York and recently completed the Performance Management of Non-profit Organizations course at the Harvard Kennedy School. She relocated to Washington D.C., with her family after residing in London since 2001.

PREFERRED QUALIFICATIONS AND COMPETENCIES

The National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine seek a Senior Director of Development, National Academy of Sciences with

- thorough understanding of philanthropy and trends in the profession;
- an ability to conceptualize, plan, and implement a programmatic approach to building relationships and securing philanthropic support including setting ambitious goals, developing strategies for prospects, prioritizing activities, asking for gifts, and orchestrating the involvement of volunteers and organization leadership;
- an ability to solve problems of substantial variety and complexity;
- an ability to undertake tasks broad in nature, requiring ingenuity and originality;
- an ability to serve as a resource to others in the resolution of complex problems and issues;
- experience working in complex environments with a high degree of organizational effectiveness;
- an ability to work successfully in a team environment and to form and maintain effective teams;
- an ability to develop relationships with co-workers and employees in other departments through effective communication; and
- excellent communication skills with a proven ability to effectively interact with all levels of employees.

A Bachelor's degree is required for this position as is eight years of related professional experience.

DIVERSITY, EQUITY, AND INCLUSION

The National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine value diversity in its members, volunteers, and staff and strives for a culture of inclusion in its workplace and activities. Convening a diverse community to exchange ideas and perspectives enhances the quality of its work and increases its relevance as advisers to the nation about the most complex issues facing the nation and the world.

To promote diversity and inclusion in the sciences, engineering, and medicine, the National Academies is committed to increasing the diversity of the National Academies' staff, members, and volunteers to reflect the populations it serves. It pledges to cultivate an environment and culture that promotes inclusion and values respectful participation of all individuals who help advance the mission of the institution.

SALARY & BENEFITS

The National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine offer a competitive benefits package.

LOCATION

This position is located in Washington, DC.

APPLICATION DEADLINE

All applications must be accompanied by a cover letter and résumé. ***Cover letters should be responsive to the mission of the National Academy of Sciences.*** Review of applications will begin immediately and continue until the successful candidate has been selected.

To apply for this position, visit:

[Senior Director of Development, National Academy of Sciences, The National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine.](#)

To nominate a candidate, please contact Gregory Leet:

[gregoryleet@aspingleadershipgroup.com.](mailto:gregoryleet@aspingleadershipgroup.com)

All inquiries will be held in confidence.