



PRESIDENT AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER
NEW YORK ACADEMY OF SCIENCES
New York, New York
[New York Academy of Sciences](http://www.nyas.org)



The Aspen Leadership Group is proud to partner with New York Academy of Sciences in the search for a President and Chief Executive Officer.

The President and Chief Executive Officer will lead the Academy from a place of strength into a future of increased innovation and impact. The President and Chief Executive Officer will provide leadership for all aspects of the Academy and should be an exceptional leader with broad vision, intellectual breadth, a creative mindset, and a demonstrated track record in achieving innovation, building partnerships, and raising funds.

For over 200 years, the New York Academy of Sciences has brought together extraordinary people working at the frontiers of discovery in order to advance its mission to drive innovative solutions to society's challenges by advancing scientific research, education, and policy. Among the oldest scientific organizations in the United States, the Academy has become not only an enduring cultural institution in New York, but also one of the most significant advocates for science and technology in the global community.

Empowered by an exceptional network of Nobel laureates, CEOs, senior scientists and engineers, and tens of thousands of young people, the Academy is tackling some of the world's most pressing concerns including

- initiatives in STEM education and health in partnership with the heads of the United Nations, its agencies, the World Bank, and the leading universities and corporations to address the grand challenges facing the planet (the Sustainable Development Goals);
- championing risk takers and innovators – game-changers who upend the research landscape and blaze new trails; and
- moving from knowledge dissemination to action, bringing individuals and organizations together to drive real-world solutions to global challenges through collective action in science and technology.

The continued success of Academy programs and initiatives depends upon the engagement and support of an amazing global network of partner institutions, funders, and members. As it enters its third century, the Academy is proud to celebrate all the innovators, educators and problem-solvers – past, present and future – who make up the *World's Smartest Network*.

REPORTING RELATIONSHIPS

The President and Chief Executive Officer will report to the Board of Governors, led by Chair Jerry Hultin.

PRINCIPAL OPPORTUNITIES

A letter from the New York Academy of Sciences President and Chief Executive Officer, Ellis Rubinstein:

To the future President and CEO:

The New York Academy of Sciences has entered its third century and is poised to experience its greatest era ever. Following 17 years of growth, a platform exists from which you can launch the next great leap forward.

For its first 185 years, the Academy was primarily a convener and disseminator. It proudly mounted landmark conferences – the first on antibiotics, on AIDS, on SARS, on Women in Science, on the brain and music, etc. And its Annals was always among the most highly cited journals.

Its founders would have been proud to see how their unique approach among academies has resulted in not merely a global membership of 20,000 in 100 countries but one of the most extraordinary lists of members ever assembled in the sciences: from Presidents Jefferson and Monroe, to Bell, Edison, Darwin, and Pasteur, to one of every six science Nobel Laureates ever named.

The Academy that I inherited had several important limitations, however. For one, it depended on serendipitous information exchange to have true impact on the world. That is, its impact stemmed from one person fortuitously meeting another person at a conference or fortuitously reading about the advances another had made in our Annals and capitalizing on those new ideas or in a new collaboration to advance science. What the Academy was rarely doing was driving change.

Moreover, the average age of Academy members in November 2002 was well into the sixties despite its unique openness to anyone wishing to advance science. Indeed, there were only about 200 student members. Thus, there was not a real pipeline of the scientific stars of the future.

All this has changed in dramatic ways. The Academy still convenes and disseminates – but at scale. For example, it now organizes over 100 outstanding events a year – over 10,000 scientists and engineers of all ages and from over 60 nations attended Academy conferences last year alone. And our new online offerings have enhanced the power of the Annals as a disseminator so that we today reach roughly two million scientists, engineers, and educated lay people annually. Serendipity is thriving.

After 17 years of change, you will inherit an Academy today that is vastly different than it was in 2002.

