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Dr. Sharpe has been a professor and academic administrator for nearly 35 years. Over the course of her career, she has taught at Bowdoin College, Babson College, Georgetown University, St. John's University, and Williams College. Her most recent administrative appointments include Dean of the Peter. J. Tobin College of Business at St. John's University and Senior Associate Dean at Georgetown University.

Norean has been involved in not-for-profit organizations since founding the DOME (Diversity and Outreach in Mathematics and Engineering) Foundation in 2007 and has served on boards at several not-for-profits, including Year-Up, the Thurgood Marshall Academy charter school, and the Fabretto Children's Foundation, all in Washington, DC. She currently serves on the Education Fund for the Women's Forum of New York, which supports women over the age of 35 to continue their education by providing \$10K grants to support tuition, childcare, or housing while attending a university.