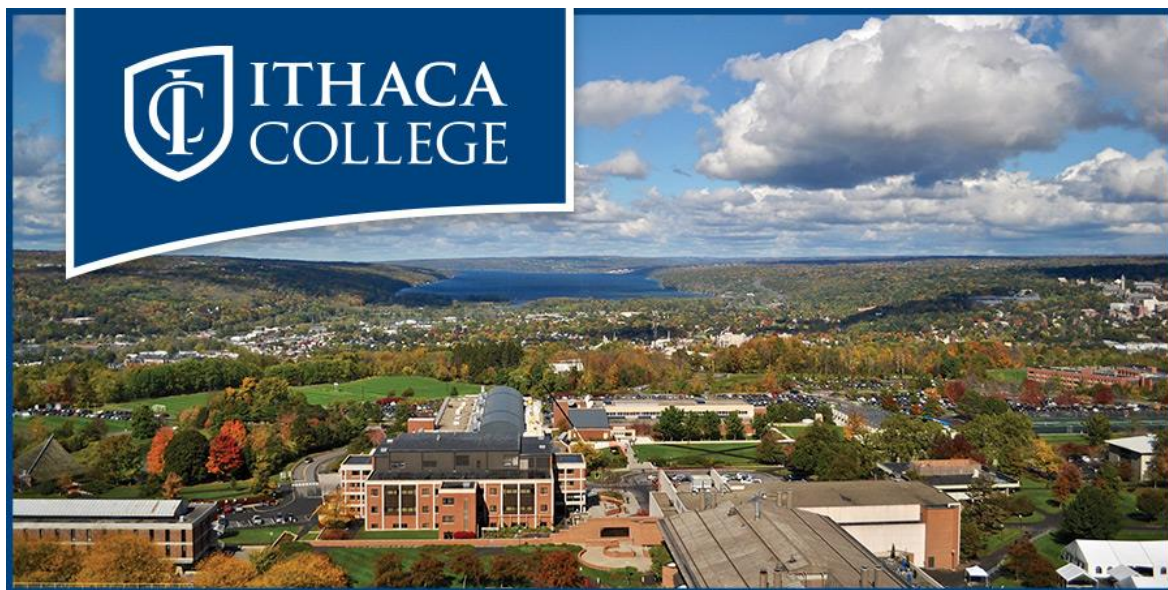


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## Ithaca College President Opportunity Statement



Ithaca College strives to become the standard of excellence for residential comprehensive colleges, fostering intellect, creativity, and character in an active, student-centered learning community.

To provide a foundation for a lifetime of learning, Ithaca College is dedicated to fostering intellectual growth, aesthetic appreciation, and character development in our students. The Ithaca College community thrives on the principles that knowledge is acquired through discipline, competence is established when knowledge is tempered by experience, and character is developed when competence is exercised for the benefit of others.

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## ITHACA COLLEGE TODAY

Ithaca College holds a unique niche as a largely undergraduate, residential community with nearly 7,000 students. With its roots as the Ithaca Conservatory of Music, Ithaca College has evolved over its nearly 125 years into an institution that serves the needs of today's students. In this day when students treasure a traditional liberal arts education and also yearn for professional training, Ithaca College offers a compelling profile—four professional schools as well as a comprehensive liberal arts school. At this college nestled in the hills overlooking Cayuga Lake, undergraduates and graduate students thrive in an environment where faculty members are dedicated to teaching and highly invested in their students' successes. All are committed to the institution and its bright future.

The program at Ithaca College is bold, integrated, and comprehensive, and the college's strategic plan (IC 20/20) outlines an even more ambitious vision for the future. The five schools at Ithaca College offer more than 100 degree programs, and the college awards bachelor's and master's degrees as well as a doctorate in physical therapy. While all of Ithaca's programs are strong, several of them—including theatre, film, physical therapy, and music—are nationally and internationally ranked, drawing the top students in the field. With so many schools and programs for undergraduates, Ithaca faces the age-old, healthy tension of how to preserve the unique strengths of the individual schools while being "one college." This discussion is alive at the college, as the faculty, students, and administration seek opportunities to find the right balance. The faculty took a step to ensure a comprehensive and cohesive education in 2014 by launching the Integrative Core Curriculum (ICC), which connects courses to over-arching themes and creates a wealth of opportunities for integrative learning experiences across disciplines and schools.

As articulated in the college's Mission Statement, "Learning at Ithaca extends well beyond the classroom to encompass a broad range of residential, professional, and extracurricular opportunities." Critical to the identity of the college is this focus on developing the whole student and preparing each student for success. On professional and intellectual levels, faculty and students partner together on research and pursue hands-on learning opportunities. They are in the field together exploring a topic, creating a documentary, or serving in a remote clinic. Specialized learning programs are offered at the James B. Pendleton Center in Los Angeles, the ICNYC program in New York City, and the Ithaca College London Center. Learning is also enhanced by a well-considered residential life program, a comprehensive athletics program, extra-curricular activities, global educational options, and civic engagement.

