

Jett Pihakis, Ph.D.

Higher Education Practice



Jett Pihakis is a member of our Nonprofit sector and Higher Education practice and is based in our Washington, D.C. office.

Jett has recruited department chairs, deans, vice presidents, provosts and presidents to universities across the country. His clients include Stony Brook University, Rutgers, University of Virginia, MIT, Kent State University, Rice, Vanderbilt, Northwestern University in Qatar, University of Utah, University of Alabama at Birmingham, University at Buffalo, Carnegie Mellon University, and American University of Beirut. He has also recruited leaders to non-profit organizations such as the Smithsonian Institution, Giant Magellan Telescope Organization, Orbis International, and American Lebanese Syrian Associated Charities (the fundraising arm of St. Jude Children's Research Hospital).

Prior to joining Russell Reynolds Associates, Jett served as Vice President, Programs at Management Leadership for Tomorrow (MLT) - a nonprofit that has made ground-breaking progress addressing the dramatic under-representation of minorities in leadership positions within top-tier MBA programs and Fortune 500 companies. There, he provided leadership across all programs including college, MBA, executive and alumni. Previously, he served as Associate Dean of the Full-time MBA Program at Georgetown University, where he led the vision and strategy to recast the Georgetown MBA Program as a premier program, promoting it to the business community and prospective students. Jett also held positions at University of California, Berkeley as Director of Domestic Admissions for the Full-time MBA Program, at Golden Gate University as Director of Alumni Relations and at Vanderbilt University as Assistant Director of Undergraduate Admissions.

Jett received his B.A., *summa cum laude*, in psychology from Vanderbilt University and his Ph.D. in education administration and policy analysis with a focus in higher education from Stanford University.