UOPEOPLE THE ACADEMIA

LEARNING EXPERIENCE

STUDENT COMMUNITY

GLOBAL SUPPORT

UNIQUE MODEL

VOLUNTEERS
I always dreamt about studying abroad with people from different cultures, however it was something my family could never afford. University of the People has made my dreams come true – I am the happiest I have ever been that I can study with people from all over the world, without leaving my home.
Dear Friends,

It is with enormous pride that I present to you the 2015 University of the People Annual Report.

We all know that quality higher education is a key component in achieving world peace; it paves the way to improved governance, enhanced livelihoods, and greater independence for both individuals and societies. I feel blessed that so many share our beliefs, and understand the necessity of UoPeople’s affordable, accessible and high quality educational model.

It is incredible to see how UoPeople has grown in every aspect since becoming accredited in February 2014, and how many individuals’ lives have been transformed before my eyes. To date, UoPeople has enrolled over 2,000 students from over 160 countries, and that’s just the beginning.

It is important to note that the quality of education we provide is as important to us as being accessible and affordable. That is why this year’s Annual Report highlights the high academic standards of UoPeople. The University’s academic leadership hails from top universities such as Yale, Columbia, NYU, Berkeley and Oxford. The collaborative peer-to-peer learning method, together with the guidance of top tier instructors, provides an enhanced and empowering learning experience – creating a truly global classroom, where students from around the world can discuss not only course materials but can also discover diverse cultures.

I am truly grateful to all those who have played a part in the University’s success and have believed in our mission – students, volunteers, staff, supporters and faculty. I know that without their support, the dream of UoPeople would never have come true. I would like to especially thank the Course Writers and instructors, who play a huge role in the University’s success and high academic standards. Without their hard work and support none of this would be possible. May we continue to flourish and prosper together, so that even more individuals are able to step through our open gates to high quality education. Together we really can change the world.

Kind regards,

Shai Reshef
President
University of the People
The mission of University of the People is to offer affordable, quality, online, degree-granting educational programs to any qualified student.

Opportunity
UoPeople is based on the belief that education at a minimal cost is a basic right for all qualified applicants, not just for a privileged few. The University works to open the gates of higher education to qualified students anywhere in the world by offering its programs through distance learning and by making this opportunity affordable.

Community
UoPeople creates a global community by making its academic programs, educational services, and employment opportunities available to qualified individuals from all over the world, and by providing learning opportunities that engage students and faculty from diverse backgrounds.

Integrity
UoPeople grounds its institutional culture in candor, transparency and best professional practices, and expects all students, faculty, staff, and administrators to uphold the highest standards of personal integrity, honesty and responsibility. Additionally, the University expects its students to take responsibility for their education, and to pursue their studies diligently and with seriousness of purpose.

Quality
UoPeople provides a high-quality, online liberal arts education suitable in scope and depth to the challenges of the 21st century. The University assesses and evaluates all aspects of its academic model on an ongoing basis.

95% of our students would recommend UoPeople to their friends.
Mr. Ashok Chandrasekhar, J.D., Chair

Mr. Chandrasekhar is Partner and Head of the International Corporate and Securities Department of Goldfarb Seligman & Co., and a member of the firm’s Executive Committee. Mr. Chandrasekhar holds a J.D. from the New York University School of Law and a B.A. in English Literature from Yale University. A prominent lawyer, Mr. Chandrasekhar specializes in representing clients in the high tech sector and has been involved in many of the largest transactions involving technology companies. Mr. Chandrasekhar brings expertise in the high tech sector to the distance study field.

Hon. Justice Christine M. Durham

Justice Durham has been on the Utah Supreme Court since 1982, and served as Chief Justice from 2002 to 2012. She is a member of the Board of Trustees at Duke University. Justice Durham is the past President of the Conference of Chief Justices of the United States and past Chair of the American Bar Association’s Council on Legal Education and Admissions to the Bar. Justice Durham has been active in judicial education, and was a founder of the Leadership Institute in Judicial Education. She has been recognized nationally for her work in judicial education and efforts to improve the administration of justice.

Prof. Daniel J. H. Greenwood

Professor Greenwood is on the faculty of Hofstra University’s School of Law. After studying at Harvard College and Yale Law School, Greenwood practiced mergers and acquisition law in New York. Thereafter Professor Greenwood began his academic career at the University of Utah’s S. J. Quinney College of Law, where he held the S. J. Quinney Professorship, before returning to his native city. He teaches and has published numerous law review articles, book chapters, and popular opinion pieces in areas including corporate finance, business organizations, torts, and the rights of groups in the liberal state.

Dr. Gabriel Hawawini

Dr. Gabriel Hawawini is Professor of Finance and former Dean of INSEAD, one of the world’s leading and largest graduate business schools. He is on the advisory board of MIT Sloan and Carnegie Mellon University in Qatar, and a board member of several companies. He is a Visiting Professor of Finance at the Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania and taught at New York University, Columbia University, and the City University of New York where he received the “Presidential Award for Distinguished Faculty Scholarship.” Dr. Hawawini is the Chair of UoPeople’s Advancement Committee.

Mr. Tom Healy

Mr. Tom Healy has served as Chairman to the Fulbright Foreign Scholarship Board for the past three years after being appointed to the board in 2011 by President Barack Obama. Mr. Healy also teaches at New York University and is a member of the Council on Foreign Relations. Previously, Mr. Healy served as President of the Lower Manhattan Cultural Council in the years after 9/11 and was awarded the New York City Arts Award by Mayor Michael Bloomberg in 2005 for leading the rebuilding efforts for the downtown arts community. Mr. Healy also served on President Clinton’s Presidential Advisory Council on HIV/AIDS.

President Shai Reshef

Mr. Shai Reshef is the President of UoPeople. He has previously headed online institutions and is an educational entrepreneur. President Reshef has twenty-five years of experience in the international education market. From 1989 to 2005, he served as Chairman of the Kidum Group, a for-profit educational services company that was sold to Kaplan, Inc. in 2005. Between 2001 and 2004, President Reshef chaired K.T. eLearning (later to become Laureate Online), a subsidiary of Kidum, the eLearning partner of the University of Liverpool and the first online university outside of the United States. He holds an M.A. in Chinese Politics from the University of Michigan.
A NEW MODEL FOR HIGHER EDUCATION

167 COUNTRIES

Afghanistan  Albania  Algeria  Angola  Antarctica  Austria  Azerbaijan  Bahamas  Bangladesh  Barbados  Belarus  Belgium  Belize  Benin  Bhutan  Bolivia  Botswana  Brazil  British Virgin Islands  Bulgaria  Burkina Faso  Burundi  Cambodia  Cameroon  Canada  Chad  Channel Islands  China  Colombia  Congo Republic  Congo, Dem. Rep  Cook Islands Costa Rica  Cote d’Ivoire  Croatia  Cyprus  Czech Republic  Denmark  Djibouti  Dominica  Dominican Republic  Ecuador  Egypt  Eritrea  Estonia  Ethiopia  Fiji  Finland  France  Gabon  Georgia  Germany  Ghana  Greece  Greenland  Grenada  Georgia  Guatemala  Guyana  Hong Kong  Hungary  India  Indonesia  Iran  Iraq  Ireland  Israel  Italy  Jamaica  Japan  Jordan  Kazakhstan  Kenya  Kiribati  Korea, North  Korea, South  Kuwait  Kyrgyzstan  Laos  Latvia  Lebanon  Lesotho  Liberia  Liechtenstein  Lithuania  Luxembourg  Macau  Malawi  Malaysia  Maldives  Mali  Malta  Martinique  Mauritania  Mauritius  Mexico  Moldova  Mongolia  Montenegro  Morocco  Mozambique  Myanmar  Namibia  Nepal  Netherlands  New Zealand  Nigeria  Norway  Oman  Pakistan  Palau  Palestine  Papau New Guinea  Papua New Guinea  Paraguay  Peru  Philippines  Poland  Portugal  Puerto Rico  Qatar  Romania  Russian Federation  Rwanda  Saint Lucia  Saint Vincent & The Grenadines  Saudi Arabia  Senegal  Serbia  Sierra Leone  Singapore  Sint Maarten  Slovakia  Slovenia  Solomon Islands  Somalia  South Africa  South Korea  South Sudan  Spain  Sri Lanka  St. Kitts and Nevis  Sudan  Suriname  Swaziland  Sweden  Switzerland  Syria  Taiwan  Tajikistan  Tanzania  Thailand  Trinidad and Tobago  Tunisia  Turkey  Turkmenistan  Turks & Caicos Islands  Tuvalu  Ukraine  United Arab Emirates  United Kingdom  United States  Uruguay  Uzbekistan  Venezuela  Viet Nam  Virgin Islands (U.S.)  Yemen  Zambia  Zimbabwe

* This does not imply any legal position of UoPeople regarding this country’s status.
Chairman: President John Sexton

President Sexton is the fifteenth President of New York University. In addition, he is the Benjamin Butler Professor of Law and NYU Law School’s Dean Emeritus, having served as Dean for 14 years. He joined NYU’s Law School faculty in 1981, was named the School’s Dean in 1988, and was appointed as NYU’s President in 2001. President Sexton’s contributions to NYU have been numerous, including the creation of NYU’s Abu Dhabi and Shanghai campuses as part of the effort to create a Global Network University.

