# **Presidential Search**

# **Position Announcement**

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Florida State University's Board of Trustees seeks a dynamic President to lead the institution and accelerate its upward trajectory in its pursuit of academic excellence. The work led by past Presidents has catapulted the University to rank among the top 40 public institutions (U.S. News & World Report, 2014 Best College Rankings). Florida State is poised to attract a visionary and inspirational leader committed to leading the University above and beyond its goal of becoming a top 25-ranked public university.

## The University

As one of the nation's most elite research universities, and one of the largest and oldest of the 12 institutions of higher learning in the State University System of Florida, Florida State offers a distinctive academic environment built on its cherished values and unique heritage. With more than 41,000 students, approximately 6,200 employees and an operating budget of \$1.28 billion, Florida State provides a welcoming campus environment on the oldest continuous site of higher education in Florida and capitalizes on its prime location in the heart of the state capital. Underlying the educational experience at Florida State is the development of new generations of citizen leaders, based on the concepts inscribed in the University's seal: Vires, Artes, Mores — Strength, Skill and Character.

Combining traditional strengths in the arts and humanities with internationally recognized leadership in the sciences, Florida State provides unmatched opportunities for students and faculty through challenging academics, cultural discovery and community interaction. Florida State's 16 colleges and its Graduate School offer more than 314 undergraduate, graduate, doctoral, professional and specialist degree programs, including medicine and law. The University awards over 3,000 graduate and professional degrees each year. With an impressive breadth of leading graduate, professional and undergraduate programs, Florida State is a demanding, intellectually stimulating, yet warm and caring environment for students and faculty. Recognized nationally for its commitment to diversity, the College of Medicine and College of Law are ranked among the nation's top schools for Hispanic students, and the Black Law Students Association has been ranked National Chapter of the Year three times since 2006.

Throughout its history, Florida State has grown its academic organization and expanded from the original few acres and buildings to 527 buildings on 1,587 acres, including the downtown Tallahassee main campus of 474 acres, the Coastal and Marine Laboratory on the Gulf Coast, the Florida A&M University-Florida State University College of Engineering facility, the National High Magnetic Field Laboratory and the Division of Research at the southwest campus, and the branch campus in Panama City, Fla. The University has over 50 years of experience in international education and is a nationally recognized leader in the field of study-abroad programs, with permanent study centers in London, Florence, Valencia and Panama City, Panama.

Florida State's arts programs — dance, film, music and theatre — rank among the finest in the world, offering an arts education comparable to leading conservatories. The creative writing program is home to the most consistently honored and published student body in the country. Florida State is responsible for governance of the John and Mable Ringling Museum of Art in Sarasota, Florida, and associated arts programs, one of the largest museum/university complexes in the nation.

Other programs consistently included in the top public university rankings include physics, chemistry, political science, psychology, criminology, public administration, library science, human sciences, business and law. At the Ph.D. level, interdisciplinary programs draw on notable research faculty strengths that transcend the traditional disciplines, including neuroscience, molecular biophysics, computational science, materials science and research at the National High Magnetic Field Laboratory — home to the world's most powerful magnets. More than 800 teams of scientists from around the globe visit the magnet lab each year to conduct their research.

#### Research at Florida State

Florida State has been designated a "RU/VH: Research University (very high research activity)" and many of the University's research programs consistently rank among the nation's best, including programs in physics, chemistry, statistics, ecology, evolutionary biology, meteorology, political science, psychology, sociology, criminology and information studies. Florida State also produces exceptional scholarship from highly ranked programs in the humanities and performing arts and each year attracts world-class exhibitions and performers to Tallahassee.

University researchers foster collaborative partnerships and pursue creative research endeavors at centers and institutes within and outside of the main campus. Examples include: "Innovation Park" located at the University's southwest campus, which is home to the College of Engineering, the National High Magnetic Field Laboratory, High-Performance Materials Institute, Center for Advanced Power Systems, Aero-Propulsion, Mechatronics and Energy Center, Learning Systems Institute, Florida Center for Reading Research, and the Center for Ocean-Atmospheric Prediction Studies.

Florida State faculty and staff generated more than \$230 million dollars in research grants and contracts in fiscal year 2014. In addition, the University experienced a corresponding increase in commercialization of intellectual property to include a growth in invention disclosures, patent applications and awards, and licenses executed. In recent years, the Office of Research has placed increasing emphasis on partnering with the surrounding Tallahassee/Leon County community in the development of spin-off companies from the University's technology innovations.

