Swarthmore College, one of the nation’s finest liberal arts institutions, seeks a Vice President for Communications (VP). Reporting to the president, the VP will play a leadership role in creating a comprehensive communications strategy for the institution that tells Swarthmore’s compelling narrative to a wide variety of internal and external constituencies. The College’s engaging intellectual environment—coupled with its vibrant and caring community—is distinctive even among highly selective liberal arts colleges. The next VP will have the exciting opportunity to work with the College’s dynamic president and strong, thoughtful, and diverse senior leadership team to share Swarthmore’s story and promote its mission to audiences near and far.

The VP will be charged with collaborating with and supporting the president in her role as chief spokesperson for the College; creating and implementing an overarching strategic communications plan for Swarthmore that elevates awareness and understanding of the College and supports its mission, goals, and objectives; cultivating strong working relationships with senior leadership, faculty, alumni, and students across the College; ensuring the College’s preparedness for effective crisis communications; and leading a talented and experienced communications staff. The ideal candidate will be an instinctively collaborative leader who is sensitive to organizational culture, excels at cultivating relationships, holds a keen interest in the value of a liberal arts education, and garners the trust of faculty, staff, and students. A background in and familiarity with higher education is strongly preferred.

Since its founding in 1864, Swarthmore College has given students the knowledge, insight, skills, and experience to become leaders for the common good. Offering a liberal arts and engineering curriculum, the College is private yet open to all regardless of financial need. It is also decidedly global in outlook, drawing students from around the world and all 50 states. The diversity of perspectives represented by Swarthmore students, faculty, and staff—including different viewpoints, identities, and histories—contributes to the community's strong sense of open dialogue and engagement with ideas and issues.
President Valerie Smith has named a six-member search committee that includes members of the faculty and staff, as well as an alumna of the College. The committee is assisted by the executive search firm Isaacson, Miller. For more information, to make a nomination, or to apply for this role, please visit: imsearch.com/search-detail/S6-778

Swarthmore College is committed to excellence through diversity in its educational program and employment practices and actively seeks and welcomes applications from candidates with exceptional qualifications, particularly those with a demonstrable commitment to a more inclusive society and workplace.