



VICE CHANCELLOR OF COMMUNICATIONS, DONOR RELATIONS, AND VOLUNTEER MANAGEMENT
UNIVERSITY OF PITTSBURGH
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania
<http://pitt.edu>



University of Pittsburgh

The Aspen Leadership Group is proud to partner with the University of Pittsburgh in the search for a Vice Chancellor of Communications, Donor Relations, and Volunteer Management.

The Vice Chancellor of Communications, Donor Relations, and Volunteer Management will be responsible for leading all communications, donor relations, and event planning and management in support of development and alumni and donor constituent relations programming for the University of Pittsburgh and the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center (UPMC). In this new position, the Vice Chancellor will create and lead a new staff structure to support leadership volunteers who impact development and alumni and donor constituent relations.

The University of Pittsburgh ("Pitt") is ranked among the top 25 public universities in the nation according to *U.S. News and World Report*, and 39th in *Thomson Reuters'* list of the world's 100 most innovative universities. Pitt is a member of the prestigious Association of American Universities, and is one of the top ten most active universities in terms of federally funded research. The university is composed of 16 undergraduate and graduate schools and colleges, including nationally recognized schools of health sciences, engineering, law, and business, as well as four regional campuses.

Since its founding in 1787, the University of Pittsburgh has established itself as one of the finest public research universities in the nation. With an enrollment of more than 34,000 students (approximately 25,000 of whom are undergraduates), the university is one of the largest and oldest institutions of higher education in Pennsylvania. The university is internationally respected as a center for learning and research that supports the needs and interests of its students and more than 13,000 faculty members, research associates, and staff members.

University of Pittsburgh Medical Center, a world-renowned health care provider is inventing new models of accountable, cost-effective, patient-centered care. It provides more than \$900 million a year in benefits to its communities, including more care to the region's most vulnerable citizens than any other health care institution. As Pennsylvania's largest nongovernmental employer, with more than 80,000 employees, UPMC is comprised of more than 30 hospitals, more than 600 doctors' offices and outpatient sites, an international division, and an enterprises division.

Under the leadership of Chancellor Patrick D. Gallagher, the University of Pittsburgh launched [*The Plan for Pitt*](#), the university's strategic plan, which focuses on creating internal and external collaborations and partnerships of impact; harnessing information in pursuit of grand challenges; and shaping a more entrepreneurial, innovative, and inclusive culture. *The Plan* builds on Pitt's rich history of community support and global impact, and its exceptional research strength and academic programs that prepare students for productive and meaningful lives.

REPORTING RELATIONSHIPS

The Vice Chancellor of Communications, Donor Relations, and Volunteer Management will report to Kris Davitt, Senior Vice Chancellor of Philanthropic and Alumni Engagement; Chief Development Officer for University of Pittsburgh Medical Center; and President, Medical and Health Sciences Foundation.

PRINCIPAL OPPORTUNITIES

The University of Pittsburgh, under the leadership of Chancellor Patrick D. Gallagher, is a premier research university and in partnership with UPMC, a top-ranked academic medical center. A new era of ambitions requires innovative and integrated strategies to engage key constituents and grow philanthropic support. As the lead for all health sciences communication, stewardship, and events related to fundraising and engagement, which will span some UPMC staff, programs, and facilities, the Vice Chancellor will play a key role in the creation of the new Division of Philanthropic and Alumni Engagement, bringing together units and teams that before now have been discipline-directed rather than donor- or prospect-centric. This new division will make a lasting impact on the university community.

The Vice Chancellor will have the unique opportunity to build an operation that can achieve and sustain success in measurable ways, in an environment that welcomes new thinking. The Vice Chancellor will also be part of a leadership team that is transforming how philanthropic and engagement goals are pursued at Pitt by creating strategies and capacity that support giving at all levels and avenues for the increasing engagement of key constituents. This leadership team will also create an environment for colleagues that makes it possible for them to contribute to their fullest potential, individually and collectively, and allows each member of the team to know the impact they make on this important work.

