

SEARCH PROSPECTUS:

Dean of the Gunn College
of Health Sciences and Human Services



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THE SEARCH

Midwestern State University, located in Wichita Falls, Texas, seeks an accomplished and energetic leader for the position of Dean of the Robert D. and Carol Gunn College of Health

Sciences and Human Services. The position is available on or about July 1, 2019, with a preference for a January 1, 2019 start date.

MIDWESTERN STATE UNIVERSITY

Founded in 1922 as a municipal junior college, Midwestern State University has developed into Texas' only recognized public liberal arts university with an enrollment of more than 6,000 students. Students come from 44 states and 54 countries, and have the ability to pursue 45 undergraduate majors and 27 graduate programs. Professional programs in the health sciences, business, engineering and education build upon and complement the strong foundation offered by a thriving array of liberal arts disciplines.

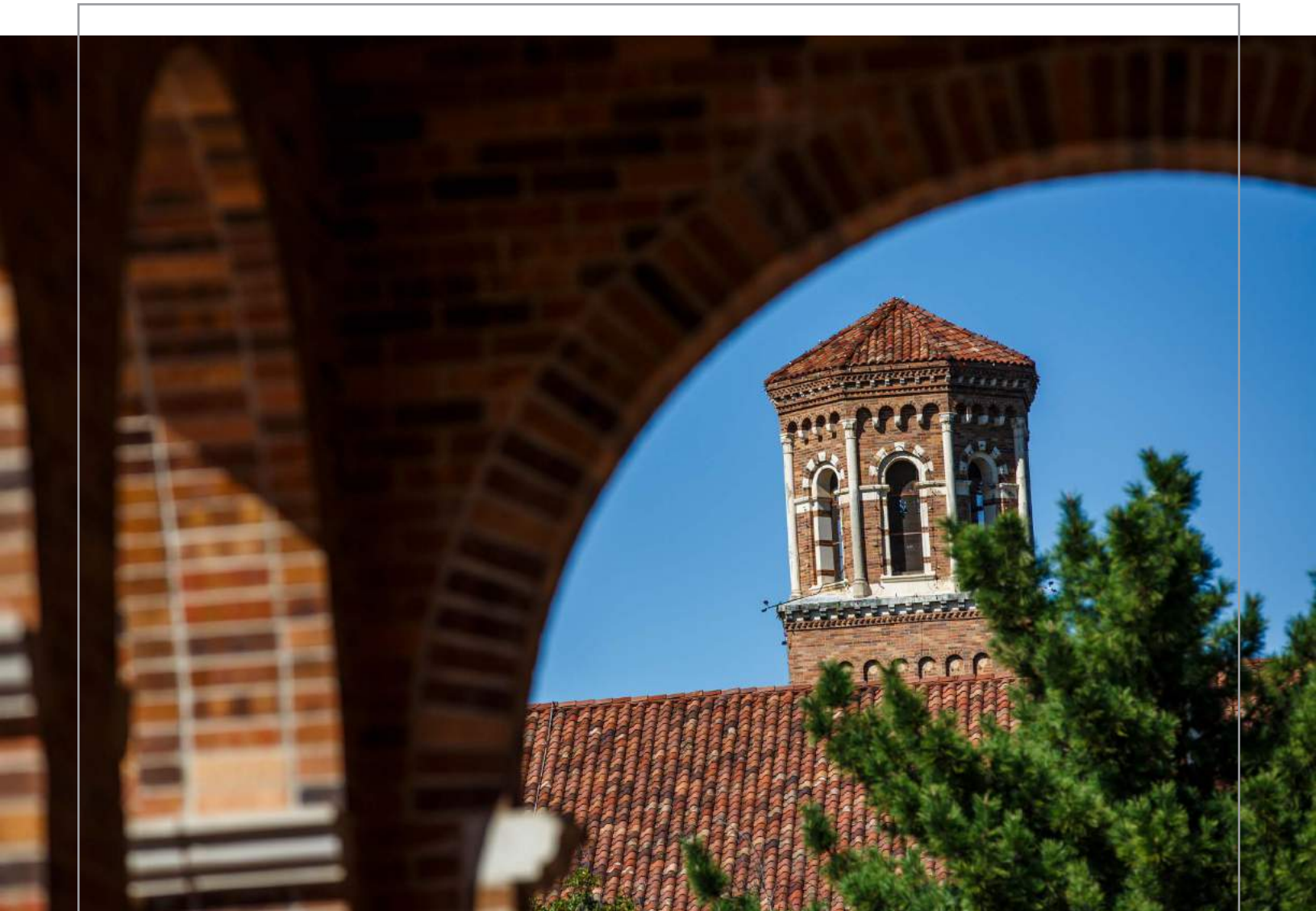
Midwestern State University (MSU Texas) is one of only four public institutions in the state of Texas that is not part of a university system (e.g., University of Texas System, Texas A&M University System, Texas Tech University System, et al). Rather, MSU Texas has an independent board of ten regents. This is one of the defining characteristics of the institution, and has helped maintain its distinctive mission.