Chancellor Nicholas Dirks

Dr. Nicholas Dirks serves as the Chancellor of the University of California, Berkeley. Previously, he was the Executive Vice President and Dean of Faculty of Arts and Sciences at Columbia University. He is an internationally respected scholar in South Asian history and anthropology, and also a leader in higher education who is well-known for his commitment to and advocacy of accessible, high-quality education in the liberal arts and sciences. He is currently writing a book on the relationship of the university to globalization.

Rector Emerita Michèle Gendreau-Massaloux

Dr. Michèle Gendreau-Massaloux, has extensive educational leadership experience including having served as Rector of the Academy of Paris, Chancellor of the Universities, and Rector of the Agence Universitaire de la Francophonie (AUF), which associates more than 800 universities around the world.

Former U.S. Under Secretary of Education Martha J. Kanter

Dr. Martha J. Kanter is currently a Distinguished Visiting Professor at NYU. While serving as U.S. Under Secretary of Education, Martha J. Kanter focused on increasing college access, affordability, quality, and completion. Previously, Dr. Kanter served as President of De Anza College and Chancellor of the Foothill-De Anza Community College District.

Professor Devang Khakar

Dr Khakar became the Director of the Indian Institute of Technology Bombay in January 2009. He joined IIT Bombay in 1987, where he previously served as Professor-in-Charge of IIT Bombay’s Continuing Education Program, as Head of the Department of Chemical Engineering, and as the Dean of Faculty Affairs. He received his B.A.in Technology from IIT Delhi and his Ph.D. from the University of Massachusetts.

Vice Chancellor Emeritus Sir Colin Lucas

Sir Colin Lucas was the Vice Chancellor of the University of Oxford from 1997 to 2004 and has recently retired as Warden of Rhodes Trust, the charitable organization responsible for bringing some of the world’s finest scholars to Oxford. During his seven years as Vice Chancellor, Sir Colin Lucas led the modernization of Oxford and saw it ranked fifth in the world, out-ranked only by four leading U.S. institutions.

Former President Roger Mandle

Dr Roger Mandle was President of Rhode Island School of Design from 1993 to 2008, where he was awarded an Honorary Degree. He is currently CEO of Roger Mandle Associates LLC, advising universities and museums. From 2008 to 2012, he was the Executive Director and Chief Museums Officer of Qatar Museums Authority, following which he was appointed Senior Advisor to the Chair of the Board of QMA. 1988-93, Roger Mandle was Deputy Director of the National Gallery of Art, preceded by being Director of The Toledo Museum of Art for 12 years.
President Emerita Judith R. Shapiro

Dr. Judith Shapiro is President and Professor of Anthropology Emerita at Barnard College. She served as President of Barnard from 1994 to 2008. She is also Professor of Anthropology Emerita at Bryn Mawr College where she served as a faculty member and then Provost. Dr. Shapiro is currently the President of the Teagle Foundation, and chairs the board of ITHAKA. She also serves on the boards of Scholars at Risk and Friends of the European Humanities University.

President Emeritus Stephen Joel Trachtenberg

Stephen Joel Trachtenberg served as George Washington University’s 15th President from 1988 to 2007. Trachtenberg came to GW from the University of Hartford after 11 years serving as President. He previously served as Vice President for Academic Services and Academic Dean of the College of Liberal Arts at Boston University, and was the special assistant to the U.S. Education Commissioner, Department of Health, Education and Welfare. He is currently associated with Korn Ferry International, Rimon Law and The Bankinter Foundation.

Dr. Torsten N. Wiesel

Dr. Torsten N. Wiesel was President of The Rockefeller University from 1991 to 1998. In 1981 Dr. Wiesel shared the Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine with Dr. David Hubel for discoveries concerning information processing in the visual system. He currently chairs the Board of Governors of the Okinawa Institute of Science and Technology and is co-director of the Shelby White-Leon Levy Center for Mind, Brain and Behavior at the Rockefeller University.

Kelli Fuson

Bachelor of Science in Business Administration

“During my final year of high school my life turned upside down. My father died suddenly from a brain hemorrhage, and then my mother was diagnosed with stage 4 breast cancer. I gave up everything to care for her, as well as my grandfather who was also sick, and unfortunately they both died the following year. I developed depression and lost my sense of identity. Finding UoPeople has been the best thing that could have ever happened. It has given me a reason to be excited about life again. I feel like I am accomplishing so much and I can’t remember the last time I have been this happy.”
Dear Supporters,

I am indeed pleased to share the 2015 Annual Report with you. This year marks the sixth anniversary of University of the People, and I would like to join President Reshef in expressing our gratitude to our colleagues, friends and supporters. All have contributed significantly to the University’s success.

In his letter, President Reshef indicated that in this year’s Annual Report, we are focusing on the academic quality of the University. As Provost of the University, my primary responsibility is to oversee its academic quality and to ensure that it meets the highest academic standards. This is integral to our mission, and I want to assure you that we will never compromise in our striving to maintain that lofty goal.

In February 2014 we were granted national accreditation by DEAC, a major milestone for the University and an important endorsement of our academic quality. My office is responsible for assuring that we meet the demanding accreditation standards, including such critical elements as the quality of our curricula, course content, instructional faculty, and academic advising. We also oversee new program development and look forward to submitting shortly a health sciences curriculum and an MBA program for review by our accrediting commission. This would extend our current programs in business and computer science and offer our first graduate program.

We have made quality higher education accessible for students who may not have strong academic backgrounds, and perhaps our greatest challenges is to preserve this aspect of our mission while striving to maintain high academic standards. It is essential that University of the People’s degrees command the respect of employers and quality universities. I am confident we are on a path to achieve this, and I am proud to be a part of the University.

Warm regards,

David H. Cohen
Provost, University of the People
Former Vice President and Dean of the Faculty Emeritus of the Arts and Sciences, Columbia University
UoPeople courses are nine weeks in length. The first eight weeks are devoted to instructional activities, and the ninth week concludes the course with a final exam or final project. Students have the flexibility to complete the week's assignments on their own schedule as long as they are submitted by midnight on Wednesday; the new learning week starts at 12:01 a.m. on Thursday. Students are expected to devote 15 hours per week to each course and may take one, two or three courses in a given 9-week term.

The University's pedagogical model actively engages students in the learning process and ensures extensive interaction with one's classmates. Students have weekly readings and must complete peer assessment tasks, discussion questions, learning journal activities, written assignments, quizzes and exams as they progress through the course. The weekly learning guide provides guidance on everything that has to be achieved that week.

In addition to fostering collaborative learning, courses are intentionally designed to reflect the multi-national, multi-cultural character of the student population. They are also structured to ensure that students engage with the subject at ever more-complex levels of cognition. Bloom's taxonomy of cognitive skills is utilized to create the course learning objectives and to align the content of the course with these objectives.
UoPeople uses Moodle as its learning management system. All course materials are stored in Moodle and all course activities take place in Moodle. Students submit their work, connect with Course Instructors and interact with fellow students in Moodle. Moodle links them to other institutional resources such as their student portal, the Catalog and Student Handbook, and the University's online library.

Moodle was built and has been maintained over the years by a cadre of volunteers using open source code. This allows end users not only to see the software source code, but also to modify it as well. Because Moodle was created using open source technology, it has no licensing or hardware costs, making it free to the end user. At the same time, Moodle is of such high quality that countless universities around the world have chosen to use it, even many that could otherwise afford to pay the high fees associated with most other learning systems.

Moodle’s flexibility is especially important to the University. It allows both synchronous and asynchronous interactions, although UoPeople's coursework is purposely asynchronous to accommodate a student population residing in all of the world's time zones. Moodle does not require broadband, which means that students with even rudimentary internet connectivity are able to access the courses. At the same time, it is mobile-friendly which is particularly important in areas without phone or cable service. Students are connecting from their home, office, internet cafés or wherever they are whenever they are ready to study. All of these features have made Moodle the obvious choice for UoPeople’s learning platform.

“I am incredibly humbled by the fact that I can push a few buttons here in Tokyo and help people all around the world change their lives and pursue their dreams. I feel so honored that I have been given the privilege to build the Moodle interface for UoPeople, and in turn play a role in making education a basic right for all.”

— Christian R. Thompson
LMS Administrator, Japan
University of the People believes that research is an important part of the institution’s mission. As a young organization with fixed resources, it has been limited in what it has been able to do thus far. When the opportunity does present itself, UoPeople is thrilled to be involved with research, as was the case during the 2014 academic year when Dean Alexander Tuzhilin used UoPeople to test a prototype designed to provide tailored supplemental support for our online student population, and the university enthusiastically welcomed and volunteered its knowledge to actively contribute to the initiative.

This personalized learning tool that Dean Tuzhilin and his team developed was tested over the course of several terms to assess core functionality as well as the capacity to provide personalized instruction at scale. Results of the pilot showed the program to be both effective and operationally sound.

