

From the Office of the President:

I am very pleased to announce that Christine Begley will join the American Academy in Rome as Vice President of Development. During a thorough search process, which involved Trustees and staff, Chris distinguished herself as a gifted fundraising professional capable of building an effective and comprehensive development program at the American Academy in Rome.

Chris will begin on October 27 and joins the Academy at a critical moment in its institutional history, as we establish new organizational and thematic goals. As a member of the senior leadership team, she will work closely with me, members of the board, senior staff, and volunteer leadership to develop and implement key fundraising strategies, translate institutional priorities into major gift fundraising programs, and establish a long and short term development plan to sustain growth.

Chris comes to the Academy after a seventeen-year career at the Metropolitan Museum of Art, one of the largest and most complex cultural institutions in the world, at which she occupied a full range of positions. Most recently as Senior Deputy Chief Development Officer for Government and Foundation Giving she provided strategic vision, leadership, and coordination for fundraising efforts, and managed over \$15 million in grants annually as well as a portfolio of over 200 donors. In this role she also collaborated with curators, conservators, educators, trustees, and senior staff to develop proposals for general operating support, exhibitions, conservation, publications, education programs, and technology. Prior to this, Chris was Senior Development Officer for Individual Giving and Departmental Communications, for which she managed Major Gifts staff and daily operations, while developing campaign fundraising materials and case statements for the museum's \$900 million capital campaign.

Chris received a Master of Arts in Art History from Syracuse University, where she studied Italian Renaissance Art. She earned a Bachelor of Arts in Art History from the University of Texas at Austin with an additional year of independent study at the University of Rome. Chris provided research assistance to curator Carmen Bambach for the 2003 Metropolitan Museum exhibition "Leonardo da Vinci, Master Draftsman".

We are delighted to have a Vice President of Development with such deep and focused experience. I want to thank the members of the board of Trustees and our staff for their assistance and counsel throughout this process.



Mark Robbins, FAAR'97
President & CE