Vice President for University Advancement

The Catholic University of America (alternatively Catholic University or CUA), founded in 1887 by the U.S. Catholic bishops with the support of Pope Leo XIII, is the national university of the Catholic Church in the United States. Established as a graduate research center, the University began offering undergraduate education in 1904 and today is home to 12 schools and 21 research facilities. Catholic University is the only American university with ecclesiastical faculties granting canonical degrees in three disciplines. The University's verdant 180-acre campus, located just north of Capitol Hill, allows students easy access to the wide range of educational, cultural and political opportunities that Washington, D.C. has to offer.

The vice president for university advancement provides overall leadership and direction for all advancement and alumni relations programs for the University. S/he has primary responsibility for building broad-based private, philanthropic support for the institution through the management of integrated, comprehensive programs of external relations, including but not limited to annual giving, major and planned giving, corporate and foundation giving, alumni and parents relations, donor relations and stewardship, gift processing and acknowledgement, and special events. The vice president will be responsible for creating and implementing a multi-year action plan to strengthen and grow the advancement department, while at the same time setting new levels of expectation for fundraising, alumni programs and engagement, non-alumni engagement, and advancement operations. S/he will formulate strategies to connect and engage with the alumni population in a manner not historically achieved at the University in order to meet and surpass aggressive fundraising objectives. Reporting to the president of the University and serving as a member of his cabinet, the vice president will work closely and collaboratively with the president, functioning as his strategic partner to take the advancement program to new and unprecedented levels of success. An active and thoroughly engaged board of trustees, along with a strong senior leadership team, stands ready to support the new vice president for university advancement in creating an enhanced culture of philanthropy that invigorates a devoted alumni population while simultaneously attracting significant non-alumni support for CUA's distinct mission as an institution of higher education faithful to the teachings of the Catholic Church.

With ambitious goals for the future and engaged, committed leadership, The Catholic University of America seeks a charismatic and accomplished vice president for university advancement with proven fundraising leadership experience to assess, strengthen, and, over time, modernize advancement infrastructure, maximize philanthropic opportunities, most importantly with alumni and non-alumni, and secure the University's reputation for excellence, high achievement, and innovation, with enhanced focus on leveraging CUA's prominent and unique position as a pontifical university of the Catholic Church and the only institution of higher education founded by U.S. Catholic bishops. The successful candidate will possess a minimum of ten years of experience in progressively responsible advancement leadership positions, which includes work in all functional areas of advancement and leadership of a major capital campaign (planning, implementation, management, and successful conclusion), with demonstrated ability to provide management oversight, leadership, and direction with at least five years of significant supervisory experience. S/he will have a documented history of growing, modernizing, and further professionalizing an advancement function within a complex, mission-driven, academic environment rooted in history and tradition. S/he will have a demonstrated track record of successful frontline fundraising for an institution of higher education, not-for-profit organization, or other environment of similar complexity with multiple stakeholders. Previous leadership experience in higher education is strongly preferred. Additionally, the successful candidate will possess a natural inclination to fully embrace a university steeped in history and committed to its position as a comprehensive Catholic and American institution of higher learning, faithful to the Christian message as it comes through the Church and faithful to its own national traditions.

A bachelor's degree is required. An advanced degree and strong academic credentials that will be credible to donors and alumni are preferred.

Inquiries, nominations and applications (current resumes and cover letters) should be directed electronically to:

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