



February 25, 2022

Dear Faculty and Staff Colleagues,

I am delighted to announce that Yaro Fong-Olivares will be the next executive director of the Center for Women and Business (CWB). Yaro emerged as the top candidate for this position after a rigorous search process.

As executive director, Yaro will lead, inspire and develop the staff in the CWB and enhance an organizational culture that is equitable and inclusive. She will serve as subject matter expert for the content that the CWB produces and work with the program management and facilitation teams to optimize operations, sale processes and content delivery. In addition, Yaro will maintain and foster collaborative university-wide relationships with faculty, staff, students, other university centers and administration.

Yaro currently serves as the CWB's director of corporate education, where she designs programs that educate audiences ranging from undergraduate students to CEOs. During the COVID-19 pandemic, she redesigned offerings to enhance virtual engagement, incorporate the latest trends in the business and DEI sectors, and infuse more research based practices. Yaro also curated and facilitated numerous educational panels and led the launch of the Diversity and Inclusion Champion Certificates – the first open enrollment program for executive education that focuses on leading DEI change initiatives in organizations.

Before joining the Bentley community in 2019, Yaro worked as an organizational development consultant in New York City. She also served as the director of Standing in Our Power, a leadership development organization for women and gender-variant leaders of color. Yaro is passionate about learning and education and holds a B.A. from Barnard College, the women's college affiliated with Columbia University, an M.S. from The New School, and is currently pursuing her doctorate in Organizational Leadership Psychology at William James College. Yaro is also a former personal trainer and a certified health coach.

I'd like to thank the members of the search committee for their time and effort, and for their commitment to identify an outstanding pool of candidates. In particular, I'm grateful to Lebone Moses '02, trustee, for chairing the search committee.



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Yaro will formally step into the executive director position on Monday, February 28. Please join me in congratulating her on this exciting news.

Cordially,

**Donna Maria Blancero, PhD**

*Provost & Vice President for Academic Affairs*

Pronouns: She/Her/Hers