The program followed every student in every UoPeople class and monitored performance on graded assignments, quizzes and exams. Areas for review and/or supplemental instruction were identified and guidance on additional readings, problem sets, etc., were provided to the individual student based on his/her specific error profile. The tool automatically directed the student to the resource that was appropriate to his/her needs. Consistent with UoPeople’s commitment to open educational resources, zero-cost texts and instructional materials, only open source materials were identified by the tool. Eighty percent of the students in the pilot reported finding the tailored support to be very useful and were glad that it was available to help them with their coursework. Test scores averaged 4-6 points higher as a result of the tailored supplemental support and final grades were a half point higher than the predicted grade.

Funding is now being sought to take the prototype to the next level. The pilot identified ways to strengthen the algorithms to enable the tool to pinpoint needs at an even more-micro level for an individual student. Analyses suggested that the refined algorithms would have the capacity to raise the predicted grade by a full point, and not just the half point seen with the prototype version.
Peer-to-peer learning is at the center of UoPeople’s interactive instructional model. It is structured on the premise that studying as part of an online learning community is highly motivating, and mastery is facilitated through actively applying one’s newly-acquired knowledge and skills. After reading the relevant material for the week, students are expected to contribute to the class discussion and comment on one another’s entries. Through the give-and-take of the discussion forum, students build on the contributions of others and collaboratively generate knowledge and understanding. Through peer assessment of course assignments, students consolidate their own mastery of the content and skills. With classmates from so many different countries, cultures and backgrounds, peer learning and assessment also broadens students’ appreciation for differing global perspectives and ideas. Course instructors participate in discussion forums as co-learners, and also to facilitate interaction and monitor assessment outcomes.

“I felt totally lost and alone before discovering University of the People – now I am a completely changed person. I have friends from all around the world and I believe that with my education I can conquer the world.”

Ivan Gjukić
Bachelor of Science in Computer Science

Qatar
On rare occasions when the opportunity presents itself, UoPeople partners with several organizations to offer a solution for those students without access to a computer or an internet connection. An example of this is the Student Computer Center that was assembled in Haiti following the horrific earthquake that took place in 2010. UoPeople committed to accepting 250 qualified Haitian youth to study for free online, helping them gain access to higher education and develop the skills necessary to aid in rebuilding their country. As most students lost everything in the earthquake, the establishment of a Student Computer Center was vital to ensure the initiative’s success. Thanks to the aid of a group of local NGOs such as The Haitian Connection Network, The Foundation for the Technological and Economic Advancement of Mirebalais (FATEM), and the ETRE Ayisyen Foundation, the Student Computer Centers were established and became a major success. The University was thrilled with the model’s results, as not only were underprivileged students given the opportunity to study, they were also offered personalized support, which encouraged excellent grades. Whilst UoPeople would be enthusiastic to mimic this model once again in other disadvantaged countries, as a non-profit university, our financial means are simply insufficient.

Applicants who are unable to demonstrate English language proficiency or who do not possess the mathematical foundation necessary to pursue a degree in Computer Science can be considered for admission as a Non-degree Special Student (NDSS). They are given the opportunity to strengthen their English and math skills by taking ENGL 0101 English Composition 1 and/or MATH 0101 Developmental Math. While these course(s) may not be used to meet the requirements of any UoPeople degree program, those who successfully complete the courses are eligible to then apply to become a Degree Seeking Student.
The Business Administration Program offers broad exposure to the world of business administration and economics. Behavioral and quantitative sciences are studied in both theoretical and applied contexts. Mathematics is used as a key tool in the analysis of complex problems and in the interpretation of data. Emphasis is placed on effective written communication. Students are made aware of the need for imaginative, innovative solutions to business problems that encompass human needs and ethical objectives.

The Associate of Science in Business Administration (AS-BA) program is built on a strong liberal arts foundation and provides a broad understanding of business and business fundamentals. Students learn how to apply appropriate business models in decision-making situations, perform effectively within a team environment, and apply ethical reasoning to business situations. The Associate's program introduces students to the basic tenets of the field and also provides a foundation for continued study towards a Bachelor of Science Degree.

The Bachelor of Science in Business Administration (BS-BA) program provides students with comprehensive knowledge of business theories and models and their application to real-world problems. In particular, leadership, entrepreneurship, and analysis of business problems and opportunities are emphasized. The BS-BA program connects business to the role of work in a global society, offering broad preparation for whatever career path a student might elect, as well as providing solid preparation for graduate study in this and related fields.

The Computer Science Program provides students with an appreciation of the foundations of computation, an understanding of the structure of programming languages, the skills to put these concepts and technologies into practice, and the know-how to utilize hardware to its fullest potential. It emphasizes the mathematical knowledge required for all aspects of software design, development and verification and ensures breadth through coursework in programming, databases, networking, graphics, artificial intelligence and the web.

The Associate of Science in Computer Science (AS-CS) program is built on a strong liberal arts foundation and enables students to explore the field from a range of perspectives, gaining a fundamental understanding of the mathematical and scientific principles underlying computing and information technology and of their application in the field. Students learn how to apply strategies for the effective design of computing systems; analyze problems using multiple perspectives, methods, and tools; and develop their critical thinking in respect to computer ethics. The associate's degree introduces students to the basic tenets of the field, grounds them in the techniques of computing, and also equips them for continued study towards a Bachelor of Science degree.

The Bachelor of Science in Computer Science (BS-CS) program provides students with in-depth knowledge and analytical skills associated with the design, development, testing and documentation of a range of operating systems, database management, and programming languages. With computers found in every aspect of today's society, students completing the Bachelor of Science Degree are prepared for a range of options, including continued study in the field at the graduate level.
In keeping with the basic tenets of a liberal arts education, every UoPeople degree program includes a strong General Education component. General Education courses help students develop thinking, analysis, and communication skills; acquire quantitative and scientific literacy; and understand the basic tenets of civic engagement, citizenship, and the ethical dimensions of behavior. They introduce students to the methods and concerns of the traditional branches of knowledge – the arts and humanities, the social and behavioral sciences, and the natural sciences – and offer a historical perspective and appreciation of diversity across time, culture and national boundaries. They open opportunities to make interdisciplinary connections between concepts and ideas, and provide an environment to contemplate their meaning and significance.

The General Education component adds depth and breadth to the curriculum and is taken by all students, regardless of the major being pursued. As a common learning experience, it fosters communication among students and serves as the foundation upon which to build the major program of study and to pursue a lifetime of learning.

Students complete the general education requirements by taking both required and elective courses. Required courses foster effective communication, develop research and writing skills, and expand the capacity for quantitative reasoning. Guided electives provide the flexibility for students to explore areas of personal interest while ensuring that primary academic skills are continuously developed in parallel.
University of the People’s Library and Resource Center (ULRC) provides students and faculty access to various collections of quality academic resources and services to support the University’s academic programs. Students and faculty have access to subscriptions via the Library and Information Resources Network (LIRN), a collection of over 60 million proprietary resources. Additionally, the center provides recommendations of Open Educational Resources, including open access textbooks, e-journals, and course materials, organized within the University created OER Toolbox. The Library Services offered by the ULRC also includes online access to assistance from librarians.
LEADERSHIP

OUR ACADEMIC TEAM

05

Read more
Dr. Russell S. Winer
Dean of Business Administration
Dr. Winer is the Dean and a William Joyce Professor of Marketing at New York University. He previously served on the faculties of Columbia University, Vanderbilt University, and the University of California, Berkeley. Dr. Winer received an M.S. and Ph.D. in Industrial Administration from Carnegie Mellon University.

Mr. Stephan Chambers
Mr. Chambers is Director of International Strategy at the Said Business School at the University of Oxford, and a Senior Research Fellow at Lincoln College. He was previously director of Oxford’s MBA and EMBA programmes. He sits on the advisory board of Princeton University Press and is a director of the Britdoc Charitable Trust, the Dartington Trust, and the Dragon School.

Dr. Ogechi Adeola
Associate Dean of Business Administration
As the Associate Dean, Dr. Adeola works closely with the Dean of Business Administration. She holds an MBA and a DBA in Business Administration from University of Manchester, United Kingdom. She teaches marketing management at the Lagos Business School, Pan Atlantic University, Nigeria.

Mr. John Gerzema
Mr. Gerzema is the CEO of WPP’s BAV Consulting. He guides a global management consultancy with expertise in corporate, brand, and marketing strategy. Recently he co-authored the New York Times best seller, The Athena Doctrine.

Dr. Kriengsak Chareonwongsak
Dr. Chareonwongsak is a Senior Fellow at Harvard University and a Fellow at Said Business School, University of Oxford. Previously, Professor Chareonwongsak was a Prime Ministerial Adviser in Thailand, a Member of Parliament, and the Vice Chair of the Economic Development Committee in the House of Representatives.

Mr. Ken Marlin
Ken Marlin leads Marlin & Associates, a boutique investment bank. In 2011 and 2014, Institutional Investor (“II”) magazine named Ken as one of the 50 most influential figures in the financial technology sector. Ken earned a BA from the University of California (Irvine), an MBA from UCLA, and an Advanced Professional Certificate from New York University. He is a former Captain in the US Marine Corps.

