



Head of School
Robert College
Istanbul, Turkey
(to begin in July 2019 or 2020)

Deadline: Monday, October 22, 2018

The Opportunity

A search is underway for an experienced school leader to become the next Head of School at Robert College, a preeminent selective co-educational high school for top Turkish students in Istanbul, Turkey. Instruction is in English and Turkish.

Robert College is one of the most prestigious and academically advanced American style high schools operating internationally.

THE SCHOOL

Founded in 1863, Robert College is a private secondary school governed by the Board of Trustees of a New York City based not-for-profit organization and accredited by the New York State Association of Independent Schools while also operating under the jurisdiction of the Turkish Ministry of Education. Throughout its 150+ year history, Robert College has always sought to exemplify academic excellence in Turkey.

A co-educational, day and residential, university preparatory school, Robert College (RC) is located on a sixty-five acre wooded area overlooking the Bosphorus strait with an enrollment of approximately 1040 students.

RC seeks to graduate young men and women with the skills, insights, and determination to function as leaders and contributing citizens in a wide range of social and cultural roles, both locally and internationally. RC is proud to have graduated prime ministers, Olympians, notable academicians and a Nobel Laureate among many others successful in their respective fields. Prominent and loyal RC alumni are immensely proud of their school and want to remain associated with the school throughout their lives.

RC serves Turkish students admitted solely on the basis of a highly competitive national exam. The School attracts the best and the brightest students in Turkey. It is only able to enroll students scoring within the top 0.2% of the more than one million test takers who take the exam. Thus, the academic ability of the student body is extraordinary. Virtually all students who enroll will graduate. Graduates continue their higher education at top-ranked universities in Turkey and abroad.

RC is home to a diverse student body. Residential students who come from outside Istanbul comprise a fifth of the student body. The availability of residence halls contributes significant geographic diversity and the generous financial aid program enables socio-economic diversity. Approximately 30% of students receive financial aid to attend Robert College.



Core Values

EXCELLENCE: Robert College serves Turkey as a model of educational excellence with the highest academic standards and quality of teaching.

RESPONSIBILITY: Robert College students are expected to accept the responsibilities imposed by freedom, to work hard in every aspect of school life, and behave with integrity.

LEADERSHIP: Robert College prepares students to be leaders in their communities and beyond, and cultivates altruism in all students.



MULTICULTURALISM: Robert College believes in educating a diverse student body with a multilingual, multicultural approach while emphasizing tolerance and respect for the views of others.

BALANCE: Robert College offers a rich and diverse curriculum focused on academics, the arts, athletics, extracurricular activities and wellness.

History



Robert College is the oldest continually-operating American school founded outside the US. The school opened in 1863, to educate boys and in 1871 as the American College for Girls (ACG). In 1971 the two schools merged under the name Robert College, as a co-educational institution. With the implementation of eight-year compulsory education in Turkey in 1997, Robert College's middle school closed down and it became solely a high school.

Robert College has always been a pioneer in educational innovation. For example:

- The first student council in Turkey was founded at ACG in 1892.
- A medical school for women opened for the first time in Turkey in 1920.
- The first yearbook in Turkey was printed by RC in 1924.
- The oldest literary magazine of Turkey, İzlerimiz (Our Imprint), was published by RC.
- The first child study center in Turkey was opened at ACG in 1958.

Today, students who enter Robert College study in a one-year innovative Prep program, followed by four years of high school. More recently, the School has developed an exemplary community involvement program, extensive international travel opportunities, and over 100 vibrant co-curricular clubs. Many Robert College alumni, from its inception until today, have become leaders in their fields, including diplomacy, politics, business, arts, and academics.

CURRICULUM

Robert College has created an academic program designed to enable talented, highly motivated students to pursue academic excellence and acquire fluency and literacy in English and Turkish. It seeks to develop in students the desire and ability to communicate openly, candidly and constructively, and to foster in them a broad international outlook. Students are also encouraged to be life-long learners, to develop creative and critical thinking skills, as well as to acquire knowledge vital for success in the 21st-century world.



Both within and beyond the classroom, Robert College teaches its students to value integrity and to understand that democratic freedom entails responsibility as well as sensitivity to and respect for the needs, rights, and property of others. Through academic and co-curricular activities, students develop the individual interests and aptitudes that will allow them to contribute to society in areas such as education and research, technology, government, social services, commerce, and the arts.

English is the language of instruction in science, mathematics, literature, physical education, art and music, whereas Turkish is the instructional language in social sciences and Turkish language/literature courses. All students are required to take a minimum of two years of a second foreign language. By graduation, students will have completed a demanding program averaging nine courses per semester, designed to prepare them for success at universities either abroad or in Turkey.



A major distinguishing feature of the school is the rich co-curricular program. Over 100 clubs are offered to students each year covering a wide range of categories including arts and performance, personal skills, creativity, culture, academic learning, physical fitness, and community service. These clubs contribute to the self-confidence and diversified education of the students. The versatility gained at school becomes a natural tool in the students' future professional lives.

