



# University of Pittsburgh

*Office of the Provost and Senior Vice Chancellor*

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Patricia E. Beeson  
Provost  
Senior Vice Chancellor

August 30, 2017

Dear Colleagues:

I am pleased to announce that I have asked **Marc Harding**, Chief Enrollment Officer, and **Ariel Armony**, Senior Director for International Programs and Director of UCIS, to join my senior staff as Vice Provost for Enrollment and Vice Provost for Global Engagement.

**Ariel C. Armony** was appointed in 2015 to lead the University's international and global efforts. In this role, he leads UCIS's top-ranked area studies centers, including four National Resource Centers, and has aggressively spearheaded the comprehensive *Global Plan for Pitt* (<https://www.ucis.pitt.edu/main/globalinput>).

This ambitious plan is a product of domestic and international engagement with faculty, staff, students, alumni, and community partners. The plan's implementation has already begun, with new ways to maximize the student experience by engaging technology (*Pitt PassPort*) and state-of-the-art global advising (*Pitt Global Hub*), among many other initiatives. Dr. Armony has also been leading new efforts to strengthen and coordinate our international partnerships, realize the creation of the global advisory council, and ensure centralization of services to international students and scholars within UCIS.

The University of Pittsburgh has already begun to receive national recognition for all of these efforts, as it was selected as one of four institutions nationwide to receive NAFSA's 2017 Senator Paul Simon Award for Comprehensive Internationalization; the highest honor bestowed by NAFSA.

**Marc L. Harding** has led the University's undergraduate recruitment efforts since 2012 and is responsible for attracting a highly talented, diverse student body, a key goal of the University's strategic plan. His responsibilities include undergraduate admissions, student financial aid, and PittStart summer orientation for new students, and he is a key advisor on undergraduate programs throughout the University.

Under Marc's leadership, we have seen tremendous growth in our recruitment efforts. Over the past five years, applications to programs on the Pittsburgh campus have increased more than 10%, the number of international students has doubled, and the number of minority students has increased by almost 30%. Over the same period, the academic qualifications of incoming classes have continued to advance, with average test scores of the incoming class increasing by 22 points, and 53% of our current freshmen class in the top 10% of their high school class. Marc has also overseen a number of changes to streamline efficiencies and effectiveness of financial

aid, and just this last year launched an array of outreach programs designed to better prepare high school students to be successful at Pitt.

Ariel Armony and Marc Harding both hold University-wide leadership positions as members of the Council of Deans, and in their new roles they will continue to build on their considerable accomplishments. I look forward to continuing to work with each of them to strengthen the University and position it for continued growth and success. Please join me in congratulating them.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Patricia E. Beeson". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal line extending from the end of the name.

Patricia E. Beeson