

DEAN SEARCH – COLLEGE OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SCIENCES



Leadership Statement
September 28, 2018

Western
Carolina
UNIVERSITY



Introduction

Western Carolina University (WCU) invites applications and nominations for Dean of the College of Health and Human Sciences (CHHS). Founded in 1889 as a normal school, WCU is one of the 17 campuses of the University of North Carolina System, and a premier regional comprehensive University with nationally and internationally recognized teacher-scholars dedicated to student learning.

WCU enrolls more than 11,600 undergraduate and graduate students, with approximately 600 full-time faculty, among which over 100 are in the College of Health and Human Sciences. WCU is organized into six academic colleges: Arts and Sciences; Business; Education and Allied Professions; David Orr Belcher Fine and Performing Arts; Health and Human Sciences; and Engineering and Technology. The University is located 53 miles west of Asheville in Cullowhee, NC, and maintains an instructional site at Biltmore Park in Asheville, NC. WCU is located near the Great Smoky Mountains National Park and the Blue Ridge Parkway and is within a 150-mile radius of major metropolitan areas including Atlanta, Knoxville, and Charlotte.

The University enjoys a strong partnership with the 17- county service region, including with the Eastern Band of the Cherokee Indians, in recognition of their unique history, culture, and contributions to the Southern Appalachian area. WCU has been designated a community engaged campus by the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching since 2010 and accordingly, embraces a student-centered, experiential learning environment.

WCU has been offering degree programs in Asheville, NC, for over 75 years. In 2012, the University consolidated several teaching locations to a single instructional site at Biltmore Park Town Square in south Asheville. The University offers 15 different degree programs at WCU Biltmore Park including a Master's Degree in Social Work, Doctoral, Master's and Baccalaureate degrees in Nursing, as well as a Dietetic Internship Program at the instructional site.

The College of Health and Human Sciences

The College of Health and Human Sciences, with over 2,600 enrolled students (2,000 undergraduate and 600 graduate), is housed in a technologically advanced 160,000 square foot state of the art facility which opened in 2012 on WCU's millennial campus. Faculty and students partner with private, non-profit, and public medical and health entities to support research and hands-on educational opportunities for students.

Mission: The College of Health and Human Sciences serves students and communities through an active learning environment that uses inter-professional collaboration and scholarship to develop healthcare professionals skilled in patient-centered care, evidence-based practice, quality improvement, innovative technology, and community engagement. We value serving the people of Appalachia.

Vision: The College's vision is to make a positive and lasting impact on the well-being of the communities we serve.

Core Values:

- Integrity
- Inclusive Excellence
- Respect
- Service
- Compassion
- Leadership
- Collaboration
- Altruism

The College is comprised of the Schools of Health Sciences, and Nursing, and the Departments of Communication Sciences and Disorders, Physical Therapy, and Social Work. The School of Health Sciences offers a Master of Health Science degree and undergraduate degrees in Athletic Training, Emergency Medical Care, Environmental Health, Nutrition and Dietetics, Recreational Therapy, and a new degree in Integrated Health Sciences (fall 2018). The School of Nursing offers programs leading to a Bachelor of Science in Nursing, a Master of Science in Nursing (with two tracks: Family Nurse Practitioner and Nurse Educator), and a Doctorate of Nursing Practice (with two tracks, Nurse Anesthetist and Post-MSN). Communication Sciences and Disorders offers a master's degree in Speech-Language Pathology and an undergraduate degree in Communication Sciences and Disorders. The Department of Physical Therapy offers the Doctorate of Physical Therapy degree. The Department of Social Work offers the Bachelor of Social Work and the Master of Social Work degrees. The College is also home to WCU's Culturally Based Native Health Program offering online undergraduate and graduate certificates.



The Dean

The Dean of the College of Health and Human Sciences reports to the Provost and Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs and, as a member of the Provost's Council, works closely with other deans and members of Academic Affairs, as well as other divisions and units in the University, e.g., Student Affairs, Development, External Affairs, Athletics, IT, and Administration and Finance. The Dean serves as the chief academic and administrative officer of the College and has the responsibility for advancing the mission as well as enhancing the quality and stature of the College. The dean is a visionary who is culturally/regionally engaged and committed to strategic planning, interprofessional collaboration, ethical leadership, and possesses strong human and financial resource management.

