

Victoria L. Walsh, Ed.D.

Victoria Walsh is a dynamic executive leader with extensive experience in higher education, specializing in strategy development, change management, and leading institutional transformation. She has a proven track record of leading teams and organizations to achieve their educational mission and vision through innovative solutions and strategic initiatives. Victoria is passionate about transparent, ethical, and transformative leadership. She understands the impact of good leadership and strives to incorporate practices that encourage her teams and the institution to thrive. She is a reflective practitioner who takes intentional steps toward personal and professional growth.

Victoria is the Provost and Senior Vice President of Academic and Student Affairs at Columbia-Greene Community College (C-GCC) in Hudson, NY. In this role, she leads academic programs and administration, enrollment management, institutional effectiveness, and oversees the holistic student experience. During her tenure, the enrollment management team has undergone a redesign, including the founding of the Office of External Programs. She oversaw the creation of the Academic Council to strengthen internal governance and improve communication across departments. The Center for Innovation, Teaching, and Learning opened in fall 2024, and in January 2025, the inaugural Dean of Nursing and Allied Health was appointed. Victoria was instrumental in working with campus leadership in the development and implementation of the C-GCC Institutional Sustainability Plan which promotes internal efficiency and provides opportunities for institutional growth.

Having worked as a faculty member, Victoria understands the challenges and rewards of the classroom. Being a first-generation student, Victoria appreciates the many barriers students face in achieving their academic and personal goals, as well as the transformational impact education has on individuals and communities. As an independent academic, Victoria is committed to advancing scholarship in leadership in higher education, the culture of institutions, and the narrative experiences of executive leaders. Her research focuses on women presidents in higher education in the United States.

Victoria has held multiple executive roles in higher education, including in institutional advancement, strategic planning, external relations, and board governance. Victoria has led strategic external initiatives that have advanced the institution through philanthropy and enrollment-generating partnerships. She has extensive experience forging mutually beneficial relationships with key institutions and political influencers. This diversity of practice enables Victoria to lead across departments and in interdisciplinary ways. She is a peer evaluator for the Middle States Commission on Higher Education and is a member of the New York State Chief Academic Officers' Association.

As a consultant, Victoria works with boards, executive leaders, and teams on board and professional development, strategic planning, and institutional mission integration and effectiveness. She has been invited to speak at local and national levels on topics such as institutional identity and culture, mission advancement, and leadership skills. Victoria also serves as a mentor for the University of Durham Leadership Academy in the UK.

Prior to her career in higher education, Victoria worked in criminal justice as a policy developer and community safety researcher and strategist. She served in the national government at the Home Office and later in local government supporting legislators at the county level. Victoria was an expert advisor on crime and disorder, community engagement in crime prevention, and the use of multi-agency partnerships in crime control. She had extensive experience managing local strategic partnerships and developing community safety strategies at the county level. In one significant project, she worked with county legislators to research and understand how fear of crime affects community engagement in the local economy and how this, in turn, influences broader economic development. She concluded her criminal justice career working in performance improvement for the police, where she researched complex institutional issues and developed successful, timely, and effective interventions.

Originally from Sunderland in the United Kingdom, Victoria now lives locally with her husband, Chris.

Academic Qualifications

Ed.D. in Higher Education Leadership, *Maryville University*, St. Louis, MO, USA

M.A. in Criminal Justice, *University of Durham*, UK

Post Graduate Certificate in Education (P.G.C.E.), Education Practitioner Inquiry, *Newcastle University*, UK

B.A. (Hons) in Sociology, *University of Durham*, UK

B.A. (Hons) in Theology, *University of Durham*, UK

Professional Certifications

Certificate in Strategy, *Harvard Business School*, Cambridge, MA, USA

Certification in Teaching, *Carmel College*, UK