

PRESIDENTIAL SEARCH


DES MOINES UNIVERSITY
OSTEOPATHIC AND PODIATRIC MEDICINE ♦ HEALTH SCIENCES

Des Moines University invites nominations and applications for the position of President.

Located in Iowa's capital city, DMU is a graduate medical school ranking as one of the nation's 20 largest medical schools (for D.O.s or M.D.s). It is anticipated that the University's new president will begin his/her duties no later than July 1, 2011.



ABOUT DES MOINES UNIVERSITY

Founded in 1898, Des Moines University is the second oldest osteopathic university in the country, and today comprises three colleges: The College of Podiatric Medicine and Surgery, the College of Health Sciences and the College of Osteopathic Medicine. Des Moines University's nine degree programs share a collective strength - a collaborative campus community where students and faculty come together in the pursuit of knowledge.

Des Moines University has several times changed its name and location to accommodate an expanding enrollment and programs of study. Today, the University is located on a beautiful 22-acre campus on Grand Avenue in one of Des Moines' most prestigious neighborhoods. The campus is in a historic neighborhood filled with tree-lined streets and gracious older homes and businesses. Its central location provides easy access to the rest of the city and outlying communities.

Des Moines University is part of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools, founded in 1895 for the purpose of establishing close relations between the colleges and secondary schools of the 19-state region (Arizona, Arkansas, Colorado, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, New Mexico, North Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma, South Dakota, West Virginia, Wisconsin, and Wyoming). In concert with the North Central Association, the Higher Learning Commission (HLC) accredits degree-granting organizations of higher education and is legally empowered to conduct accrediting activities for educational organizations.

A BRIEF HISTORY OF THE UNIVERSITY

Founded in 1898 as the Dr. S.S. Still College of Osteopathy, the institution was renamed Still College in 1905. During the 1940s the name was changed to Des Moines Still College of Osteopathy and Surgery, reflecting a broader curriculum of medical studies. During this period, the college hospital and first clinic building were acquired. These facilities provided enhanced clinical training opportunities for students and additional health care settings to serve the community.

In 1972, the college moved to its present 22-acre site on Grand Avenue. During the ensuing years, enrollment in the college more than doubled. Since its founding, the University has educated approximately



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14,250 osteopathic physicians, and today is the sixth largest osteopathic medical college in the United States.

The College of Podiatric Medicine and Surgery is the only podiatric college in the nation within a health sciences university. The college awarded the Doctor of Podiatric Medicine (D.P.M.) degree for the first time in 1986.

In the College of Health Sciences, the charter class of the Physician Assistant Program received the Bachelor of Science (B.S.) degree and the Physician Assistant Certificate in 1983. The first graduates of the Health Care Administration Program received the Master of Science (M.S.) degree in 1986. The Physical Therapy Program graduated the first class with a Master of Science degree in 1990 and the post professional DPT program graduated the first class in 2004. Public Health

awarded the first Master of Public Health degree in 2000. The ten-story, on-campus Des Moines University Clinic was opened in 1987 and offers primary care and medical specialties. The Student Education Center was opened in spring 2005 and serves as the hub of campus with a 400-seat auditorium, library, wellness center, café and coffee bar, private study rooms and classroom space.

Today, the University enrolls approximately 1,800 students in nine graduate degree programs. The University will continue to prepare physicians and allied health care personnel for careers in the ever-changing field of medicine while developing innovative programs to serve students and society.

FAST FACTS ABOUT DES MOINES UNIVERSITY

Location – Des Moines University is located in the heart of Des Moines, Iowa. Just west of downtown on Grand Avenue, the University is in one of Des Moines most prestigious neighborhoods.

Campus – The campus is in a historic neighborhood filled with tree-lined streets and gracious older homes and businesses. Its central location provides easy access to the rest of the city and outlying communities. The campus is close to the Des Moines International Airport, located on the bus line and just blocks from local shopping and downtown Des Moines.

Student Enrollment – Des Moines University boasts a total enrollment of 1,800, making it the largest medical school in Iowa with approximately 872 students in the osteopathic college.

Degree Programs – Des Moines University offers degree programs in the following:

- Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine (D.O.)
- Master of Science in Anatomy (M.S.)
- Master of Science in Biomedical Sciences (M.S.)
- Doctor of Podiatric Medicine (D.P.M.)
- Physician Assistant Studies (M.S.)
- Doctor of Physical Therapy (D.P.T.)
- Post-professional Doctor of Physical Therapy (D.P.T.)
- Master of Health Care Administration (M.H.A.)
- Master of Public Health (M.P.H.)

PRESIDENTIAL LEADERSHIP

“Community” is a word one hears often at Des Moines University. The University’s fundamental sense of itself is as an intellectual and social community of faculty, students and staff linked with other regional communities, alumni and parents. Much of the president’s work entails building and supporting these relationships. The DMU culture is one of participation, inclusiveness and consensus-building. Effective communication and approachability are keys to leadership in this culture.

Extensive interviewing among campus constituencies suggests these leadership priorities for the president of Des Moines University.

