

SAIS Fundamentals Conference Strategic Philanthropic Conversations

1. As you think about your experience at (name of school), what do you value the most? (This question can take up a great deal of the interview. Seek to have the individual expand on some of their responses.)
2. The Board of Trustees and organization leadership are working to develop a new strategic plan to guide the school for the next five to ten years. There are 4 priorities of the plan. Would you please give me your open-ended feedback on the importance of *one* that is significant to you?
 - We seek to attract highly promising and capable students from a variety of socioeconomic backgrounds and give them the financial backing they need to make (name of school) education possible.
 - We believe the most important asset of an educational environment is a diverse, skilled, and positive corps of teachers.
 - We aspire to offer compelling teaching and learning spaces, providing our faculty with the tools required to do their best work.
 - We aspire to equip young people with the skills and tools to promote their own and others' wellness, and to effectively respond to and navigate the challenges they encounter.
3. As you look to the future, where does (school name) fit among your philanthropic priorities?
4. Is there anything else you would like to cover or wish I had asked you about?