

POINT PARK UNIVERSITY

For Immediate Release

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Lexi Belculfine named next Managing Director of University's Center for Media Innovation

--She joins Point Park after distinguished journalism career across Pennsylvania--

PITTSBURGH, PA – Point Park University has named Lexi Belculfine as the new Assistant Vice President and Managing Director of the [Center for Media Innovation](#).

"The CMI has accomplished so much in its first decade thanks to the leadership of Founding Director Andrew Conte and the stellar team here. It's shaped a national model for what collaborative journalism can look like in a market," Belculfine said. "This opportunity is a dream come true for me — to build on that legacy with our students, faculty and staff, media partners, collaborators, and funders to create and shape the future of innovation in journalism."

Belculfine spent more than a decade as a digital journalist in Pennsylvania. In 2016, she launched The Incline, a digital news start-up covering Pittsburgh. She also worked at the Philadelphia Inquirer, overseeing digital strategy and daily website and app operations, as well as the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette. She earned an undergraduate degree in print journalism at Penn State University and an MBA at the University of Pittsburgh's School of Business.

"The CMI has proven to be an enormous asset for both Point Park University and the Greater Pittsburgh Region, and it offers a motivated leader enormous opportunities," said Shari Payne, Provost and Senior Vice President of Academic Affairs. "I am very confident that Lexi can continue to build on the CMI's impact both in the region and across the country."

Since its founding in 2016, the CMI has built a national reputation for its work in developing the next generation of journalists while supporting professional journalists and news outlets. The CMI established the [Pittsburgh Media Partnership](#), which includes more than 40 news outlets, to encourage collaboration by developing and distributing resources, building capabilities and advocating for local journalism. The CMI also operates the [Pittsburgh Downtown Media Hub](#) in the Benedum Trees Building on Fourth Avenue. The Hub serves as a collaborative space for local news outlets and hosts the [Pittsburgh Media Partnership Newsroom](#).

Conte left Point Park earlier this year to become editor and director of Newsworks Lab, a new Pittsburgh-based investigative newsroom launched by Trib Total Media.

“I’m extremely pleased that Lexi will be leading the CMI into the future,” Conte said. “She has the ability to dream big, articulate her ideas and excite others in ways that make them want to be part of her team. The local news ecosystem across the region will be stronger for her efforts.”

The CMI and its programs receive support from The Benter Foundation, The Heinz Endowments, Henry L. Hillman Foundation, The Pittsburgh Foundation and Posner Foundation of Pittsburgh.

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Point Park University, immersed in the heart of Downtown Pittsburgh, focuses on student success through innovative experiential learning opportunities. Point Park enrolls more than 3,900 students in over 100 undergraduate, master’s and doctoral programs offered through its Conservatory of Performing Arts (School of Dance and School of Film, Theatre and Animation), Rowland School of Business, and schools of Arts and Sciences, Communication, and Education. The University’s alumni and students represent all 50 states and 34 countries around the world. Visit PointPark.edu to learn more.