#### Athletics at Florida State

Although Florida State's intercollegiate history spans only half the time of most of its national competitors, the University has a rich history of success in athletics. It is the only

athletics program in the nation that has had 94 out of 96 of its teams reach the post-season the past five years, a remarkable 97.9 percent success rate. The Seminoles have had two student-athletes who were named Rhodes Scholars, and since 2008 a total of eight Florida State student-athletes have been named national player of the year. The University has produced 510 All-Americans and 599 All-ACC selections and won 34 ACC team championships and 29 individual National Championships. In just the past seven years, 25 Seminoles have been named academic All-Americans, 474 have been named to an All-ACC Academic team and 25 have been named the ACC's student-athlete of the year in their sport.

#### **University Mission**

Florida State preserves, expands and disseminates knowledge in the sciences, technology, arts, humanities, and professions, while embracing a philosophy of learning strongly rooted in the traditions of the liberal arts. The University is dedicated to excellence in teaching, research, creative endeavors and service. The University strives to instill the strength, skill and character essential for lifelong learning, personal responsibility and sustained achievement within a community that fosters free inquiry and embraces diversity.

#### **University Vision**

Florida State will be one of the world's premier institutions of higher education, devoted to transforming the lives of our students, shaping the future of our state and society, and offering programs of national and international distinction in a climate of inquiry, engagement, collegiality, diversity and achievement.

Additional information about Florida State, its history and programs can be found at <a href="http://www.fsu.edu">http://www.fsu.edu</a>.

#### **Points of Pride**

The Presidency of Florida State is one of the most compelling higher education leadership opportunities in the nation. Florida State is rich in tradition, nationally recognized for its academic, arts and athletic programs, and avidly supported by an ardent alumni base of approximately 300,000. Attractive features of the University and this Presidency include:

• Florida State has advanced its national ranking over the past several years and is now ranked among the top 40 public universities (U.S. News & World Report, 2014 Best College Rankings) in the country. Led by a world-renowned faculty that has included six Nobel laureates and numerous eminent scholars in many areas of the arts and sciences, its academic programs continue to receive major recognition for their quality and strength, and the university is moving rapidly toward its goal of becoming a top 25-ranked university.

- The University leads all other public institutions in Florida in National Science Foundation funding and leads in funding for four of eight STEM fields science, technology, engineering and mathematics. Florida State has recently launched significant hiring initiatives to build research strengths in areas that address enduring global challenges in which the potential for innovation is high.
- The University is preparing to announce the public phase of its \$1 billion capital campaign "Raise the Torch." Currently, more than \$500 million has been raised toward that goal.
- The Florida Legislature has recognized Florida State as one of two "preeminent" universities within the state and is providing \$15 million a year for five years to pursue national prominence.
- Located in Florida State's new Honors, Scholars and Fellows House, the Office of National Fellowships mentors the university's most talented students, who have won prestigious national awards, including Rhodes, Truman and Goldwater scholarships. FSU is one of the nation's top research institutions for producing student Fulbright scholars and led the state in 2013-14.
- Florida State's excellence also shines beyond traditional academic settings. Located in countries throughout the world, its international programs are unparalleled. Students supplement their academic pursuits each year with hundreds of thousands of hours of community service time outside the classroom. In immeasurable ways, the University reaches out to the community, region, state, nation and global community. This level of service has been recognized by the Carnegie Foundation, which has selected Florida State for inclusion in its prestigious Community Engagement classification.
- Florida State's Garnet and Gold Scholar Society program awards undergraduates a credential affirming their leadership and professional, citizenship and research skills, demonstrating their ability to build collaborative relationships in the academic, local or global community.
- Florida State is committed to the success of those who have served our country as members of the U.S. armed forces and is making significant strides toward becoming the most veteran friendly and empowering university in the nation.
- Florida State has an outstanding campus environment that includes high morale, a high level of collegiality, high-caliber students and an excellent sense of community. It is a big and complex university with a small college feel.
- The University has an extraordinarily accomplished and dedicated faculty.
- Florida State has nationally prominent athletic programs.
- Florida State enjoys excellent town and gown relations.

#### **Opportunities for the Next President**

The next President of Florida State will have the extraordinary opportunity to lead an ambitious and rapidly climbing institution that embraces intelligent risk taking, entrepreneurial thinking, and an openness to strategic change. Florida State seeks a leader with the ability to craft a bold vision for the University's future while enhancing its commitment to advancing in the national rankings in the STEM fields as well as the arts and humanities.