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**• Develop a Shared Vision, Identity and Priorities for Des Moines University
(Strategic Focus)**

While any new president is expected to lead in establishing clear vision, identity and priorities for an institution, every place and time will present unique needs and imperatives. In guiding its planning and prioritization of resources, the DMU president must articulate what stakeholders share and believe about the direction and future of the institution. One of the president's most important roles will be to advocate for DMU when representing the university at local, state and national meetings and with alumni and donors. In addition, the president will be asked to lead the university in articulating a compelling vision and in planning how that vision will be realized, internally and throughout the region.

• Provide Bold and Trusted Leadership

Des Moines University is recognized for its entrepreneurial spirit and creativeness in program development and partnerships. The next president must have the vision to continue to pursue cutting-edge programs, partnerships and resources and, in turn, empower those around her/him to integrate within the structure and mission of the organization. Additionally, the president must maintain a working knowledge of health-related trends and national priorities for education as well as public and social policy in America. In doing so, the president must engage faculty, staff, students and committed alumni in discussions about the academic mission and programs; encourage faculty, administration and staff in setting high standards, and serve as an external interpreter and enthusiastic spokesperson for the University, its mission and programs.

• Strengthen Resource Acquisition

Although the university maintains a balanced budget and anticipates continued fiscal responsibility, as with most private universities, the financial picture is a concern and top priority. Alumni relations and giving are steady (25% of alumni contribute to the annual fund), and even in these difficult economic times, contributions to the University are solid. With a strong advancement structure in place, the opportunity for growth is encouraging.

That said, much work remains; the university's \$80 million endowment must increase to provide stronger support for DMU's \$56 million annual operating budget.

• Enhance our National Presence

It will be important for the president to be a voice for high-quality education and a leader in discussing the impact of new health care legislation on institutions like DMU. The president should be familiar with national issues in health education and represent Des Moines University positions on such issues nationally and internationally. Further, in representing DMU in partnerships with other U.S. institutions and health care providers, the president will share the need for high academic expectations and the resources necessary to meet the changing and expanding health care needs of the population.

• Build Upon a Tradition of Academic Strength and Rigor

DMU's approach to education encourages students to combine rigorous academic preparation with reflective thought and practical experience to become active, thoughtful health practitioners. With this strong professional foundation, the president must support and work in collaboration with the provost and faculty to continue to strengthen academic standards, enhance accountability and present to students a well defined and rigorous academic curriculum.

• Articulate the Identity of Des Moines University

Given the success of Des Moines University, its academic programs and purpose, there remain uncertainties about institutional identity outside of the region and nationally. How should this thriving medical school communicate its message and brand in the coming years? How will DMU project its unique qualities and identity and, concurrently, be a cooperating college within Iowa, the Midwest and nationally?



MISSION: The University will develop distinctive health professionals committed to health promotion, the discovery of knowledge, and service to the community.

VISION: The University will improve the health of society through its distinctive health professions graduates, focus on health promotion, discovery of knowledge, empowerment of individual responsibility for health, and direct service to the community.



• **Embrace Diversity and the Rights of All Individuals**

Des Moines University strives to be a leader in building a diverse and inclusive community. The president must embrace diversity in thought and action and model a life of acceptance and inclusion. DMU is committed to diversity in all of its forms, which adds greatly to the culture of the entire community. In an effort to carry out its mission more effectively, and to prepare its students, faculty and staff for the environment in which they will function in the 21st century, efforts to enhance and value diversity and the rights of all individuals must be a priority.

• **Foster Collegial and Other Relationships**

It is imperative that the new president forge the best of personal and professional relationships with key constituencies. Des Moines University is a caring community of faculty, students, staff and administrators, working together in an atmosphere of respect and common purpose. The new President will be expected to provide a style of leadership that recognizes the central importance of continuing to build campus community, while attending to the University's relationships throughout the surrounding region.

LEADERSHIP ATTRIBUTES

To provide the leadership required to enhance the University's standing among the better professional health-related institutions in the nation, it will be important that the next president have the following attributes:

- An informed commitment to the ideals of professional health care education programs and the ability to articulate those ideals persuasively;
- A principled view of the world and the confidence to make decisions, in part, founded upon those principles;
- A deep understanding of the essential elements of excellent learning, teaching and scholarship;
- An appreciation of DMU's distinctive culture and values and its place in higher education;
- Significant and successful administrative and executive experience;
- An aptitude and passion for asking others to support a very good institution financially;
- An entrepreneurial spirit and the ability to generate passionate support for creative programs and partnerships;
- A collaborative leadership style that builds upon relationships and fosters a sense of community and teamwork;
- An excellent mind with a broad vision, varied interests, a fresh perspective, balanced judgment; and creativity;
- Excellent communication skills, with a comfortable public presence;
- The ability to excel as a leader in a consultative environment and skill in negotiating with all groups;
- Energy, enthusiasm and a sense of humor.

APPLICATION PROCEDURES

Review of candidates will begin immediately and will continue until the position is filled. To ensure full consideration, applications must be received by August 15, 2010. Application materials (to include a letter of interest, a curriculum vitae and the names, addresses, telephone numbers and email addresses of five references) must be electronically submitted (MS Word format) to DMU@academic-search.com.

Assisting the University in this search: **Jamie Ferrare, Ph.D.**

Senior Consultant, Academic Search
jpf@academic-search.com
202-285-6105



Des Moines University is an affirmative action/equal opportunity employer that seeks to build a diverse faculty and staff and encourages applications from women and persons of color.

**For further information
about Des Moines University,
please visit www.dmu.edu.**