



**Laura Sobel** joined the Columbia Mailman School of Public Health in November 2021. As Associate Dean for Development and Alumni Relations, Ms. Sobel is a member of the Dean's senior leadership team, working closely with the Board of Advisors. Her background includes non-profit leadership roles within the education, international development, community foundation, and healthcare sectors.

Prior to arriving at Columbia, Ms. Sobel served as Vice President for Principal and Major Gifts at Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center, a \$2.5B Harvard teaching hospital. Over her seventeen-year tenure, she grew fundraising from \$8M to \$85M annually, helping to secure several of the largest gifts in the Medical Center's history. Ms. Sobel managed a 25-person development team that included campaign planning; corporations and foundations; the annual fund; and principal, major, and planned gifts. She oversaw two comprehensive capital campaigns, \$300M and \$750M, with responsibility for the Major Gifts Strategy Committee, the Foundation Board, and five disease centered advisory boards representing priority areas of focus for the institution.

Ms. Sobel founded a consulting practice, advising social service and arts organizations on all aspects of fundraising, including board development, campaign planning, major and planned gifts, marketing, communications, and event planning. She also served as the interim head of development for the Sidman-Leventhal Jewish Community Centers of Greater Boston.

Ms. Sobel served as Director of Major Gifts for The Boston Foundation, where she guided philanthropists on donor advised funds and family grantmaking strategies. As Manager of Major of Gifts for Facing History and Ourselves, an international teacher training organization, she staffed the New York Regional Advisory Board and oversaw a highly successful 750-person gala. Ms. Sobel began her career in development as a donor relations officer at CARE, an international relief organization.

Before entering the non-profit sector, Ms. Sobel worked as the National Sales Manager for Alan Spigelman, Inc. a wholesale gift company with offices throughout the United States. Raised in New York City, she holds a B.A. in Economics from the University of Massachusetts, Amherst, and an M.B.A. from Northeastern University.