The President of Florida State will be expected to focus on the following priorities:

- Enhancing the University's academic reputation nationally and internationally.
- Promoting external relations and serving as an energetic fundraiser and advocate for the University.
- Advancing Florida State's pursuit of "top 25" public university status through the
  further enhancement of the University's research infrastructure and its "Big
  Ideas" research and teaching initiatives.
- Promoting and strengthening the Florida State identity by fostering a shared sense of mission and culture among all University constituents, thus distinguishing Florida State within the higher education community, locally, nationally and globally.
- Leading the institution and campus constituents in the development of a new University strategic plan with the goal of building a dynamic and inspiring vision for the future of Florida State.
- Further strengthening and building upon a positive and mutually beneficial relationship with the Seminole Tribe of Florida.
- Serving as an effective partner with the Florida Legislature, other appropriate public officials, the University Board of Trustees and the State University System of Florida Board of Governors to advance Florida State's institutional priorities and academic mission.
- Providing leadership for a highly successful intercollegiate athletics program steeped in a commitment to athletic prowess, integrity and sportsmanship.

# **Position Summary**

Reporting to the Florida State Board of Trustees, the President serves as the University's chief executive officer and provides senior administrative leadership for all campus programs, services, operations, and activities. The next President will be a strategic and visionary leader charged with setting the University's academic vision, ensuring the effective leadership and management of the campus, and possessing a dedication to improving the lives of students and the educational, economic, and cultural welfare of the citizens of the State of Florida. The President exercises overall leadership for the University's resource development and fundraising initiatives and is responsible for ensuring the fiscal well-being of the campus.

In serving as one of the leading spokespersons for higher education in the state, Florida State's next President will be an influential leader who must possess excellent judgment and diplomacy, personal and professional integrity, and a reputation for working collegially and collaboratively with internal and external constituencies. The President will act as a catalyst for creativity and innovation, and will work with Florida State's Board of Trustees, the State of Florida Legislature, and the State University System of Florida Board of Governors to further enhance higher education in Florida.

#### Qualifications

It is preferred that the successful candidate will possess an earned doctorate or other terminal degree with a strong record of scholarship and teaching, and a proven history of executive level administrative experience in higher education that demonstrates the ability to lead a large, public research university. While academic experience (professional and administrative) is strongly desired, exceptional candidates with nontraditional backgrounds who have demonstrated a high degree of national or international success in business, industry, nonprofit or government will be considered.

In addition, the best-qualified candidates will possess:

- Staunch commitment to academic excellence in undergraduate, graduate, international and professional education and scholarship, and the ability to inspire confidence and encourage achievement among students and faculty.
- Adherence to sound principles of faculty governance through open communication and consensus building, while ensuring a high quality of student life and actively engaging students, faculty and staff in decision-making.
- A track record showing a high degree of personal and professional integrity, ethics and honesty; and the intellectual, analytical and interpersonal qualities that will foster respect among the University's myriad constituencies.
- Mastery of the successful balance among academics, athletics and the arts.
   Mastery of the intricacies of higher education governance, including accreditation practices, and ability to enhance productive and collegial relationships among all parts of the University.
- Talent and vision to enhance the quality of graduate programs, stimulate interdisciplinary collaboration, and build added research capacity to secure Florida State's position among global peers.
- Proven record of supporting a culturally rich environment of inclusion where faculty, students, administrators, and staff actively contribute to the vibrant life of the University, and a stated commitment to recruiting women and minorities to the student body and for faculty, staff and administrative positions.
- Appreciation for the currently recognized jewels in Florida State's academic crown, a commitment to lead successful efforts to further strengthen peaks of excellence, and support for building new areas of nationally recognized strength as appropriate to advance the University's scholarly and research competitiveness.
- Dedication to academic freedom and an inclusive campus culture where both intellectual curiosity and healthy internal communication flourish in an environment that supports and rewards academic achievement of faculty while working individually or collaboratively within and among disciplines.
- Ability to establish and project a sense of energy, enthusiasm and optimism for Florida State's future while vigorously championing its storied traditions, unique heritage, mission and vision among wide audiences, both internal and external.
- Persuasive and enthusiastic fundraising skills with the ability to successfully connect with public and private donor sources (i.e. friends, boosters, alumni, corporations, and foundations), and leverage dollars to support high-caliber

- scholarly, research and service programs and grow faculty/staff resources, and ability to successfully acquire public and governmental resources and funding.
- Experience in achieving measurable outcomes with business, education and political communities, and in growing innovative public-private partnerships with industry, government and other entities.
- The appreciation for and ability to leverage the University's Division I athletics program to strengthen Florida State's identity as a national competitor and community partner.

# **Application and Nomination Process**

The screening of applications will begin September 5.

In accordance with the State of Florida's open records laws, all applications and letters of interest will be made public. Application materials should be submitted to:

### **Alberto Pimentel Managing Partner**



executive search consultants

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