Qualifications:

- An earned doctorate in one of the disciplines of the College or a related field;
- A distinguished track record of teaching, research, service, and community engagement that is commensurate with appointment at the professor level and eligibility for tenure;
- A minimum of five years of documented successful advanced administrative experience, including personnel and resources management;
- Well-developed skills of team management, coalition building, and operation in interdisciplinary environments, including a demonstrated understanding of clinical practices;
- Demonstrated ability to work across diverse health professions and programs within the College and across the University, as appropriate;
- Ability, vision, and leadership skills to advance the current strategic plans of the University and College (<https://www.wcu.edu/WebFiles/WordDocs/strategicplan.pdf>) (<https://www.wcu.edu/discover/about/wcu-2020-plan/>);
- Demonstrated understanding of disparities and the social determinants of health impacting rural residents and other diverse populations; and
- Effective interpersonal skills including the ability to listen and understand the needs of faculty, staff, students, and community stakeholders as well as highly proficient oral and written communications skills.

Preferred:

- Professional and/or clinical experience in a health and human sciences field;
- Demonstrated success in securing and/or managing external grant funding;
- Experience in advancement and alumni relations, including fund-raising
- Experience in the mission and function of regional comprehensive universities.

Responsibilities

- Foster student learning and success as well as faculty excellence in teaching, research, and service;
- Collaborate with unit heads, faculty, students, and community partners to position WCU as the premier regional provider of baccalaureate and graduate education in the health and human sciences professions with an emphasis on culturally sensitive, interprofessional, and intergenerational patient-centered care;
- Provide leadership in the management of the College including resource development, facilities, and the recruitment, appointment, supervision, and career progression/development of staff and faculty;
- Oversee the College's budget ensuring transparency and accountability in fiscal planning and resource allocation;
- Promote an environment that fosters diversity and inclusive excellence among students, faculty, and staff;
- Establish and maintain key relationships with community partners and liaise with regional health and human science-related organizations and professionals to enhance the College's presence within the region;
- Support educational and outreach activities which benefit the health of those living in the region and ensure access to quality health and human services in North Carolina's westernmost counties as well as contribute to the economic development of the region;
- Effectively communicate and facilitate the College's schools, departments, and programs internally and externally;
- Oversee the assessment of academic programs as well as the accreditation processes associated with health and human sciences' programs while sustaining the College's culture of accountability;
- Provide leadership to support and grow the research enterprise of the College;
- Engage alumni and cultivate donors to raise external funds to support the College's programs and initiatives; and
- Position and market the College through interaction with local, regional, and national professional agencies and external constituents, including entities such as the Mountain Area Pro Bono Physical Therapy Clinic, local and regional hospitals and medical facilities, community programs, etc.



**Application Procedures:**

Please submit nominations or application materials, including a letter of interest detailing qualifications and experiences related to responsibilities, resume or curriculum vitae, and a list (include complete contact information) of four references. To ensure optimal consideration, please submit materials by November 9th. Review of applications will begin immediately and continue until the position is filled.

Candidates are asked to apply online directly at <http://jobs.wcu.edu/postings/9549>. Hard copy applications will not be considered. For questions or additional information, please contact the search committee chair, George H. Brown, at ghbrown@email.wcu.edu or 828-227-7028.

Developing and sustaining a diverse faculty and staff advances WCU's educational mission. Western Carolina is an Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Employer. Women and minorities are encouraged to apply.

The college maintains program specific accreditations, approvals, certifications, endorsements, and memberships as follows:

- Accreditation Council for Education in Nutrition and Dietetics
- Council on Academic Accreditation of the American Speech-Language Hearing Association
- Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs
- Commission on Accreditation of Athletic Training Education
- Committee on Accreditation of Educational Programs for the Emergency Medical Services Professions
- Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education
- Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education
- Council on Social Work Education
- National Accreditation Council for Environmental Health Science and Protection
- North Carolina Board of Nursing

Western Carolina University is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges to award baccalaureate, masters, specialist, and doctorate degrees. Contact the Commission on Colleges at 1866 Southern Lane, Decatur, Georgia 30033-4097 or call 404-679-4500 for questions about the accreditation of Western Carolina University.





Health & Human Sciences Building / 4121 Little Savannah Road / Cullowhee, NC 28723

▶ [CHHS.WCU.EDU](https://chhs.wcu.edu)

WCU is a University of North Carolina campus and an Equal Opportunity Institution.