Underlining every interaction at Ithaca College and distinguishing it from other schools is the strong focus on mentoring and advising. Faculty members at Ithaca College feel a deep commitment to the education and development of their students and invest the time

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and energy to mentor them. Whether students enter the college through the Exploratory Program or a highly specific major or program, a faculty member will partner with them as they navigate the school, discover their passions, and chart their educational path. Committed to meeting the evolving needs of its students and faculty, the Ithaca community is focused on building the infrastructure essential to support a diverse community and build trust among all stakeholders.

This is a transformative moment for the institution. As with many institutions of higher education, Ithaca College has recently experienced a period of student and faculty unrest. Challenging questions have been raised by the community, and many of its members are yearning for open debate and discussion. The next president will inherit an atmosphere characterized by productive passion and dissent; students and faculty at IC are deeply committed to the institution and are wrestling honestly with the issues facing us all nationally. The president will have the opportunity to harness these energies in ways that further the educational mission, support the community, and serve as an example to institutions across the nation.

## THE FUTURE

The Ithaca College community is eager to welcome a new president who will partner with all of Ithaca's constituents to build on the college's strong foundation, to invite debate and discussion, and to lead it to a future that capitalizes on its strengths and distinctiveness. The next president will have the following competencies:

**Collaborative Academic Leader:** Like all institutions in this continually evolving higher education landscape, Ithaca College must chart its course in the context of its history and strengths and the demands of the future. As Ithaca College consists of five distinct schools and many highly regarded programs, the next leader will partner with the provost, deans, and faculty to support the strengths of the individual schools while pursuing opportunities to create a coherent, authentic whole. This person will embrace the opportunities (and in some cases, inherent tensions) of a comprehensive, residential institution with a deep commitment to teaching and experiential learning. The next president will work within this broad community to assess the current state of the college, serve as a catalyst for dynamic discussion, and set strategic priorities for future initiatives. The president will encourage the provost, deans, and faculty to explore opportunities to introduce new pedagogies, practices, fields, and technologies that will build upon Ithaca's strengths and further distinguish the institution.

**Strong Executive Leadership:** While financial sustainability is a challenge for all institutions of higher education, tuition-dependent institutions with modest endowments face special challenges, and the next president will need well-honed

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executive leadership skills to manage the college. In collaboration with all stakeholders, this person will establish priorities focused on the short-term needs and long-term health of the institution. The next president will bring strong financial and operating acumen, have a strategic mindset, and delegate with confidence. The next president will be a natural collaborator who shares information transparently in order to gain broad understanding and trust regarding decisions. This person will have experience building and empowering a talented, stable team that encourages discussion and debate in the spirit of building a stronger institution for the faculty, students, and staff.

**Culture & Engagement Builder:** At an institution that needs to strengthen and in some cases rebuild relationships, the next president will be a key member of the community, eager to be visible and accessible to faculty, students, staff, and alumni. The president will thrive in a community—at the college and in Ithaca—that welcomes and expects engagement. This person will understand the importance of building trust and connections with all members of the college community and to that end will invite regular conversations; will consult on major issues; and will view the input of constituents as core to the institution. The president will work to develop a campus culture that reflects and supports the college's values of diversity, inclusivity, and excellence.

**Compelling Storyteller and Communicator:** At an institution that is frequently described in the media as “a best kept secret,” the new president will be an engaging presence to prospective students, their families, and alumni and will draw them to the institution. An enthusiastic, compelling spokesperson with a deep understanding of the college, the president will partner with the deans, provost, admissions leadership, and advancement staff to further develop the story of Ithaca College, to share broadly with future students and current alumni of the institution. The next president will view fundraising as a principal activity, building strong relationships with alumni and friends and leveraging those relationships to gain support for the college's strategic priorities.

## THE SEARCH PROCESS

A presidential search committee, consisting of trustees, faculty, staff, and students, will advise the Ithaca College Board of Trustees on the selection of Ithaca College's next president. The members of the search committee are actively engaged in seeking input to identify the best candidates to lead the college. To that end, the search committee welcomes your comments, applications, and nominations. The committee is interested in considering candidates with a broad range of experiences and the demonstrated skills to lead a complex organization.

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Ithaca College is an equal-opportunity employer and strongly encourages individuals of all backgrounds and cultures to consider this important leadership position. The college's commitment to inclusiveness encompasses, but is not limited to, diversity in nationality, ethnicity, race, religion, gender, sexual orientation, age, and ability.

If you wish to submit your own application materials or nominate someone to serve as the next president of Ithaca College, please send an e-mail message with supporting materials to [ithacapresident@spencerstuart.com](mailto:ithacapresident@spencerstuart.com).

