

President Rowe

Katherine A. Rowe began her tenure as William & Mary's 28th president on July 1, 2018. Under Rowe's leadership, W&M has advanced a whole-institution approach to learning, successfully closed its For the Bold campaign, and embarked on an ambitious strategic plan, Vision 2026. Rowe has cultivated cross-university initiatives including a central Entrepreneurship Hub, a Studio for Teaching & Learning Innovation, W&M's first Sustainability Plan and Climate Action Roadmap, realization of the university's long-planned Memorial to the Enslaved, a Veteran-to-Executive Transition program, an Institute for Integrative Conservation and a university-wide approach to diversity, equity and inclusion.

Rowe oversaw the creation of William & Mary's ambitious strategic plan, [Vision 2026](#), via an inclusive, multi-year planning process. During the first phase of planning, the university community came together to craft William & Mary's first-ever [statement of shared values](#).



Rowe serves on the Northern Virginia Technology Council, the Virginia Business and Higher Education Council Board, RVA757 Connects, and the GoVA Region 5 Council. Rowe was named to the Virginia Business Virginia 500 Power List in 2020 and 2021. In 2020, *Diverse: Issues in Higher Education* named Rowe one of the top 35 women in higher education.

Previously, Rowe served as provost and dean of faculty at Smith College in Massachusetts. During her tenure, Smith launched a design thinking curriculum, greatly increased diversity in faculty hiring and established one of the first statistical and data sciences majors at a liberal arts college (and the first at a women's college). Rowe also served as Smith's interim vice president for inclusion, diversity and equity.

Rowe earned a bachelor's degree in English and American literature from Carleton College and a master's and a Ph.D. in English and American literature from Harvard. She has completed graduate work in Cinema and Media Studies at New York University's Tisch School of the Arts. Her areas of research and scholarship include Shakespeare, Milton, Renaissance drama and media history.