For example, today's Academy has

- *over 10,000 young scientist members;*
- *thousands of the world's most gifted teenagers in its Junior Academy;*
- *scores of the most promising innovators in the US, the UK, and Israel (thanks to the Nobel-like Blavatnik YOUNG Scientists Awards);*
- *hundreds of partner institutions; and*
- *initiatives with the capacity to change the world through unprecedented partnerships with the likes of the Secretary General of the United Nations, the CEO of the World Bank, the Executive Director of UNICEF, the President of the GSMA (which is the industry association of mobile phone operators), the CEOs and heads of global research of Fortune 100 companies, the Presidents and*

Deans of universities, the founders and leaders of NGOs, an array of billionaire philanthropists, Ministers, and even Heads of State.

This is the platform you can build upon. As you continue to expand our network of philanthropic supporters, oversee a new membership approach that capitalizes on the Junior Academy pipeline to end up with a million dues-paying and engaged members by 2030, catalyze the creation of additional earned revenue streams, and exploit the Academy's tight alliances with the leaders of the UN, World Bank, corporate and academic sectors, and philanthropic community to create locally and globally transformative initiatives, you will enjoy one of the world's most satisfying positions.

I can assure you of one thing: nothing has been more inspiring to me in my career than the chance I have had at the Academy to create meaningful, high impact initiatives with so many of the world's most interesting people.

–Ellis Rubinstein, President and Chief Executive Officer

PRIMARY RESPONSIBILITIES

The President and Chief Executive Officer will

- provide leadership for all aspects of the Academy, including strategic direction setting and overall management oversight, fundraising, relations with staff and other key stakeholders, program development and management, financial management, and relations with the broader scientific community;
- exude a sincere passion for science and education, serving as the Academy's chief spokesperson locally, nationally, and internationally, and charismatically communicating the Academy's mission and vision to broad and diverse audiences across sectors;
- play the critical role in revenue generation, in partnership with the Board and staff, including fundraising and driving increased earned revenue;
- consistently and predictably execute against plans through increased fundraising, efficient allocation of resources, effective cost management, and membership growth;
- foster a strong and diverse corporate culture with a stronger staff collaboration and connection between staff and the Board;

Fundraising

- identify, cultivate, and secure new sources of fundraising revenue;
- lead an expansion of donor pools, demonstrating the creative thinking required to accomplish this objective;
- inspire influential individuals to become involved with the Academy not only financially, but as board members, President's Council members, and major ambassadors and advocates in the philanthropic and scientific community;

Leadership and Impact

- identify and build upon the Academy's core strengths and areas of strategic focus;
- focus programs, offerings, and initiatives as needed to maximize strategic relevance, fundraising, public profile, and scientific impact;
- identify, design, and launch new programs resulting in both scientific impact and endowment funding;
- support an engaged board to be fully mobilized in their support of the Academy's mission, strategy and financial sustainability;

Strategy and Execution

- working with the Board of Governors, the staff and key stakeholders, develop a compelling strategy that optimizes the Academy's current programs and develops new programs that expand the Academy's mission;
- translate strategic goals into concrete plans and objectives that feed into a well-articulated bottom-up financial plan;

Branding and Marketing

- transition seamlessly into the role of head of the *World's Smartest Network* and build on the history of the Academy to enlarge and enhance its presence;
- effectively market the Academy and increase the Academy's prestige through achieving current programs and introducing new initiatives;
- expand the number of viable partnerships within science and within organizations that affect science;
- develop extensive media coverage of the Academy in prestigious (*The New York Times*, *Financial Times*, *The Economist*) and influential (Axios, Nature, Science, Atlantic Monthly) publications and visual (PBS, NPR, CNN, Fox) media;

Membership Growth and Engagement

- craft and execute a communication strategy around the benefits of membership;
- increase membership volume substantially;
- oversee the employment of data analytics tools to introduce best practices in membership management to optimize membership growth, lifetime value of membership, and new member acquisition growth; and
- leverage new avenues of social networking to attract a larger pool of members.