Ms. Toby Winer
Ms. Winer is a leading consultant in the higher education and professional services sectors, helping institutions return to financial health and enabling future growth based upon sound strategic planning and fiscal governance. She was formerly the Executive Vice President and CFO of Pace University.

Dr. Gabriel Hawawini
Dr. Hawawini is a Chaired Professor of Finance and former Dean of INSEAD. He is on the advisory board of MIT Sloan and Carnegie Mellon University in Qatar, and a board member of several companies. Dr. Hawawini is the Chair of UpPeople’s Advancement Committee.

Dr. Albert Wenger
Dr. Wenger is a partner at Union Square Ventures. Before joining USV, Dr. Wenger was the President of delicio.us through the company’s sale to Yahoo and an angel investor (Etsy, Tumblr). Wenger graduated with degrees in economics and computer science from Harvard College and holds a Ph.D. in Information Technology from MIT.
“As the Associate Provost of UoPeople, I ensure that the academic programs are of the highest quality. We design our courses to incorporate the latest pedagogical advances in online education, and our volunteer Course Instructors work with students in small groups to provide individualized support and attention. It is especially gratifying to be working with such talented teams. Everyone is deeply committed to the UoPeople mission, and it is this commitment that makes us passionate about what we do. I am proud to be the Associate Provost of UoPeople and to be playing a role in advancing the institution. The goal of serving students and ensuring their continuing success is of the highest calling, and I feel privileged to be a part of this endeavor.”
Professor Barry Dwolatzky

Professor Dwolatzky is a Professor of Software Engineering at Wits University and the Director and CEO of the Joubert Centre for Software Engineering (JCSE) at Wits. In November 2013, he was the joint winner of the South African IT Personality of the year award. Prof. Dwolatzky’s passion is to promote the growth and development of the South African software industry.

Professor HV Jagadish

Professor Jagadish is the Bernard A. Galler Collegiate Professor of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science at the University of Michigan. He obtained his Ph.D from Stanford University in 1985, and headed the database department at AT&T.

Dr. Mihai Nadin

Dr. Nadin’s concept of education in the age of digital interaction is recognized as a foundation for the renewal of higher education. Dr. Nadin has served as an Endowed Professor at the University of Texas since 2004, he is also the Founder and Director of antÉ Institute for Research in Anticipatory Systems.

Professor Vincent Oria

Professor Oria is an Associate Professor of Computer Science at the New Jersey Institute of Technology. His research interests include Spatio-temporal Databases, Multimedia Databases and Search in High-dimensional Spaces. He is the recipient of the 2014 NJIT College of Computing Sciences Outstanding Achievement in Research Award, and the 2015 ACM SIGMOD Test of Time Award.

Dr. Avi Silberschatz

Dr Silberschatz is the Sidney J. Weinberg Professor of Computer Science at Yale University. Prior to joining Yale, he was the Vice President of the Information Sciences Research Center at Bell Laboratories, New Jersey, and held a Chaired Professorship in the Department of Computer Sciences at the University of Texas at Austin.

Ms. Gabriele Zedlmayer

Ms. Zedlmayer is the VP & Chief Progress Officer of Corporate Affairs at Hewlett-Packard. In 2015 Inspiring Fifty named her as one of the 50 most inspiring women in technology. Ms. Zedlmayer earned a Bachelor’s Degree in Business from Georgia State University and an M.A. in Finance from the University of Miami.

Computer Science Leadership (continued)
“I’m constantly blown away by the opportunity the University of the People gives our students. I’m both humbled and excited when I think what our students can do with their education. Our students now have a chance to build a better life. Not only for themselves, but many of my students want to improve their communities. Perhaps it starts with one student, but the ripple effect of their education will be felt for generations.”

LIESHA PETROVICH

Business Administration Instructor, USA

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ARTS & SCIENCES LEADERSHIP

Dr. Dalton Conley
Dean of Arts & Sciences

Dr. Dalton Conley is University Professor at New York University and Visiting Professor at Princeton University. In 2005, he won the National Science Foundation’s Alan T. Waterman Award. Dr. Conley holds an M.P.A. and a Ph.D. in Sociology from Columbia University, and an M.S. & Ph.D. in Biology from NYU.

Dr. Michelle Rogers-Estable
Associate Dean of Arts & Sciences

Dr. Michelle Estable is currently the Manager of Online Learning at SUNY Delhi in New York. She has a Doctorate of Education (Ed.D) in Instructional Leadership and Distance Education, and a Master’s degree in Biology Education and Instructional Leadership.

Dr. Catherine M. Casserly

Dr. Casserly seeks to enable equitable learning opportunities, for all, across the globe. She is Vice President, Learning Networks at EdCast and a Fellow with the Aspen Institute. She was formerly CEO of Creative Common, while at the Hewlett Foundation, Casserly supported the development of the field of Open Educational Resources.

Dr. Michelle Casserly

Dr. Dalton Conley

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Dr. Preetha Ram
Dr. Preetha Ram is Co-founder and CEO of OpenStudy, and previously the Associate Dean for PreHealth and Science Education at Emory University. Her work is supported by the National Science Foundation, National Institutes of Health, and the Gates and Hewlett Foundations. She received a Ph.D. in Biophysical Chemistry from Yale, an MBA from Emory, and an M.Sc. in Chemistry from IIT Delhi.

Ms. Esther Wojcicki
Ms. Esther Wojcicki is the founder of the Media Arts Program at Palo Alto High School, now the largest in the US. She was 2002 Journalism Teacher of the Year for CA and serves as Chair of PBS Learning Matters and VChair of Creative Commons org

Dr. Geraldine Downey
Dr. Geraldine Downey currently serves as a Professor of Psychology at Columbia University and the Director of its Social Relations Laboratory. She has been Department Chair, Vice Provost for Diversity and Dean of Social Sciences for the Arts and Sciences at Columbia University. Dr. Downey received her M.A. and Ph.D from Cornell University.

Dr. Helena Hansen
Dr. Helena Hansen is an Assistant Professor of Anthropology and Psychiatry at NYU. As a RWJF fellow, she began to work on a feature-length visual documentary on race, class, and addiction pharmaceuticals. Dr. Hansen earned an MD and a Ph.D in cultural anthropology as part of Yale University’s NIH funded Medical Scientist Training Program.

Mr. M. Humayun Kabir
Mr. Humayun Kabir is the former Ambassador of the People’s Republic of Bangladesh to the United States (2007-2009). A career diplomat with the rank of Permanent Secretary to the Government, Mr. Kabir previously served as Bangladesh’s High Commissioner to Australia, New Zealand, and Fiji (2006-2007), as well as Ambassador to Nepal (2003-2006).

Dr. Darcy Brisbane Kelley
Dr. Darcy B. Kelley is the Harold Weintraub and HHMI Professor of Biological Sciences at Columbia University. Her research focuses on the neurobiology of vocal communication. Dr. Kelley is a fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science and the International Society for Neuroethology. She co-founded Columbia’s Frontiers of Science core course for entering students.

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Almost 60% of our U.S. students have indicated they are first generation in higher education, compared to a 20% national average.
"I derive great pleasure in helping young learners from all around the world achieve their academic goals and dreams. One of the main reasons I love volunteering at UoPeople is that it offers high quality education to any qualified person in the world. It's an incredible feeling to know that I have made an impact on so many peoples' lives. I may be the instructor, but I feel like I learn so much from my students every day and their inspiring stories are nothing short of incredible. They constantly express how happy they are to be studying at UoPeople, and that just inspires me to be an even better instructor. There is no other university quite like UoPeople, and I am so glad to be a part of this education revolution."
“As a course developer for University of the People, I am the architect who works behind the scenes to develop the courses within the pedagogical framework of the university. I have had vast experience in roles like these at other universities, however I find being a course developer is a bit of an art form here at University of the People, because of our vast and varied student body. I make sure that every student can maximize his or her potential through the courses, while not allowing the traditional banes of academe, like the all-too-familiar book expenses to get in the way. All of our courses are designed so that the student not only has access to lecture notes and added value materials, but also top notch learning texts that are found as open source. Furthermore, each course I create explores the cultures of our students. My goal here is to demonstrate that we may all come from different places, but everyone can learn something from each other.”
"As a member of the UoPeople Arts and Sciences board, I contribute my ideas and advice for the development and enhancement of the arts and science courses offered at the University. I chose to get involved in UoPeople because I am a huge believer in the necessity of affordable and accessible education for all, and I strongly believe in the University's mission. In my opinion, a Liberal Arts education is vital for students’ development and to become well-rounded individuals, ready to take on the world. It teaches students critical thinking, writing, mathematical skills and analytic abilities. I am ecstatic that I have been able, and continue, to contribute my expertise in the field in order to ensure that the arts and science courses offered at the University remain relevant, and at the highest level."
Lynne Johns
Director of Curriculum Development, USA

“The Director of Curriculum Development is a new position at University of the People and is testament to the significant growth the institution is experiencing as well as the demand for new courses and programs. Prior to joining UoPeople, I had worked in higher education for 20 years, but I was long considering making a career change because I felt I was not able to make a real difference in the way I had envisioned when I’d begun my career two decades before. I found my way to UoPeople, with its innovative model of accessibility, and I wanted to be a part of this ground-breaking effort. Helping to create new courses and programs that will keep the University’s offerings vital for our current and potential students is one of the most rewarding things I can imagine doing in the field of higher education.”
There are 50% more women in the UoPeople Computer Science Program compared to the U.S. average.