MSU Texas is also the only university in Texas to become a member of the Council of Public Liberal Arts Colleges (COPLAC). As such, the University provides excellent learning resources and a dedicated teaching faculty comprised of active scholars and experienced professional teachers. Moreover, the university boasts small class sizes, with a student-to-faculty ratio of 18 to 1, and offers study abroad programs in Spain, England, France, Germany, and, beginning this summer, Grenada. The University promotes and facilitates undergraduate research through its EURECA (Enhancing Undergraduate Research Endeavors & Creative Activities) program.

Students have significant opportunities to engage with the campus and local communities through more than 100 student organizations offered to enrich the college experience.

Midwestern State University is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges to award associate, baccalaureate, and master's degrees. MSU Texas' most recent reaffirmation occurred in December 2013, and the university is proud that no recommendations for improvement were issued. The Dillard College of Business Administration, the West College of Education, the Fain College of Fine Arts, the Gunn College of Health Sciences and Human Services, the Prothro-Yeager College of Humanities and Social Sciences, and the McCoy College of Science, Mathematics and Engineering each house programs that are independently accredited by both national and regional accrediting bodies.





ABOUT WICHITA FALLS AND THE MSU TEXAS CAMPUS

Wichita Falls, Texas is situated midway between Oklahoma City and the Dallas/Fort Worth metroplex. With nearly 104,000 residents, Wichita Falls offers all of the attractions of a major metropolis and all of the charm of a small town.

MSU Texas' 255-acre campus is nestled in the city's residential area, and includes 70 buildings, numerous playing fields, and an outdoor recreational facility near Sikes Lake. Brown-brick buildings and sculpted archways give the campus a welcoming collegiate feel. Four residence halls and three apartment complexes provide on-campus housing for students.

THE OPPORTUNITY – DEAN OF THE GUNN COLLEGE OF HEALTH SCIENCES AND HUMAN SERVICES

The Gunn College of Health Sciences and Human Services comprises seven departments, including the Department of Athletic Training and Exercise Physiology, the Department of Criminal Justice, the Department of Dental Hygiene, the Department of Radiologic Sciences, the Department of Social Work, the Wilson School of Nursing, and the Department of Respiratory Care. The Gunn College also houses programs in Health Administration. Additionally, the college is the administrative home to the J.S. Bridwell Regional Simulation Center, an off-campus nurse training facility. For a full description of the programs offered through the Gunn College, please visit <https://mwsu.edu/academics/hs2/index>.

The next dean of the Gunn College will join MSU Texas at an exciting time. The Gunn College's programs have experienced extraordinary growth, and now make up nearly 40% of the university's total student population. With 91 current full time faculty, the college has been able to maintain a low student-faculty ratio of 17-1, providing the close instructional environment that has long been a hallmark of MSU Texas. The university anticipates continued student demand, however, and intends to continue developing new programs and recruiting new faculty to satisfy the needs of the north Texas region for health science and human service professionals.

Ground has recently been broken on a new, \$34.3 million building which will be located adjacent to the Gunn College's existing facilities. The new facility, housing state-of-the-art classroom spaces and faculty offices, will offer a contemporary aesthetic with vertical, open space and natural light while incorporating signature elements of the campus' existing architecture including brick, arches, colonnades, and Spanish roof tiles. The new building is scheduled for completion by June 2019, and the current building will remain online providing further classroom space.

While many of the Gunn College's students are enrolled at the Wichita Falls campus there are also a sizable and growing contingents of online students, and students at the university's new off-site campus in Flower Mound. Leveraging new articulation agreements with Dallas-Fort Worth area community colleges, MSU Texas' Flower Mound location enables the Gunn College to access the large adult degree completion as well as graduate/professional students markets in programs including Respiratory Care, Radiologic Sciences, and Nursing.