PREFERRED QUALITIES

New York Academy of Sciences seeks a President and Chief Executive Officer with

- the ability to analyze the mission and business drivers of the Academy and build upon the Academy's history, track record of transformation, and current programs while leading the team to develop new strategies which move the organization forward in a fast-changing external environment;
- the ability to set clear and challenging goals while holding the organization to a high standard of performance; tenacity and accountability in driving results;
- a professional and personal network that will enable the President and Chief Executive Officer to raise money and expand institutional partnerships;
- the ability to fundraise at a significant scale and to connect with and secure results from individuals, foundation, government agencies, and corporations;
- the ability to attract and recruit top talent, motivate teams, delegate effectively, and manage performance;
- entrepreneurial vigor in creating sustainable business models, evaluating financial opportunities, and optimizing the growth potential of the Academy's programs, events, membership, and publications;
- the ability to advocate for the importance of science around the world and in society, including in the diverse communities which are under-represented in the sciences today;

- the ability to inspire trust and followership in others through compelling influence, charisma, passion and drive;
- an understanding of the experiences, values, and motivators of others; a transparent, open and authentic style; presence and gravitas in dealings with partners from a variety of backgrounds and at all levels from Nobel Laureates, donors, members, and government leaders at the highest level to teen scientists beginning their journey in the scientific community;
- a demonstrated commitment to diversity, both through building and supporting diverse teams and advocating for diversity in the larger scientific, academic, and professional communities;
- personal integrity and commitment to the Academy's mission; and
- confidence in one's strengths and awareness of one's limitations.

KEY COLLEAGUES



Honorable Jerry MacArthur Hultin
Chair, Board of Governors

Mr. Hultin is Chair and Co-Founder of Global Futures Group, LLC. Global Futures Group offers thought-leadership, advice, and counsel for the rapidly expanding market of “smart cities” around the world. GFG services include corporate and governmental consulting, innovation and investment services, media production and conference organizing. GFG is a co-founder of North America's largest smart city exposition, *Smart Cities New York* held annually each May in NYC.

GFG works with developers, financiers, government leaders, and corporate executives in major cities around the world. In addition, GFG serves as advisor on innovation and urban technology to the US Department of Commerce, UN Habitat, the Global Federation of Competitiveness Councils, and the World Economic Forum.

Earlier in his career, Mr. Hultin was Senior Presidential Fellow at New York University; President of Polytechnic University and Polytechnic Institute of NYU; Dean, Stevens Institute of Technology; and Under Secretary of the Navy, US Department of Defense. He is a graduate of Yale Law School and Ohio State University.



Thomas Pompidou
Vice-Chair, Board of Governors

Thomas Pompidou is a Founding Partner of Marker LLC, a New York City-based venture firm investing in the US and Israel technology ecosystems. He is also Vice Chairman of Crescent Point, a leading China-focused private equity firm, which he joined in 2005 and a Venture Partner of Team8 Ventures. Between 1992 and 2005 he was Managing Director and held other positions in the investment banking departments of Lazard, Dresdner Kleinwort Wasserstein and Deloitte in New York where he focused on M&A and corporate finance. He holds a graduate business degree from the EDHEC

business school in France. He is a member of the Board of Directors of the Pompidou Center.



Giancarlo Bonagura

Chief Operating Officer and Chief Financial Officer

Giancarlo Bonagura has over 20 years of operational, financial, and administrative experience and has held key leadership positions in government and higher education. Most recently he was the Executive Director and Chief Operating Officer of the Mind Brain and Behavior Institute at Columbia University, a start-up interdisciplinary neuroscience venture that included more than 50 labs, and over 800 researchers and staff. Previously, he spent over five years at Hunter College where he lastly served as Chief Operating Officer and Vice President of Finance and Administration, which included oversight of the Hunter (elementary and high) Campus Schools, and the Hunter College Foundation. Prior to Hunter, he held the position of Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer of the New York University School of Law. Bonagura spent over 10 years in city government serving in various capacities at the NYC Mayor's Office of Management and Budget, and at the NYC Department of Transportation, where he was the Deputy Commissioner for Performance Management and Accountability, with oversight of a number of operational and administrative departments.