University of the People offers an intellectually rigorous, culturally enriching and highly interactive academic program. Courses are nine weeks long, and students are required to complete weekly assignments, projects, quizzes and exams.

Classes are small to ensure personalized attention and to support UoPeople’s collaborative learning model. Applicants have come from over 160 countries, which creates a highly diverse learning environment representative of today’s global society.

All instructional materials are provided within the course, allowing students to complete each week’s work at their own pace and on their own schedule. Students are guided by highly-qualified Course Instructors who help them become critical thinkers and engaged learners. When students need encouragement or assistance, their Course Instructor and peers are there to support them. As over 95% of our students have confirmed that they are receiving an excellent education, statistics thus indicate that UoPeople continues to open the gates to high quality education successfully on all fronts.
FARHA NASSER
Associate of Science in Computer Science

“I grew up in a poor family with eight siblings and my father was a fruit seller. All doors towards my educational dream were closed, but I never stopped dreaming it. Now, as a married Muslim woman with responsibilities at home, I cannot go out to pursue higher education and my dreams have come true only through UoPeople and online learning, it is perfect for me as I can study from home. I don’t want to be in poverty forever, I want to be employed and I want knowledge. I have a message to all the females who are not allowed or cannot afford to study, if I can do it, so can you!”
Sunday Ekejimbe
Bachelor of Science in Computer Science

“I was unable to attend university immediately after finishing high school due to financial hardship, however I never gave up on that dream. I then discovered UoPeople and couldn’t be more grateful. I am still in shock that it was possible for me to achieve my dream of attending university. Over and above that, the UoPeople online educational method makes it possible for me to study anytime, anywhere, so I am able to continue to work and provide for my family at the same time. UoPeople is an incredible option for anyone looking for high quality and affordable online higher education. It really is the best thing that ever happened to me.”
Carlos Ceballos
Bachelor of Science in Business Administration

“University of the People has given me the opportunity to follow my dreams. It has given me a chance at living a successful, fulfilled life despite my socio-economic status. No matter what the situation may be, UoPeople has always been there for me, supporting my education and future goals. University of the People has given me the opportunity to travel in a world rich in knowledge and culture, without leaving my home. I have made so many friends from all over the world, and have been taught by incredible instructors from world class universities. I feel blessed that I am a student of University of the People.”
EUNICE AMENYA
Associate of Science in Business Administration

“I am an ambitious girl with a dream and love to grab every opportunity that comes my way. In my community women don’t go to school as they are not considered to be intelligent enough. I refused to have someone tell me I wasn’t smart enough to achieve my dreams. UoPeople has given me the tools to prove these people wrong. I AM worthy of higher education and I know that I can achieve absolutely anything. University of the People is an amazing university where everyone is given equal opportunity irrespective of race, religion, political or family background.”
UoPeople’s Community Network

UoPeople has taken its online community to a whole new level. The University is proud to have launched an ambitious new social network to make communications easier across our complex web of students and graduates who hail from over 160 countries, along with numerous supporters and people in active managerial, instructional, volunteer and administrative roles, operating from every corner of the world.

UoPeople’s Community Network took off quickly following its April 2015 launch. In a short amount of time, it has become very lively, with scores of our current students – including staff and volunteers – tapping into the UoPeople Community Network daily from computers or smartphones around the world. More than simply a technology initiative, Yammer is the relationship building platform used for the UoPeople Community Network. It welcomes all of our diverse University members to take an active part in listening and contributing to our online global village, by forming and strengthening connections amongst one another.

The network affords the University’s community unlimited ways to tap into shared collective wisdom and provides a great network for growth. We look forward to the network’s continued success.

Meet Our Student

TEKLE ZEGERGIS
Associate of Science in Computer Science

“As a refugee, the idea of pursuing higher education seemed impossible and I understood that I would never have a chance at a brighter future. After many years of searching, I finally found UoPeople and with that, my wildest dream has come true. I still cannot believe I have been blessed with the opportunity to study at such an incredible university. My life finally has meaning and I have a reason to wake up each morning.”
Preparing for Graduation
Employment Oriented
MENTORSHIPS & INTERNSHIPS

Mentorships
Mentorship programs at University of the People provide support systems for students throughout their studies. Mentors are esteemed members of the UoPeople global community as well as industry professionals, who help guide our students during their time at the University. Students receive support and encouragement as they strive to reach their personal and professional goals through participation in mentorship programs such as The Microsoft 4Afrika Mentor Program, HP-UoPeople Mentoring Program and the UoPeople Mentorship Program.

Internships
Internship programs at UoPeople provide students and alumni with career building opportunities at a number of highly regarded global companies. Business Administration students are given the opportunity to intern with companies such as HP and BAV; Computer Science students can intern with companies such as LivePerson and Microsoft. Internship opportunities provide hands-on experience, as well as help build a strong resume and facilitate networking opportunities. The internships are unique in that they take place completely online; this allows students to continue studying while at the same time gaining valuable work experience.

MABEL MENARD
Mentor, USA

“As a mentor, I find it an absolute privilege to share my expertise and experience with my students. I really care about each one of my mentees and want to give them all the tools available to ensure their future success. In order to do that, I am actively involved in assessing the efficacy of the Mentorship Program, making sure it is relevant to individuals’ needs as well as providing recommendations to ensure its success. I am so inspired by my mentees’ stories and how much they have had to overcome in their lives. They may learn a lot from me, but I certainly learn a lot from them as well.”
University of the People’s Career Services Center offers career advising and guidance for professional exploration and success following the completion of a UoPeople degree. The Career Services Center provides students with in-depth, expert guidance along with tools to enhance necessary professional skills relevant to the world of work, including:

- Resume building and cover letter writing
- Job search skills
- Interviewing techniques
- Professional networking skills
- Career planning in the area of one’s major (i.e. business, computer science)

The Career Services Center is available to students throughout the course of their studies and even after they become alumni. Whether students are thinking about their first professional opportunity in the workplace, wish to advance in their current field, or are considering a career change, the Career Services Center has helpful tools to help them succeed.

Preparing students for the workforce is a high priority of UoPeople as students don’t only come to UoPeople for an education, but also to create and realize future aspirations and career goals. Beginning in the classroom, the rigor of our accredited degree programs is ensured by world-class academic leaders and academic partners. Our leaders come from universities such as the University of Oxford, Columbia University, and Yale University, and our partners include organizations such as the United Nations, UNESCO, and the Clinton Global Initiative, among others. Outside of the classroom, UoPeople students partake in internships, mentorship programs, and are opened up to job opportunities from our global corporate partners, including Microsoft and Hewlett Packard. Finally, by focusing on career planning, resume writing, interviewing, and job searching skills, UoPeople’s Career Services Center prepares students to find jobs after graduation. Given all of these exciting options, it is not surprising that UoPeople feels confident that its students will continue to be able to find jobs or advance in their current jobs.
Our Graduates

UoPeople has been in operation for only six short years and already there have been over 100 students graduate from its Computer Science and Business Administration programs. These graduates came to UoPeople from 30 different countries: Burkina Faso, Cameroon, China, Costa Rica, Cote d’Ivoire, Dominican Republic, Egypt, Ghana, Greece, Haiti, India, Indonesia, Italy, Jordan, Kenya, Kosovo, Mongolia, Nigeria, Pakistan, Philippines, Rwanda, Saudi Arabia, Spain, Syria, Tanzania, Ukraine, United States, Vietnam, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

Not only have they earned a degree, but they have also integrated into valuable networks and developed connections with students from all corners of the world. While they studied Computer Science and Business Administration, they simultaneously learnt about the vast range of diverse cultures and backgrounds of their peers acquiring a new understanding and definition of a global community and network.

The achievements of our early graduates inspire tremendous pride in adherence to our mission to open the gates of higher education. Some of our graduates have become entrepreneurs and owners of their own businesses, while others are employed by highly regarded companies like Voya Financial, Kavisha Corporation and Fuji Xerox.

The success of our graduates serves an important role for current UoPeople students. Their achievements are an inspiration to those who believed earning a degree was a dream completely out of reach, and paving the way as leaders for students to follow their footsteps with confidence, knowing that their dreams for a successful future are accessible, achievable and in their final stages, tangible with a degree in their hands. They have proven those who otherwise doubted them and most importantly to themselves, that they can transform their reality and accomplish their goals with the rewards of something that can never be taken from them.

We believe that UoPeople has equipped its graduates with the tools needed for their continued success, and that their contributions to society will be nothing short of outstanding. There will be many more graduates who will pass through the gates of UoPeople. They too will be blessed with brighter futures and they will, in turn, have an unquestionably positive effect on their communities and countries.