The Community Involvement Projects (CIP) reflect the school's core values: Responsibility, Leadership, Multiculturalism, Balance, and Excellence. The program's aim is to create socially responsible citizens who see a need in the community and then act on it. Projects are student-initiated and student-led.

FACULTY

Our faculty, 77% who have a master's degree or higher, have an average of over 20 years of teaching experience. About half are native English speakers. All the school staff and teachers continuously seek professional development opportunities to provide the best education to the students.

STUDENTS

Robert College enrolls day and boarding students, the latter comprising a fifth of the student body. Approximately 1040 students are enrolled. Students are bright, engaged, curious, polite, well-behaved, and hard-working. The adults in the community praise RC students and truly believe that it is a privilege to teach them. All students must take a full preparatory year of intensive ESL instruction before entering our regular high school program, regardless of the students' prior knowledge of English.



THE CAMPUS

The campus is another important factor in the development of the students. Located on a sixty-five-acre wooded area, the school is situated in a quiet and green environment away from the commotion of the fast-growing city.



Robert College boasts an extraordinary campus by all counts, encompassing grand views of the Bosphorus and is nestled in one of the most beautiful corners of Istanbul, an extraordinarily vibrant, contemporary and ancient city all at once. The campus is made up of both historic buildings and sites as well as a newly built student center/cafeteria. Several other improvements and upgrades are also underway.

The classrooms, offices, media centers, residences and the library are continuously renovated to meet newly arising needs. The

library media center offers study, leisure, and personal development possibilities to students and staff. The library's collection is rich and diverse, holding print and electronic resources in four languages and providing database access to hundreds of thousands of articles from around the world.

The computer center is equipped with the latest technology, and there is wireless internet access throughout campus. Classes use smart boards, laptops, internet, films, and videos. All classrooms and laboratories are equipped with permanent projectors.

The theater, Suna Kıraç Hall, has a seating capacity of 530, and is equipped with professional sound and lighting systems. Plays, musicals, and concerts are staged each year. In addition to plays in Turkish and English, others are performed in French and German. A second auditorium has a seating capacity of 180.

In addition to the recently renovated gym that comprises the basketball and volleyball courts, there is a fitness room and a multipurpose indoor court. Outdoor facilities include a track, two playing fields and four tennis courts.



Position Overview

The Head of School is the chief academic and administrative officer of Robert College and reports to the Board of Trustees.

DUTIES & RESPONSIBILITIES

- Provides educational leadership and vision for the future of Robert College
- Recruits, mentors, and participates in the evaluation of highly qualified faculty, administrators, and staff with the Turkish Director and Academic Director
- Oversees the preparation of financial budgets and targets for the operating budget and capital investments with the Director of Business and Finance
- Represents the School in local and international communities
- Manages all aspects of the School in accordance with the policies and guidelines established by the Board, and the expectations of the Turkish Ministry of Education
- Is responsible for ensuring Robert College's accreditation status with NYSAIS
- Plays an active role in Robert College's development, fund-raising, and institutional advancement activities
- Promotes the professional development of all faculty, administrators, and staff
- Promotes close relationships between the student body, faculty, administration, and staff
- Chairs the Administrative Team
- Assigns areas of responsibility to individual administrators in the Administrative Team
- Oversees the work of administrators and department heads
- Oversees the university counseling offices
- Plans and oversees Graduation with the Academic Director and Turkish Director

ACADEMIC AND PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATIONS PREFERRED

- Previous successful international experience in executive or administrative roles, preferably as a head of school or similar position
- Previous experience in educational settings
- Experience attending and/or working at a leading secondary school and/or university
- Prior familiarity with Turkey is not required, but preferred
- An advanced degree

SKILLS, EXPERIENCE, ATTRIBUTES SOUGHT

- Excellent communicator
- Flexible/adaptable/resilient
- International experience
- Interest in/experience with Turkish culture
- Experience in working closely with a board to ensure the strength and vitality of the school
- Experience working with many school constituents - students, faculty (both host country and foreign), staff, alumni, parents, and trustees
- Team builder and team player
- Work experience in a high achieving, intellectual community

- School leadership experience
- Boarding school experience
- Interest in building community among all the school's constituents
- Warm, positive person with an open-door policy
- Good listener
- Sense of humor
- Collaborative yet decisive
- Intellectual role model
- Interest in making a longer-term commitment

SALARY & BENEFITS

The salary will be competitive and will be commensurate with the qualifications and experience of the successful candidate.

Application Instructions

Effective date: July 2019 or July 2020

Application Deadline: Monday, October 22, 2018

ISS Vice President Administrative Searches & Governance Services, Dr. Beth Pfannl, will serve as the lead consultant for the Robert College Head of School search. She will be assisted by Ms. Ashley Wotowey and other members of the ISS staff.

Please send a formal letter of interest (cover letter) specific to this position no longer than two pages, along with your CV in PDF format to bpfannl@iss.edu and copy awotowey@iss.edu. You will be contacted by Ashley Wotowey regarding the next steps to follow for consideration.



ROBERT COLLEGE
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