Bonagura received his MS in Management and Policy from The New School University, and his BA in Economics and Politics from New York University.



Brooke Grindlinger, PhD

**Chief Scientific Officer of Scientific Programs and
The Blavatnik Awards for Young Scientists**

Dr. Brooke Grindlinger serves as the Chief Scientific Officer of Scientific Programs and The Blavatnik Awards for Young Scientists at the New York Academy of Sciences. In this role, Dr. Grindlinger leads strategic development and scientific oversight of the Academy's international portfolio of scientific workshops, conferences, symposia, and related multimedia publications across the broad spectrum of Life Sciences, Physical Sciences, Sustainability, Computer Science, and Engineering. Through this platform and via strategic alliances with external organizations, foundations, and individuals the Academy convenes leading international scientists from academia, industry, and government sectors in focused efforts to catalyze advances in science, medicine, engineering, and innovation for the benefit of society. In addition, Dr. Grindlinger stewards The Blavatnik Awards for Young Scientists, established in 2007 with the support of the Blavatnik Family Foundation to honor our nation's exceptional young scientists and engineers by celebrating their extraordinary achievements, recognizing their outstanding promise, and accelerating innovation through unrestricted funding. Dr. Grindlinger also serves as a member of the board of The Institute for Nutrition Science at the New York Academy of Sciences, established in 2010 to advance nutrition science research.

Dr. Grindlinger has more than 15 years of experience in scientific research, academic publishing, and science communication. Prior to joining the Academy in 2010, she served for eight years as Science Editor for *The Journal of Clinical Investigation*, managing the review and publication of state-of-the-art basic and clinical biomedical research across the continuum of human physiology and disease, in addition to authoring journal news features, editorials, book reviews, and press releases. Dr. Grindlinger received her Bachelor of Science (*First Class Honours*) degree and PhD in molecular and microbial biosciences from the University of Sydney, Australia, studying the pathogenesis of the tuberculosis-causing organism *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* and ways in which to boost the efficacy of the tuberculosis vaccine. For this postgraduate work, Dr. Grindlinger was the recipient of an Australian Postgraduate Award. Dr.

Grindlinger also regularly conducts local, national, and international workshops on science communication skills and alternative science careers for early career scientists.

SALARY & BENEFITS

New York Academy of Sciences offers a competitive and comprehensive salary and package of employee benefits.

LOCATION

This position is based in New York City.

EQUAL OPPORTUNITY

The New York Academy of Sciences is an Equal Opportunity Employer, adhering to the laws which prohibit discrimination in the terms, conditions, and privileges of employment. Academy policy expressly prohibits discrimination in employment because of any legally impermissible classification, including but not limited to actual or perceived race, creed, color, national origin, sex, age, religion, ancestry, alienage or citizenship, veteran status, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, military status, pregnancy, status as a victim of domestic violence/stalking/sex offense, genetic information, predisposing genetic characteristic, marital status, familial status, disability, and any other characteristic protected by federal, state or local law. Equal Opportunity and equal consideration will be afforded to all personnel actions involving applicants and employees, including (but not limited to) recruiting and hiring, selection for training, promotion, job assignments, working conditions, rates of pay or other compensation, discipline, transfer and layoff, or termination.

In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, the Academy will provide reasonable accommodation to any otherwise qualified individual with a disability.

APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS

All applications must be accompanied by a cover letter and résumé. Review of applications will begin immediately and continue until the successful candidate has been selected.

To apply for this position, visit:

[President and Chief Executive Officer, New York Academy of Sciences.](#)

To nominate a candidate, please contact Ron Schiller:

ronschiller@aspenleadershipgroup.com.

All inquiries will be held in confidence.