Meet Our Graduate

Henry Ozoebuka
Bachelor of Science in Computer Science

“I am from the South Eastern part of Nigeria. Here, access to high quality education is limited. I really don’t know what I would have done with my life if I hadn’t discovered UoPeople. There is no doubt that University of the People has changed my life for the better. After a lot of hard work, I finally earned a degree in Computer Science. It was a wonderful experience studying with the UoPeople community, and it allowed me to work and earn money for my daily necessities at the same time. Following my graduation, UoPeople gave me another incredible opportunity to be a part of the student/graduate ecosystem as one of its Admissions Advisors. It is wonderful to still be a part of the UoPeople family.”
New Bachelor of Science Degree in Health Studies Being Developed

Trained health professionals are in worldwide demand, with the shortage being particularly acute in developing countries. In the 57 most underserved nations, there are fewer than 2.3 nurses, midwives and doctors for every 1,000 people. Qualified health care providers are stretched to deliver even the most basic degree of care, and the sick are often forced to turn for treatment to individuals without sufficient training and/or a degree in the field. UoPeople is in the process of creating a Bachelor of Science degree in Health Studies to help address this critical need.

A number of mechanisms are in place to ensure that the program will be of the highest quality, and like all UoPeople programs, it will undergo careful review by the institution’s accrediting body to ensure that it meets rigorous quality standards. Only after that has happened will the institution begin recruiting students.

We are extremely excited at the prospect of adding such an important new major. Once the program has been approved, we expect there to be a great deal of interest among prospective students. It is the impact that our graduates will ultimately have in improving the health care crises around the world that will prove to be the most important outcome.

First Graduate Level Program Being Developed

UoPeople is in the process of developing its first graduate level program – the Master of Business Administration (MBA) program. In a market study done for UoPeople by graduate students at New York University, the MBA was cited amongst the most desired graduate programs by current students, alumni and others.

The program is taking shape under the guidance of Dean Russ Winer and the Business Administration Advisory Board. As envisioned, it will have two tracks, one in management and one in entrepreneurship. In the management track, coursework will emphasize strategic managerial competencies and the cross-cutting dimensions of globalism, diversity and cultural awareness. In the entrepreneurship track, the emphasis will be on preparation of innovative managers and spirited entrepreneurs aiming to initiate, establish or purchase their own ventures, to assume innovative roles in reputable organizations, or to become increasingly enterprising in their current roles.

Once the courses have been developed, the program will be submitted to the university’s accrediting agency for review and approval. UoPeople will formally announce the program and begin recruiting students only after the approval process has been completed. UoPeople is proud to offer students the opportunity to take the next step in their academic lives and in turn, open the gates to greater career prospects.
Shortly after the University was accredited, it began receiving requests from individuals asking the institution to accept transfer credits for courses taken at other accredited institutions so that they could study at University of the People and complete a degree. To date, UoPeople has not had the resources and manpower to respond to such requests, which means that these students have been required to start their studies from the very beginning, despite the fact that they may have already successfully completed some of the courses required by UoPeople for its degrees. The challenges of transferring credit and the implications of this for time-to-degree and student debt have received considerable attention in the media. Because this is such an important student issue, UoPeople has been working to create a transfer credit department so that it will be able to evaluate whether courses taken elsewhere are equivalent to UoPeople courses and whether the grades earned in the equivalent courses meet UoPeople standards. We hope to be able to begin accepting transfer credit during the coming academic year.

In addition to requests from individuals, UoPeople has also been receiving requests from other organizations that deliver educational services themselves to create articulation agreements that would automate transfer credit for certain courses taken by their students who then wish to study for a degree with UoPeople. UoPeople is in discussion with several such entities regarding how this could work. These agreements would result in giving even more individuals the opportunity to study at UoPeople.

“UoPeople is changing the world for the better. The incredible change is happening and leaving politics, religion, race and nationality aside, as well as any ideas that separate or divide us. UoPeople’s mission and purpose are founded upon concepts that unify and strengthen us; concepts such as integrity, courtesy, open mindedness, acceptance of cultural differences, honesty, and mutual respect. At the end of the day, we realize that as instructors, we are people helping people develop skills, knowledge and abilities that promote success and accomplishment in a global community. Together we are building a better, brighter tomorrow, a tomorrow where our children can grow in peace and prosperity. I’m glad to be a part of UoPeople.”

CURTIS VANCE
Computer Science Instructor, USA
Yale ISP - The Information Society Project at Yale Law School (Yale ISP) formed a research partnership with UoPeople in 2009. Yale ISP engages in research, advocacy, and network building to advance the marketplace of ideas supporting UoPeople’s effort to create accessible, high quality online higher education.

New York University - UoPeople established a relationship with New York University (NYU) to identify UoPeople students eligible for admission to one of the most selective institutions in the world: NYU Abu Dhabi. High performing students who have studied for at least one year at UoPeople and meet the standards of admission are eligible to apply, and successful applicants who qualify are also eligible for financial aid.

Accredible - is a Certificate Management Platform that enables the University to issue a range of different digital certificates free of charge, making this process a lot quicker and more convenient.

ASAL Technologies - University of the People and ASAL Technologies have partnered to create a technology center in Ramallah, West Bank. The center builds upon and enhances the technology infrastructure of University of the People. ASAL Technologies’ clients include Intel, Cisco Systems, and Volvo among others.

Barry Katz ltd. - has offered ongoing pro bono services to assist University of the People with its communication and presentation requests. Founded in 2001, Barry Katz Ltd. is a leading source of professional communication training which services companies internationally.

BAV - BAV Consulting - a subsidiary of Young & Rubicam (Y&R), offers ongoing pro bono services to help UoPeople to assess, position, and grow the brand awareness of UoPeople globally. It has also developed a special internship program for UoPeople’s students to train them in branding and marketing. BAV Consulting is the largest brand researcher in the world.

Dorsey and Whitney LLP - provides high-quality pro bono legal advice in the areas of accreditation, intellectual property, contract, fundraising and non-profit governance, and tax exemption matters for University of the People. Dorsey and Whitney LLP is a global law firm that has a deep commitment to providing pro bono legal services to organizations that help communities and disadvantaged individuals.

Hewlett-Packard - is one of the world’s largest technology companies. In addition to valuable general and in-kind support, it provides a scholarship and mentor program for female students as well as internship opportunities that allow our students to broaden their skills and apply theory to real world challenges. They also supported UoPeople in the effort to gain accreditation.

LivePerson - is an international online marketing company that works pro bono with University of the People to provide the engagement tools that connect website visitors to live people for assistance. In addition, LivePerson offers internship opportunities for UoPeople students.

Kaltura - Kaltura is a New York based software company who has generously donated its services to UoPeople. Some of these services include video editing and creating for UoPeople’s YouTube account. Students and potential applicants may access these videos for more information about the University.

KoomKoom Multimedia - offers pro bono services to University of the People by creating animated slideshows and explanatory videos that University of the People can share online. KoomKoom Multimedia provides everything for their clients, from concept and content to graphic, animation, and sound, so that their clients can present themselves in a unique and compelling way.

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NanoRep - is a self-service assistance platform that is provided to University of the People pro bono. The platform allows prospective students and website visitors to receive immediate answers to their inquiries, thus creating an individualized experience through highly relevant personalized content.

Microsoft - has partnered with UoPeople to offer scholarships to qualified African students. In addition to a full scholarship, students will receive access to Microsoft Certificate Programs, be assigned to Microsoft employee mentor, have internship opportunities during the course of their studies, and be eligible for employment opportunities within Microsoft and its over 10,000 partners across Africa.

Optiwise Ltd. - is an online marketing agency. They provide pro bono search engine optimization (SEO) to UoPeople to help maximize the University’s online exposure in search engines and social media outlets. They also offer complete marketing solutions to companies and organizations, including PPC, SMM, Content Management, Site Analysis and Conversion Optimization.

Render Design Studio - are experts in building strategy, branding, visual language, and implementing design in all media. They partnered with University of the People to provide strategic design, branding, web, and online and offline marketing design (including the design of the UoPeople Annual Reports, as well as the website).

Saylor Foundation - is a non-profit organization dedicated to driving the cost of education down to zero by offering hundreds of online courses to anyone in the world who wishes to study at his or her own pace. The Saylor Foundation first partnered with University of the People in 2012 by adapting its Business Law course for use by UoPeople. The Partnership allows Saylor Foundation content to be utilized by new audiences and to be offered as part of an official degree delivered by academic instructors.

Varsity Outreach - uses innovative technology and expertise to create a private online community on Facebook for prospective University of the People students. Through this community, prospective students can ask questions and gain insight from current students while engaging with their future classmates. These services are provided pro bono.

Vice Versa Films - is a production house for narrative feature films, TV series, shorts, and documentary projects in all media. Since 2009, Vice Versa has produced award winning films which have been shown worldwide. Vice Versa partnered with UoPeople to produce short video clips about the University students and graduates around the world.

