Dean of the College of Liberal Arts

Jackson State University (JSU), a unit of the Mississippi State Institutions of Higher Learning, invites nominations for the position of Dean of the College of Liberal Arts. The University seeks a creative and accomplished leader with a record of scholarly achievement and integrity, who will work with the faculty and leadership of the University in providing undergraduate and graduate students diverse opportunities for a meaningful and quality liberal education.

Founded in 1867, JSU has a rich heritage as a historically Black university. Recognized by the Carnegie Foundation as a research-intensive institution of higher learning and also known as Mississippi’s only urban university, the institution enrolls over 9000 students in more than 93 academic programs leading to baccalaureate, masters specialist, and doctoral degrees offered in six academic colleges. JSU is located on over 173 acres in the state capital and Mississippi's largest metropolitan area and has the advantage of both urban life and the familiar environment of several close-knit and a small, yet growing residential communities surrounding the city.

The successful candidate will possess an earned doctorate or terminal degree from an accredited institution that satisfies eligibility for appointment to the rank of tenured professor in one of the academic departments in the College of Liberal Arts; successful academic administrative experience at the level of department chair, assistant/associate Dean, or other comparable administrative experience; and an exemplary record of university teaching; research, scholarly and creative activity and service.

The ideal candidate will demonstrate an ability to articulate a vision for the future of Liberal arts, especially with respect to department chairs and program directors; provide ethical leadership to the College in compliance with university policies; demonstrate commitment to promoting excellence in the undergraduate, graduate, distance learning, and international education programs; work and communicate effectively and collaboratively with CLA leadership, faculty and staff; ensure timely and effective two-way communication and feedback on all matters pertaining to policies affecting the College's mission, organization, vision, and functioning as a member of the academic leadership team; provide oversight for budget planning and management while fostering relationships with donors, alumni and other constituencies in the interests of fund-raising; demonstrate commitment to encouraging and facilitating faculty pursuit of grants and contracts; demonstrate leadership in promoting excellence in teaching, research and service; provide support for faculty development, mentoring and the tenure and promotion process; demonstrate competence in and a commitment to strategic planning, effective assessment programs, and management of accreditation procedures.

Nominations should include a letter with the name, address and telephone number of the nominee. Applications should include a letter describing interest in the position and relevant qualifications, curriculum vitae and the names, addresses and telephone numbers of five references. A review of the nominations and applications, which are confidential, will begin immediately, and applications will be accepted until the position is filled. For best consideration, application materials should be received by May 15, 2012. Application materials should be mailed or sent preferably electronically (in both Microsoft Word and PDF) to:

Ayers & Associates, Inc.
Jackson State University Dean of Liberal Arts Search
2001 Jefferson Davis Hwy., Suite 503,
Arlington, Virginia 22202
Telephone: 703-418-2815 Fax: 703-418-2814
Email: jacksonstatesearches@aversandassoc.com

The University expects to make an appointment by mid-June with a reporting date of July 1, 2012.

Jackson State University is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Employer