INaugural Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences

Whitworth University invites nominations and applications for the appointment of the inaugural Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences. Whitworth University is a private, residential, liberal arts institution affiliated with the Presbyterian Church (USA). Whitworth’s mission is to provide its diverse student body an education of mind and heart, equipping its graduates to honor God, follow Christ and serve humanity. This mission is carried out by a community of Christian scholars committed to excellent teaching and to the integration of faith and learning. There is a broad sense of ownership of the mission in a culture characterized by trust and collaboration between faculty, administrators, staff, and students.

Reporting to the Provost and Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs, the Dean of Arts and Sciences provides focus and vitality to the liberal arts mission of the university designed to deepen its commitments to academic excellence and the integration of Christian faith and learning, equipping graduates to respond to God’s call on their lives with intellectual competence, moral courage and deep compassion. The university seeks a creative academic leader who will collaborate with the faculty to deepen student connections to the liberal arts across the curriculum, equip students to think critically, reason coherently, and communicate clearly. The College of Arts and Sciences, which consist of 122 faculty and offers 41 majors, supports the general education for the entire undergraduate program. The college is the home of Whitworth’s innovative interdisciplinary programs including the U.S. Cultural Studies program, the Women and Gender Studies program and the Core program.

The preferred candidate for this position will possess the following: an earned doctoral degree and evidence of scholarship in an academic discipline relevant to the College of Arts & Sciences; eligibility for advanced faculty rank, including a record of excellent scholarship and successful teaching at the collegiate level; a minimum of five years of successful academic administrative leadership experience as dean, department chair or other academic administrator; a strong track record of collaborative decision making; experience in managing staff and budgets; ability to set and implement strategic directions for the college; robust experience in the development and assessment of arts and sciences curriculum and programs; knowledge of contemporary instructional methods and technology; proven leadership that enhances Whitworth’s sense of community, fosters just and trusting relationships across all differences, values diversity, and promotes the educational mission of Whitworth University as a Christian liberal arts institution.

- Profile for the Position
- Agenda for Leadership
- Desired Attributes
- The Application Process