VML, Inc. - is one of the world’s leading digital marketing agencies, and provides pro bono services to University of the People, supporting a variety of digital marketing initiatives. Marketing efforts are designed to foster social engagement, spreading the word about UoPeople and connecting with students who can benefit from tuition free higher education.

ymarketing - is a data-driven media and marketing agency that provides its services to UoPeople pro bono. With their best-in-class technology platforms, ymarketing helps University of the People to utilize its Google Grant to create high-reach campaigns that increase UoPeople’s online exposure. ymarketing’s continuous focus on creative solutions lead to strong, impactful user experiences and measurable results.
In just six years since its establishment, UoPeople has reached 1.2 million supporters on Facebook. UoPeople uses Facebook to increase brand awareness, connect with prospective students, and stay in touch with current students as well as graduates. For a university Facebook page, this is a remarkable number to reach in such a short period of time and demonstrates the escalating worldwide support of accessible and affordable higher education for all. Come and join the conversation!

“I founded University of the People, a nonprofit, tuition-free, degree-granting university to create an alternative to those who have no other, an alternative that will be affordable and scalable, an alternative that will disrupt the current education system, open the gates to higher education for every qualified student regardless of what they earn, where they live, or what society says about them.” This is an excerpt from President Shai Reshef’s TED Talk at the 2014 TED conference.

TED is a series of conferences that are presented live and then shared online. TED Talks have been watched by over one billion people worldwide, and it is considered to be one of the most prestigious conferences in the world. With over 2 million views of President Reshef’s speech, TED has successfully assisted in spreading the word about UoPeople. With UoPeople’s very limited marketing budget, this kind of publicity is invaluable, and indeed the impact has been great. Thanks to TED, we have been able to unite even more individuals interested in joining the cause to make higher education accessible worldwide.

HERBERT KINOTI
Associate of Science in Business Administration

“Interacting with students from different cultures with different values and beliefs has blessed me with new cultural perspectives and has opened my eyes. I honestly believe that UoPeople represents the future of education, and I feel so lucky that I was chosen to be a part of this global village.”
"The University of the People concept is grand."

"A fast growing digital education alternative."

"The international, tuition-free, nonprofit institution, founded in 2009, is a pioneering effort in e-learning and peer-to-peer learning."

"The students expect to get as good a degree as one offered by a bricks-and-mortar US university and are prepared to work hard to achieve it."

"The up and coming breed of online learning offers its own distinct advantages."

"The New York Times"
Amnesty International - is a non-governmental organization that campaigns to end human rights violations worldwide. Amnesty International has partnered with University of the People to spread the word about the University to refugees and asylum seekers who would otherwise have no access to higher education.

ARDC - The African Refugee Development Center (ARDC) is a non-profit organization founded by refugees to assist, support, and empower refugees and asylum seekers. The ARDC has collaborated with UoPeople to spread the word to refugees about UoPeople and by providing student support.

Ashoka - President Shai Reshef was inducted into the International Ashoka Fellowship in recognition of his revolutionary venture, UoPeople. President Reshef was elected an Ashoka Fellow in December 2009. The program lends UoPeople professional support, including access to a global network of nearly three thousand fellows throughout the world.

Calvary Christian Professional School - was created by Haitian Support Ministries to improve the lives of students in Haiti. They partnered with University of the People to provide a student computer center in Haiti where students are able to easily access their online studies.

Clinton Global Initiative - At the CGI Annual Meeting in 2010, UoPeople committed to accept 500 qualified Haitian students to study online. This initiative provides Haitian students with skills to assist in rebuilding Haiti. By September 2013, over 200 Haitian students had been accepted to UoPeople, and by September 2014, the commitment was successfully fulfilled.

HIAI - United Nations Academic Impact (UNAI) is a global initiative that aligns institutions of higher education with the United Nations. The goal of UNAI is to further the realization of the purposes and mandate of the Organization through activities and research in a shared culture of intellectual social responsibility. UoPeople is proud to be a member of the UNAI.

Partners For a New Beginning - Chaired by Former US Secretary of State, Madeleine K. Albright, PNB is a collection of public-private partnerships committed to broadening engagement between the US and Muslim communities abroad. In collaboration with PNB, UoPeople works with Partners for a New Beginning towards accepting students from PNB's target countries - Turkey, Indonesia, Gaza/West Bank, Egypt and Pakistan.

RSA - President Shai Reshef was inducted into the RSA Fellowship in recognition for his ground breaking venture in higher education. RSA have been at the forefront of social change for 260 years, and everything they do is driven by their mission to enrich society through ideas and actions.

UNESCO - The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, collaborates with UoPeople to develop capacity, strategy, and frameworks for delivering education based on information and communication technology (ICT), particularly in developing countries. An MOU was signed between UoPeople and UNESCO in order to advance our mutual goals.

UNHCR - The Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) works to protect the rights and well-being of refugees and stateless people all over the world. UNHCR works with University of the People by assessing the refugee status of individuals who wish to apply to UoPeople through UoPeople’s Refugee and Asylum-Seeker Admissions Policy.
Inspirational Students
From a Dream to a Reality

10 Inspirational Students
Fondation Hoffmann
Fondation Hoffmann has generously sponsored a scholarship that is available to all University of the People students, with a special emphasis on students from West Africa. This support enables motivated students who cannot afford it otherwise, the opportunity to earn an accredited academic degree.

The Gabriel and Marci Hawawini Scholarship Fund
Gabriel and Marci Hawawini have generously committed to sponsor disadvantaged students working towards the attainment of associate's degrees at UoPeople. This fund is open to both men and women.

The Gutwirth Foundation Scholarship Fund
The Gutwirth Foundation Scholarship Fund 2015 was created especially for degree seeking students born or living in Israel or Palestine. Thanks to this scholarship, eligible students receive funding for Exam Processing Fees for an Associate's Degree.

Hagit and Oren Zeev Scholarship Fund
The Hagit and Oren Zeev Scholarship Fund is available to degree seeking students studying towards an associate's degree. Recipients of this scholarship will have Exam Processing Fees funded.

Hewlett-Packard (HP) Women’s Scholarship Fund
Hewlett-Packard has a long-standing commitment to global citizenship, education and gender equality. HP has committed to sponsor women studying for their Associate’s degrees with UoPeople in order to support HP’s goal of helping women around the world advance professionally.

Krüger Myanmar Scholarship
The Krüger Myanmar Scholarship was created for degree seeking students born or residing in Myanmar.

Microsoft 4Afrika Scholarship Program
The program provides African students with full funding towards the study of an associate degree. Recipients may also be eligible to access a host of Microsoft programs, receive a Microsoft Mentor while studying, do internships at Microsoft, train with Microsoft, and have access to the Microsoft Innovation Centre Labs. Additionally, graduates of the program may be eligible for employment opportunities with Microsoft and its over 100,000 partners across Africa.

The Pundak–Mintz Africa Fund
The Pundak-Mintz Africa Fund was donated by Adi Pundak-Mintz for degree seeking African students and applicants. Eligible students receive Exam Processing Fees towards an Associate’s Degree.

The Small Giants Scholarship Fund for Refugees
The Small Giants Scholarship Fund for Refugees was donated by Berry Liberman and Danny Almagor. It is part of the commitment to better the lives of students who are refugees or asylum seekers by funding associate degrees for qualified students.

Western Union Scholarship Fund
With a global presence and a commitment to education, Western Union supports scholarships for students from selected countries, including Brazil, China, Colombia, India, Jamaica, Mexico, Morocco, Nigeria, Philippines, Romania, Russia, Senegal, and Turkey.

UoPeople currently offers the following Sponsored Scholarship Funds, which are generously supported by companies, foundations and private individuals. UoPeople welcomes the creation of additional individual, foundation or corporate Private Scholarship Funds. Please contact scholarships@uopeople.edu for details on how you can create your own privately named scholarship fund. Alternatively, please consider donating to one of our designated funds.

55% of U.S. Bachelor degree holders come from the upper 4th income quartile. 92% of our students come from the lower 3 quartiles.

About 1/3 of our U.S. student body is foreign-born.

About 1/3 of our U.S. students are carrying student loan debt from previous universities.