PRIMARY RESPONSIBILITIES

The Vice Chancellor of Communications, Donor Relations, and Volunteer Management will

- with the Senior Vice Chancellor, oversee the integration of the current separate communications functions including an assessment and audit of needs and capacity, deploying current staff appropriately, creating a business plan for building out this team, and managing staff through this change;
- similarly, oversee the integration of current separate stewardship and donor relations functions toward a more robust unit that can support broader stewardship programming as well as more personalized stewardship for major and principal gifts with a specific focus on creating a stewardship program for scholarship, fellowship, and other direct student support fundraising;
- oversee the integration of separate events units into one unit with a client service orientation, and manage the full schedule of central events and select galas, while also supporting best practices throughout schools and centers;
- elevate the capacity of communication services including written (cases for support, select proposals, donor and constituent communication, event collateral) and digital (centralized web site, social media, shared internal resources);
- create a client-service orientation to meet key needs across Pitt and UPMC;
- build and lead a new function for volunteer management with the Director of Volunteer Management including the creation of procedures and best practices for the management of

leadership groups within the division of philanthropy and engagement that will support the work with leadership groups broadly across Pitt and UPMC;

- manage a pipeline of potential volunteers and develop a continuum of volunteer opportunities for alumni, parents, and friends across experiences that lead toward meaningful and increasing engagement; and
- develop processes to integrate this team's work with other units to leverage resources and support collaboration particularly Health Sciences Individual Giving, School and Center Individual Giving, Annual Giving, and Alumni Relations.

KEY COLLEAGUES



Patrick D. Gallagher
Chancellor

As the University of Pittsburgh's 18th chancellor, Patrick Gallagher directs one of the nation's premier public institutions for higher education and research. In this role, Gallagher oversees a community of more than 34,000 students at 16 undergraduate and graduate schools across five distinct campuses. He also

supports the work of more than 13,000 faculty and staff members who are committed to advancing the university's legacy of academic excellence, community service, and research innovation.

Under his leadership, Pitt has strengthened its status as one of the nation's premier public institutions for higher education and research, including being named the top public university in the Northeast by the *Wall Street Journal* and *Times Higher Education*.

Prior to his installation at Pitt, Gallagher spent more than two decades in public service. In 2009, President Barack Obama appointed him to direct the National Institute of Standards and Technology. While in this role, Gallagher also served as Acting Deputy Secretary of Commerce before leaving for Pitt in the summer of 2014.

Today, Gallagher serves as the chair of Internet2 and is active on a number of boards and forums, including the NCAA Division I Presidential Forum, the Allegheny Conference on Community Development, and the United Way of Southwestern Pennsylvania. He has also completed terms on a wide range of community boards and committees, including President Obama's 12-person Commission on Enhancing National Cybersecurity in 2016.

Gallagher holds a Ph.D. in physics from the University of Pittsburgh and a bachelor's degree in physics and philosophy from Benedictine College in Kansas.



Kris Davitt
Senior Vice Chancellor of Philanthropic and Alumni Engagement
Chief Development Officer for University of Pittsburgh Medical Center
President, Medical and Health Sciences Foundation

As Senior Vice Chancellor of Philanthropic and Alumni Engagement, Chief Development Officer for University of Pittsburgh Medical Center, and President, Medical and Health Sciences Foundation, Kris Davitt directs institutional advancement for the University of Pittsburgh and raises funds

for all six of Pitt's Schools of the Health Sciences and UPMC. In this role, she oversees a staff of 270 and also leads efforts to connect with Pitt's nearly 325,000 alumni across the world.

Davitt's career in fundraising spans more than 25 years. Prior to joining Pitt, she served as Associate Vice President for Development for undergraduate programs at the University of Pennsylvania and Vice President for Development at Brown University. At both institutions, she held leadership roles in multi-billion-dollar fundraising campaigns.

