

Heather Seagroatt, Ph.D.



Heather Seagroatt, Consulting Vice President, brings to our firm more than 15 years of progressive responsibility with education and environmental leadership. Her wide range of experience includes principal gifts, strategic planning, foundation relations, benchmarking, board development, staff and project management, research, evaluation, proposal development, communications, and budgeting.

Since 2011, she has been the Vice President of Development for Climate Central, a nonprofit science research institute that bridges the scientific community and the media in order to advance informed dialogue about climate change. In this role, she has secured financial support from individual, institutional, and government funders; led and evaluated strategic partnerships for major grants; and secured the largest grant in the organization's history to launch a groundbreaking science and communications effort in South Asia and East Africa. The individual giving program Heather created for Climate Central quadrupled cash in 12 months and doubled funding requests in 18 months. She also diversified funding to more than triple revenue in four years.

Before joining Climate Central, Heather served in multiple roles for Lehigh University, being promoted five times, beginning as Director of Individual Gifts and ultimately serving as Associate Vice President for Principal Gifts. During her tenure, Heather created and launched Lehigh's first Principal Gifts program, an initiative targeted towards identifying, cultivating, and soliciting gifts from the University's most generous donors. She chaired the Principal Gifts Committee and worked closely with the Trustees, President, Vice President, Provost, and Deans to develop thoughtful, coordinated cultivation and solicitation strategies for top donors. In addition to assessing and prioritizing the Development team's efficiency to ensure that the President's time was spent where the impact would be greatest, she worked closely with senior administrators and development staff to develop strategies for engaging the university's most generous donors and spearheaded the development of major campaign proposals. Prior to her role at Lehigh University, Heather was the Associate Director of Major Gifts at The Lawrenceville School. Heather has taught at Rutgers University and The University of Virginia.

Heather has been recognized for her work multiple times, and is the recipient of the Lehigh University Tradition of Excellence Award. She has a Bachelor of Arts with Honors in History from the University of Pennsylvania a Master of Arts and Ph.D. in English Literature from the University of Virginia.