Almost 40% of our working U.S. students have advanced in their career since beginning their studies at UoPeople.
### GRANTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grant</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bill &amp; Melinda Gates Foundation</td>
<td>Supported UoPeople’s work to attain academic accreditation and assists in strengthening academic affairs, technological infrastructure and course development.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carnegie Corporation of New York</td>
<td>Provided a matching grant toward UoPeople attaining academic accreditation as well as supporting academic affairs, technology and course development.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Estee Lauder Companies Inc.</td>
<td>Provides core funding to assist UoPeople in its day-to-day operations and helps it to further its mission.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ewing Marion Kauffman Foundation</td>
<td>Provides operational support to the University helping to enhance its academic and legal departments.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fondation Hoffmann</td>
<td>Provides funding for the development of a Health Science program along with scholarship support and funding towards spreading the word about UoPeople, especially to West Africa.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Goodman Family Supporting Foundation</td>
<td>Provides core funding for UoPeople operations as well as supported UoPeople's accreditation process. Provides core funding for UoPeople's day-to-day operations, and assists it in furthering its mission. It also supported UoPeople throughout its accreditation process.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hewlett-Packard</td>
<td>Provides scholarship support, as well as general and in-kind support, donating computer equipment to the University and to its allies in Haiti. Hewlett-Packard also supported the University’s work towards accreditation.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>McCall MacBain Foundation</td>
<td>Provides core funding to the University for its day-to-day operations.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Microsoft</td>
<td>Supports scholarships for promising African students through its eAfrica program. Scholarship students may also be eligible for a range of further programs, including mentoring, training, internships and employment opportunities at Microsoft.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Passport Capital</td>
<td>Provided core funding to UoPeople to help assist in its operational needs.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pfizer Inc.</td>
<td>Provides funding for the development of a Health Science program that will address the worldwide shortage of health workers.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Porticus</td>
<td>Created by one of the oldest and most philanthropic families in Europe, Porticus partnered with UoPeople to provide core funding to assist UoPeople in its day-to-day operations, and helps it to advance in its mission in opening the gates to higher education to all deserving students all around the world.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The William &amp; Flora Hewlett Foundation</td>
<td>Provides funding for board development, strategic planning, strengthening academic affairs, opening access to UoPeople courses and the University’s accreditation work.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Twitter for Good</td>
<td>Provides a grant to support UoPeople’s Twitter presence in order to maximize its Tweets reach and help the UoPeople brand become more prominent.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Google for Non-Profits</td>
<td>Provides a grant to support and optimize UoPeople’s online PPC presence (AdWords), and provides special privileges for other Google products, such as YouTube.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pfizer Inc.</td>
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</table>
Dear President Shai Reshef,

My name is Hamisu Jafaru from Nigeria; I am a Computer Science student at University of the People. From the bottom of my heart, in absolute sincerity, I pour out my appreciation to you, your wisdom and understanding of how humanity is supposed to be.

I was nobody in 2010 but because of UoPeople I am now somebody. Today, I am the Information System Officer at my work. I was given this position in 2011 after my company understood how much I had to offer, thanks to my UoPeople education. My colleagues constantly come to me for assistance and I couldn’t be prouder or happier to help.

I want to thank you for the privilege you gave me to study at University of the People. It was my dream to work in the IT industry, and UoPeople provided me with the path towards achieving that dream. I thank you for using the wisdom God gave you towards helping so many achieve their dreams.

A few years ago I had no idea how my future would look. Today, I can confidently say that I will have a very bright future, and it’s all because of you and UoPeople.

Thank you from the bottom of my heart for giving meaning to my life – it is something I will never forget nor take for granted.

Hamisu Jafaru
Bachelor of Science in Computer Science

Hagit & Oren Zeev

“UoPeople’s mission is one very close to our hearts. From the moment we heard about the University we knew it was something that we had to get involved in. All qualified individuals should have access to quality higher education, however this was not the case until UoPeople came into the picture. UoPeople is changing the world and will continue to do so for years to come. We will continue to give our support to this incredible cause in any way we can because in our opinions, there is nothing more important than providing high quality education to all, regardless of race, socio-economic status or location.”
We received the UoPeople newsletter a few months ago and were so touched by the story of a young student named Joan that we knew we had to get involved. We read about all the hardships she had endured in her life and we wanted to take a weight off her shoulders. We decided to add to our original scholarship fund, and provide her with funding for the remainder of her studies at UoPeople. We feel it is a responsibility of those more fortunate to do what they can in assisting those less fortunate. Quality higher-education that people around the world can afford is the key to sustainable development and prosperity. This is what University of the People is aiming for and this is why it deserves our broadest support.

Meet our Supporters

Marci & Gabriel Hawawini

“We received the UoPeople newsletter a few months ago and were so touched by the story of a young student named Joan that we knew we had to get involved. We read about all the hardships she had endured in her life and we wanted to take a weight off her shoulders. We decided to add to our original scholarship fund, and provide her with funding for the remainder of her studies at UoPeople. We feel it is a responsibility of those more fortunate to do what they can in assisting those less fortunate. Quality higher-education that people around the world can afford is the key to sustainable development and prosperity. This is what University of the People is aiming for and this is why it deserves our broadest support.”

Dear UoPeople,

I am overwhelmed with emotion. I have just received the incredible news that two of UoPeople’s supporters, Dr. Gabriel and Marci Hawawini, have decided to provide me with a scholarship for the remainder of my studies. Not only that, but HP have very generously decided to give me a computer to enable me to study at any time. I don’t even know how to express my gratitude.

I have had my fair share of challenges during my short life – being without parents in the U.S. and having to work double shifts just to make ends meet has been extremely tough. Also, the fact that I was undocumented meant that I had to forgo a full scholarship to Harvard, which was another huge setback. Finding UoPeople has been my savior and knowing that there are people out there who believe in the University so much that they are willing to fund my studies is nothing short of incredible.

Before UoPeople, the idea of a high quality education was impossible. Now I have the gift of a high quality education and a bright future ahead.

I hope there are other generous people out there like Dr. Gabriel and Marci Hawawini, and companies like HP, who will also offer other underprivileged individuals the chance at a brighter future.

I am forever grateful for UoPeople.

Joan Y.

Bachelor of Science in Business Administration

A thank you letter from a student

Meet our Supporters

Marci & Gabriel Hawawini

Inspirational Students

Scholarship Programs

Global Support

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Scholarship Programs

Global Support
With the support of our donors UoPeople has been able to build the University, develop programs and services for our students, and reach out to underserved populations around the globe. Our donors are transforming lives by making higher education accessible to those who have no other alternative. In the coming years we plan to rapidly expand our student body and provide them with the powerful gift of tertiary education. We look forward to the ongoing support of our donors and invite people to join us in opening the gates to higher education.

Supporters | $500+

Anonymous
Michael Bijaoui
Charles Bleehen
Karen Botten
Anonymous
Anonymous
Give for Youth
Mr and Mrs Larry Goldstein
Steven Luzie
Anonymous
Anonymous
Ken Rife
Anonymous
Negin Sobhani
Scott Turner
YourCause LLC
Gail and Eli Zybert
Will Carlos
William Shang

Friends | Up to $500

UoPeople is grateful to the numerous individuals who generously donated up to $500 to support the University.

This list is complete as of August 31, 2015. UoPeople has taken great care to ensure that the information included in this Honor Roll is accurate and complete. However, errors can occasionally occur. If you donated to UoPeople between January 1st, 2009 and August 31, 2015 and find your name missing, misspelled or listed incorrectly, please accept our apologies. Help us correct our records by contacting: donations@uopeople.edu

Trustees' Circle | $500,000+

Chris Anderson and Jacqueline Novogratz
Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation
Foundation Hoffmann
Google Grants
Microsoft Corporation
Rosenthal and Shi Shechter

Provost's Circle | $250,000+

Hewlett-Packard
The William and Flora Hewlett Foundation

Deans' Circle | $100,000+

Carnegie Corporation of New York
Ewing Marion Kaufman Foundation
The Goodman Family Supporting Foundation
Kenneth Marlin and Jaqueline Barnathan
Anonymous
Albert Wenger
Hagit and Oren Zeev

Patrons | $10,000+

Amsalem Tours
Ashok Chandrasekhar
Itzik Danziger
Easy Bay Community Foundation
Anonymous
Intel Foundation
Kosef Charitable Fund
Sara Miller McCune
Anonymous
Jed Walentas

Benefactors | $25,000+

Patrick Drahi
Gemini Israel Funds
Anonymous
International Student Identity Card (ISIC) Association
Gatesch Foundation
Gabriel and Mari Haaswits
Kruger Foundation
Berry Liberman and Danny Almagor
McCall MacBain Foundation
Amy and Mike Mohtare
Passport Capital
Plzen Inc.
Aki Pundak
Eddy Shalev
Western Union Foundation

Partners | $1,000+

Ogechi Adeola
William R. Allman, Ed D
Robert Angarita
Anonymous
Anonymous
Karol Castro - Wunsch
Anonymous
GetEducated.com
Daniel Greenwood and Carol Salem
Vanessa Grellet
Patricia Hallstein and Axel Kramer
Aron Hawkey
The Heyday Foundation
Nanto Himawan
Anonymous
The Late Martin Kace
David Ethan Korneimer
Anonymous
The Estee Lauder Companies Inc
Orlee and Jeff Fromm
Harold Lindenthal
Mireille and Robert Manoucherian
Microsoft strategic R&D Center in Israel
Anonymous
Anonymous
Daniel Pianko
Anonymous
Maxim Sadik
Rony Schlaepfer
Judith Shapiro
Avishai Silvershatz
Anonymous
The Teagle Foundation
Ruthy and Dan Tenenboim

Sant and Omer Tenenbaum
Suzanne Wainman & Martin Friedman
Anonymous
Russ and Toby Winer
Shiri and Asaf Wolff
Anonymous
The Late Gordon Zacks
Anonymous

Philanthropic Honor Roll

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Do you want to positively impact the lives of individuals worldwide? By donating to UoPeople, or starting your own scholarship fund, you can change peoples’ lives by providing them with the gift of education. We have the power to create a better world, starting with greater educational opportunities for qualified individuals who are financially, geographically, or otherwise constrained. Together we can make higher education a basic right for all, rather than a privilege for the few.

Donate online ▶
On our website
www.UoPeople.edu

Or send checks to:
University of the People
225 S. Lake Ave, Suite 300
Pasadena, CA 91101, USA
Thank you