## ABOUT ITHACA COLLEGE

### History

Founded in 1892 as the Ithaca Conservatory of Music, the college was located in the heart of downtown Ithaca until the 1960s. As the number of majors grew and the student population increased, the campus moved about a mile up South Hill to its current home overlooking Cayuga Lake. Ithaca College remains an integral part of the town that shares its name, and it continues to affirm its role in shaping a sustainable and inclusive global community.

### The Five Schools of Ithaca College

Students at Ithaca College study in five schools that offer more than 100 degree programs. With approximately 500 full-time and 280 part-time faculty members, the college boasts an 11:1 student-faculty ratio, ensuring a highly personalized education. Graduate enrollment accounts for about 10 percent of total college enrollment, with degrees offered in music education, music performance, conducting, physical and occupational therapy, business, and communications, among others.

**The School of Humanities and Sciences** is the liberal arts core of the college and a founding member of the Council on Undergraduate Research. Students have the ability to pursue a wide range of educational paths within the school, including creative arts, social sciences, humanities, natural sciences, math, and computer science. Interdisciplinary endeavors are a main focus within the school and its strong connections with the other four schools provide students with a unique set of opportunities for collaboration and partnership. Its theatre arts program is ranked in the top 10 nationwide.

**The School of Business** is accredited by AACSB International and was recently named one of the top 100 undergraduate business schools in the nation by [Bloomberg Businessweek](#). Its state-of-the-art trading room empowers students to gain financial industry experience with real-time data. The Dorothy D. and Roy H. Park Center for

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Business and Sustainable Enterprise was among the first 100 buildings in the world to receive platinum LEED certification.

**The Roy H. Park School of Communications** is a leader in communications education, both in traditional and new media. The student television, newspaper, radio, and documentary filmmakers annually win many of the most competitive national awards in the field. Our communications school hosted the first college cable TV channel over 50 years ago, was the first to offer professional workshops in interactive media in 1980, and the first to sponsor a contest for short films produced entirely on cell phones.

**The School of Health Sciences and Human Performance** includes distinctive programs in therapeutic recreation, occupational therapy, and speech-language pathology and audiology, as well as a doctoral program in physical therapy. Internships and fieldwork are an integral component of the student experience and the school maintains relationships with more than 1,700 organizations across the nation to place students in internships where they work side by side with professionals. All students are also provided the opportunity to be a part of meaningful research projects as undergraduates, and many take advantage of our four on-campus therapy clinics to assist in treating clients in real situations.

**The School of Music:** Since the college was founded as a conservatory, the School of Music has maintained its reputation as one of the best programs in the nation. It has one of the top ranked music education and performance programs in the country, offers endless performance opportunities, and lays claim to world-class performers, faculty, ensembles, and guest artists. Since the early 1970s the School of Music has sponsored nine different concerts at Lincoln Center, a world-renowned performance venue in Manhattan.

## Special Programs

The college has developed specialized learning programs including the James B. Pendleton Center in Los Angeles, the ICNYC program in New York City, and [the Ithaca College London Center](#). The college also offers cross-registration with Cornell University and Wells College, an ROTC program with Cornell, a 3-2 engineering program with Cornell, and others. The health sciences curricula require multiple clinical practice placements and have affiliations around the country. More than 200 active student clubs meet the interests and needs of the student body, and community service opportunities abound in Ithaca.

## Athletics and Fitness

Recreational, club, and varsity athletics are central to the lives of many Ithaca College students. Currently, the Ithaca Bombers 25 varsity athletic teams mainly compete in the

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Empire 8 Athletic Conference within the NCAA Division III. After a rigorous selection process, its athletics program has been accepted into the Liberty League as the conference's newest member. Ithaca's move to the Liberty League will occur no later than the 2018-19 academic year, as the Bombers become the conference's 11th full-member institution. Ithaca's student-athletes will compete in 24 of [the Liberty League's 26 championship sports](#), except men's golf and squash. The facilities—from the Ithaca College Fitness Center, the Ben Light Gymnasium, and the fields, stadiums and courts—support the serious competitor and the casual athlete.

## Ithaca Area

Nestled in the heart of New York State's beautiful Finger Lakes region, halfway between Manhattan and Toronto, this thriving, culturally diverse city of 30,000 is often recognized as a “best place to live.” Home to Ithaca College and Cornell University, the Ithaca area attracts visitors, students, and scholars from around the globe. Ithaca offers natural beauty and urban sophistication. Rolling hills, breathtaking gorges, and splendid lakes offer countless outdoor activities. Fantastic restaurants, exciting nightlife, vibrant theatre, mainstream and independent cinema, and live music abound.

*For more information about Ithaca College, please visit [ithaca.edu](http://ithaca.edu). For more information about the area surrounding the college, please visit [tomkinschamber.org](http://tomkinschamber.org), [fingerlakes.org](http://fingerlakes.org), and [visitithaca.com](http://visitithaca.com).*