At the University of Pennsylvania, Davitt provided leadership and strategic direction to secure and strengthen philanthropic support among undergraduate alumni and parents of undergraduate students. During this time, she oversaw record-setting fundraising and donor participation from undergraduate alumni as well as significant increases in parent engagement and annual giving. She also led efforts to secure gifts of more than \$250 million for undergraduate financial aid.

Before working in higher education, Davitt held positions at several human service nonprofits in Philadelphia. She earned a Bachelor of Arts degree, graduating magna cum laude, with a concentration in international relations from Brown University. She also holds a Master of Arts degree in nonprofit and human services management from Rider University.

CANDIDATE QUALIFICATIONS AND QUALITIES

The successful candidate for the position of Vice Chancellor of Communications, Donor Relations, and Volunteer Management should have

- expertise with digital media, written communications, and donor relations within a non-profit context;
- a demonstrated ability to lead and motivate staff, develop organizations, and manage staff through change;
- a track record in leadership positions of increasing responsibility;
- an ability to work independently and to manage in a complex environment;
- a goals-oriented temperament; and
- superior communications and interpersonal skills.

A bachelor's degree is required for this position as is at least ten years of progressive experience in communications or marketing, preferably within higher education. A master's degree in a relevant field is preferred.

SALARY & BENEFITS

The University of Pittsburgh offers a competitive salary and benefits package.

LOCATION

The University of Pittsburgh is located in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. It is an exciting time to live in Pittsburgh. The city is in the midst of a remarkable transformation from an industrial capital to a center of education, medical research, and new technology. The city hosts a high concentration of diverse and influential nonprofits and, as an international center of emerging information technology, is home to many start-up companies, one of Google's national offices, Facebook's Oculus virtual reality research center, and Uber's autonomous vehicles development effort.

Pittsburgh has a rich history in arts and culture. Heinz Hall for the Performing Arts is home to the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra, and the Benedum Center houses the Pittsburgh Opera. Major art

museums include the Andy Warhol Museum, the Carnegie Museum of Art, the Frick Art & Historical Center, and Pittsburgh Center for the Arts. The Carnegie Museum of Natural History is the fourth ranked natural history museum in the United States. The Carnegie Science Center and associated SportsWorks has interactive technology and science exhibits, and the Children's Museum of Pittsburgh features a planetarium and interactive exhibits for children. The Pittsburgh Zoo and PPG Aquarium is one of America's few zoo and aquarium combinations, and the National Aviary is the nation's only independent, indoor, nonprofit zoo dedicated exclusively to birds.

Pittsburgh has a wonderful array of distinctive neighborhoods. There is an abundance of residential choices. Housing is affordable and, as noted by *Forbes*, Pittsburgh presents the second most stable housing market in the country. The city and its surrounding suburbs take pride in high-quality public, private, and parochial schools. No longer a smoky steel town, Pittsburgh is clean and green and a model for its efforts to become pollution free.

DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION

The University of Pittsburgh is committed to fostering diversity and inclusion throughout its five campuses—in classrooms, offices, residence halls, laboratories, and every other place where people work, research, and learn.

The Pitt community is rich in diversity, which is an essential component of its excellence. Diversity in a respectful, inclusive environment promotes critical thinking and increases the ability to communicate, work, and interact. These core values of diversity and inclusion also promote equity and social justice, and enhance the educational and employment experience by exposing us, and challenging us to consider, the experiences and perspectives of others. As there is more work to do, Pitt strives to become more diverse and inclusive every day.

APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS

All applications must be accompanied by a cover letter and résumé. Before submitting your materials, please read them over for accuracy. Review of applications will begin immediately and continue until the successful candidate has been selected.

To nominate a candidate, please contact Don Hasseltine:

donhasseltine@aspenleadershipgroup.com.

All inquiries will be held in confidence.