In keeping with Midwestern State University's mission to provide students with rigorous undergraduate and graduate education in the liberal arts and the professions, the College of Health Sciences and Human Services seeks to be a premiere provider of health sciences and human services education on a state, national, and international level by providing learners with tools for success through:

- Student-centered undergraduate and graduate professional education built upon a strong liberal arts foundation;
- Engagement in traditional and applied research opportunities alongside faculty across disciplines and within their chosen professions;
- Cutting edge educational programs that meet the needs of our global community;
- Recognition and respect for diversity of thought;
- Interdisciplinary collaboration with professionals in the global community;
- Emphasis on scholarly teaching, practice, scientific inquiry, and service;
- Ethical professional practice and an appreciation for continuous life-long learning.

LEADERSHIP AGENDA

The next dean of the Gunn College will take office at a time when the college has never been stronger. He or she must demonstrate appreciation for the college's prior accomplishments, while leading its constituents toward a vision for the college's future. In building on the existing success of the Gunn College, the following areas of emphasis will be of special importance:

NEW PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT

The Gunn College currently offers a wide variety of programs for students of all levels, including bachelor's degrees, master's degrees, and specialty certificates. Given the anticipated growth in student enrollment, the Gunn College has opportunity to develop new programs to ensure that it meets student demand and the needs of the workplace. The Gunn College also has ambitions to expand its offerings to the doctoral level, and the next dean will have the opportunity to work with faculty to shepherd the development of several of the university's first doctoral degrees.

MANAGED GROWTH

MSU Texas is looking for a forward-thinking leader who possesses a strong understanding of how the health sciences and human services fit in and contribute to the public liberal arts mission of MSU Texas. The degree programs of the Gunn College participate in the core curriculum of the university, and its students must enroll in core courses outside the college to fulfill their requirements. It will be important to ensure that the enrollment in the Gunn College remains commensurate with the growth of the university's other academic colleges.

RESOURCE ADVOCACY

As the Gunn College continues to grow in enrollment and program offerings, the new dean will be in a position to advocate for resources to support the college's continued excellence in teaching and scholarship. For instance, with the new building there will be opportunities to purchase new equipment to maintain the highest standards of teaching in the health science fields. The faculty are also energetic scholars, and the dean will have the opportunity to work with them to develop sponsored research opportunities.





QUALIFICATIONS

REQUIRED QUALIFICATIONS:

The successful candidate will hold a terminal degree in a field that allows him or her to be anchored in the Gunn College. Additionally, he or she will possess a record of teaching and scholarship that merit the rank of associate or full professor with tenure. Finally, he or she will have had progressively responsible academic leadership experience.

DESIRED ATTRIBUTES:

- Experience with new program development
- Experience promoting interprofessional activity in teaching and scholarship
- An appreciation for the mission and culture of a public liberal arts university
- Experience with degree completion programs
- Experience with various modalities of learning and instruction, including face-to-face, hybrid, and online
- Experience working with multi-campus activities and off-campus sites
- Experience in community engagement and developing academic partnerships
- Experience with the budget process
- Experience in policy development
- Experience with donor relations, and community engagement
- Experience with program review and with accrediting bodies
- The ability to work collaboratively with faculty, students, staff and external partners
- The ability to recognize and emphasize the importance of research, publications, and life-long and continuous scholarly activity
- Conflict resolution skills
- Excellent communication, listening, and interpersonal skills
- A collaborative approach to leadership
- An entrepreneurial and innovative spirit

APPLICATIONS AND NOMINATIONS

The search is being assisted by Academic Search, Inc. For a confidential discussion of this position prior to applying or nominating, contact Dr. Eric Richtmyer at ewr@academic-search.com.

The position will remain open until filled, but only applications received by August 25, 2018, can be assured full consideration. Materials should include a letter of interest addressing how the applicant meets the qualifications described above, a curriculum vitae or resume, and a list of at least five references with full contact information, sent to MSUTEXASGUNN@academic-search.com. More information about Midwestern State University is available at <http://www.mwsu.edu>.

Midwestern State University is an equal opportunity employer and does not discriminate in employment or the provision of services on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, age, or disability. Midwestern State University welcomes applications from diverse populations including minorities and women.



ABOUT ACADEMIC SEARCH

Academic Search, Inc. is assisting Midwestern State University in this work. For more than four decades, Academic Search has offered executive search services exclusively to institutions of higher education. Academic Search was founded on the principle of strengthening higher education leadership through professional search services. We are the only search firm in the nation with a formal relationship to a premier leadership development program. As the subsidiary of the American Academic Leadership Institute (AALI), Academic Search provides substantial financial support to a number of leadership identification, development, and support programs across all sectors of public and private higher education. For more information, visit <http://www.academic-search.com/>.

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