



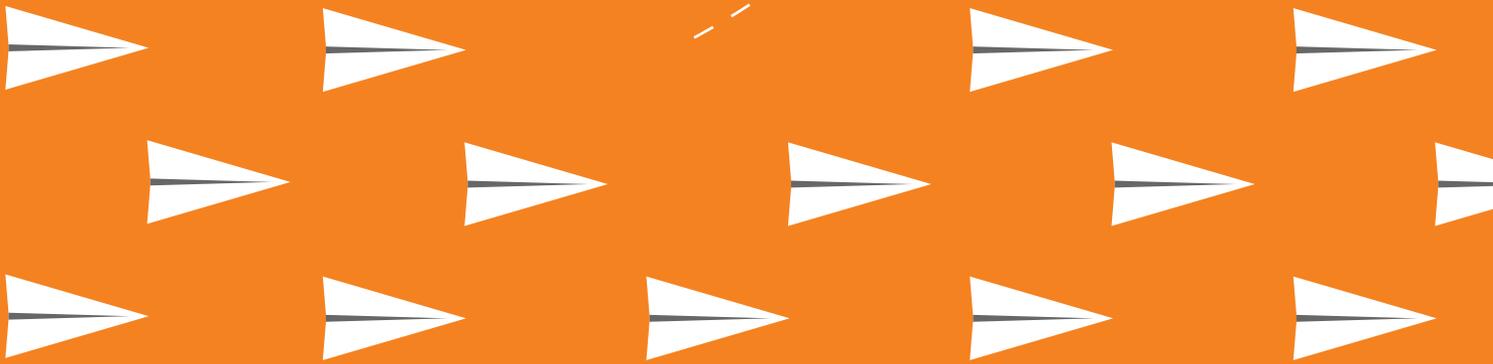
The Council of  
Independent Colleges



AMERICAN ACADEMIC  
LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE

# Senior Leadership Academy 2024–2025

A leadership development program to  
prepare experienced administrators  
for vice presidencies and other senior  
positions in independent higher education



OPENING SEMINAR:

October 31–November 2, 2024

Portland, OR

CLOSING SEMINAR:

June 10–11, 2025

Washington, DC

NOMINATION DEADLINE:

Friday, February 23, 2024

5:00 p.m. ET

[cic.edu/seniorleadershipacademy](https://cic.edu/seniorleadershipacademy)

# Senior Leadership Academy 2024–2025

The Council of Independent Colleges (CIC) and the American Academic Leadership Institute (AALI) are pleased to announce the 2024–2025 Senior Leadership Academy (SLA), a yearlong program for administrators in higher education who aspire to cabinet level positions in independent colleges or universities. Participants will acquire knowledge, skills, and experience germane to the responsibilities and activities central to the work of a vice president or cabinet officer.



*“The Senior Leadership Academy provided a collegial and collaborative environment in which I could explore my professional values and discern my own vocational pathway in higher education. Learning from and alongside experienced administrators and presidents who were open, vulnerable, and real about the opportunities and challenges of higher education was invaluable. This was professional development and relationship building at its best.”*

Sarah Nytroe  
SLA 2022–2023

Division Head of Liberal Arts & Social Sciences,  
DeSales University (PA)

## Leaders for a New Era

The SLA fills a gap in the current leadership pipeline by preparing talented leaders with the skills needed to advance to a senior leadership position on campus. The SLA also helps participants broaden their understanding of the higher education ecosystem and of the full range of leadership roles needed for institutional success.

## Program

The program consists of:

- Two seminars—one in Portland, Oregon, October 31–November 2, 2024; and the other in Washington, DC, June 10–11, 2025—led by current presidents, vice presidents, and other senior leaders in higher education as well as experts in key areas;
- Readings in leadership theory and practice;
- A highly individualized Professional Experience Plan (PEP) designed to fill “gaps” in the participant’s expertise and experience;
- Mentorship by both the participant’s campus mentor and the program director;
- Individualized executive coaching throughout the program; and
- Webinars, regional gatherings, book groups, campus visits, and other activities developed by participants.

## Program Leadership

The program director is Javier Cevallos, president of AALI and president emeritus of Framingham State University (MA).

## Participants

The program is intended for individuals whose next position would likely be a cabinet position in academic affairs, student affairs, finance and administration, enrollment management, or advancement, and whose current position might be assistant or associate provost, assistant or associate vice president, academic dean, assistant or associate dean, academic division chair, or administrative director.

Approximately 40 participants from independent colleges and universities will be selected.

## Costs

The individual program fee for the 2024–2025 academic year is \$2,850, which includes all program costs as well as meals during the two seminars. Participants or their institutions are responsible for travel and lodging expenses.

## Fellowships Available

With generous support from AALI, CIC offers fellowships to encourage broad and representative participation in SLA. Preference is given to nominees from under-resourced institutions that otherwise might be unable to support their participation. Nominators should indicate whether they wish a nominee to be considered for a fellowship.



*“This has been a great program in all sorts of ways. Before I began the program, I was in need of mentors and colleagues in a similar situation and mindset as me. I also needed more clarity about my future path and how to make job application decisions. SLA was integral to all of these developments for me this past year. I am eternally grateful.”*

Amanda Krause  
SLA 2022–2023

Director of International Programs,  
Mount St. Mary's University (MD)



*“The SLA guidance and networking positioned me well to transition to a vice presidency. I wholeheartedly recommend SLA to anyone with a desire to advance and thrive as a higher education senior administrator.”*

Michael J. Marshall  
SLA 2018–2019

Vice President for Enrollment, Marketing,  
and Communication,  
Bellarmine University (KY)



The SLA is generously supported by  
AALI and Academic Search.



*“AALI and SLA provided me the opportunity to network and learn from talented leaders and experts in higher education and develop critical skills needed to advance my career and take the next steps in my career journey. Under the well-designed SLA program, I’ve learned and developed more in the last year as an academic administrator and educator than the previous five years combined.”*

Greg Pillar

SLA Class of 2022-2023

Associate Provost for Academic Affairs,  
Queens University of Charlotte (NC)

## Nomination Procedure

All nomination materials must be submitted as a single complete packet on the CIC website at [cic.edu/seniorleadershipacademy](http://cic.edu/seniorleadershipacademy).

Individuals who wish to participate should ask the president, provost, or a vice president of their current institution to submit the nomination. The nomination packet must consist of:

A nomination form, available at [cic.edu/seniorleadershipacademy](http://cic.edu/seniorleadershipacademy);

- The nominee’s curriculum vitae;
- A letter of nomination; and
- A statement by the candidate explaining his or her interest in and potential for a senior administrative position.

See the website for full details about the nomination process: [cic.edu/seniorleadershipacademy](http://cic.edu/seniorleadershipacademy).

## Nomination Deadline

The nomination packet is due by **Friday, February 23, 2024, 5:00 p.m. ET**. Selection of participants will be announced by **Friday, March 29, 2024**.

## Additional Information

- For questions about the process and logistics, contact Marina Esteve Wagstaff at [mwagstaff@cic.edu](mailto:mwagstaff@cic.edu) or (202) 552-8986. For questions about program content, contact Javier Cevallos, president, AALI, at [javier@americanali.org](mailto:javier@americanali.org) or (202) 263-7488.



The Council of  
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