

Biography: Lisa M. Coleman, PhD

Dr. Lisa M. Coleman is New York University's (NYU) inaugural Senior Vice President for Global Inclusion and Strategic Innovation. In this role, she works with senior leaders, internal stakeholders, external partners, and other constituents to advance, promote, and build capacity for strategic global diversity, equity, inclusion, access, belonging, and innovation initiatives across NYU globally, including at NYU New York, Shanghai, and Abu Dhabi, and the University's thirteen other sites and numerous global centers. Dr. Coleman is also a faculty member at NYU Stern Business School and teaches at NYU Abu Dhabi.

Prior to NYU, Dr. Coleman served as the first Chief Diversity Officer and Special Assistant to the President at Harvard University for almost a decade where she and her team developed some of the first initiatives focused on the intersections of technology, disability, and access. Before her appointment at Harvard University, she served as an administrator and faculty member at Tufts University and was later appointed to serve as that institution's first global inclusion and diversity senior executive.

Dr. Coleman has spent more than 20 years working with numerous educational, healthcare, and governmental systems, and corporate, for-profit, and non-profit organizations. Her early professional and research experience include working with the Association of American Medical Colleges and Merrill Lynch, and serving as an independent computer and data analytics consultant, and as an international organizational strategic consultant. Dr. Coleman's collaborations with global stakeholders have focused on, including but not limited to, the future of work, education, and emerging fields; developing research, harnessing innovation, and cultivating global talent across entrepreneurial markets; and cross-sector leadership and knowledge development.

Dr. Coleman is the recipient of numerous awards, recognitions, and honors, and sits on various national and international boards. She also advises and consults with C-Suite leaders globally. Her research focuses on cross-sector global leadership and partnerships; the intersections of cross/transgenerational innovation in health sciences, technology, arts, and humanities, and employing data analytics and digitization to leverage diverse cultures globally; and global C-suite and board development and training.

Dr. Coleman—an interdisciplinary scholar—earned her doctorate in Social and Cultural Analysis and American Studies from NYU, and three master's degrees in African and African American Studies; Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies; and Communication Studies. She also holds certificates focusing on legal theory and intercultural development and her undergraduate research foci were sociology, anthropology, and computer science. Dr. Coleman loves to travel, is an avid photographer, gardener, and cook, and is (very) slowly learning how to fly planes.