



THE OPPORTUNITY

Quincy University seeks an experienced teacher-scholar with a strong record of academic administrative experience to serve as Vice President for Academic Affairs. The appointee serves as the primary advocate for academic excellence in partnership with an outstanding faculty deeply committed to undergraduate and graduate teaching and scholarship. The VPAA will lead the institution in the absence of the president and carries the responsibility for enhancing the quality of undergraduate and graduate education through the promotion of excellence in teaching, the development of scholarship, and close student-faculty interactions. It is anticipated that the VPAA will begin duties on June 1, 2010.

QUINCY UNIVERSITY'S HISTORY

The history and heritage of Quincy University flow from the story of St. Francis and the first friars, St. Clare and her first sisters, and the early Franciscan movement eight centuries ago in Italy. Their call to follow in the footsteps of Jesus Christ marked their movement as truly universal, endearing them for all time to people of good will. Their respect and love for all of creation and for every living creature, especially the poor and powerless, remain vital eight hundred years later, in harmony with contemporary commitments to safeguarding justice, peace, and the integrity of creation. Their Franciscan vision channels the power of wisdom in service to others. This vision inspired Franciscan friars from Germany arriving as missionaries to Illinois in 1858.

Among the first initiatives of these friars in the Midwest stands the foundation of a college at Quincy in 1860, a daring move for such recent arrivals. The friars, immediately responsive to the need for education in frontier Illinois, served this need by providing liberal arts education in the Catholic, Franciscan tradition. They named the institution that would become the Quincy University of today *St. Francis Solanus College* after one of the Hispanic missionary heroes of the Franciscan outreach in the Western Hemisphere. Their missionary spirit animates the mission of the University down to the present.

Years of growth and development followed. The State of Illinois chartered the College in 1873. In 1917 the College changed its name to Quincy College and Seminary. The admission of women in 1932 represented another milestone. After World War II, enrollment surged with a corresponding increase in faculty, both friar and lay. The College officially adopted the name Quincy College in 1970. Most recently, an historic change in 1993 resulted in a new status and a

new name: Quincy University - a Catholic, independent, liberal arts institution of higher learning that stands in the centuries-old Franciscan, Christian tradition of education.

Recalling the words of one Quincy University friar-educator of yesteryear, Quincy University strives to inspire "an intimate and warm enthusiasm for everything really good and true and beautiful."

THE UNIVERSITY TODAY

Diverse Programs of Study– Boasting a robust academic program in the liberal arts and sciences provides the framework for Quincy University's philosophy of teaching, learning, and cultural and social professionalism. The college offers over 30 diverse majors leading to a B.A. or B.S. degree, eight pre-professional programs, an accelerated professional degree program in four areas of study, special programs in eleven areas of study, and Master's degrees in Business Administration, School Counseling or Community Counseling, and Theological Studies, or Masters of Science degrees in Education.

- **Internships** – Quincy University students may participate in internships exploring career opportunities, many earning academic credit and all receiving practical experience during their educational careers that are not affiliated with specific academic programs or disciplines. Rather, they are courses specifically designed to meet various institutional requirements as well as the learning needs of our students.

Academic Success Skills

Career Planning

Early Exploratory Internships

First-Year Experience/Senior Year Experience

- **Study Abroad** – Quincy University students may participate either as individuals or as part of a group of fellow QU students and faculty. Some programs send students to live with host families while they study. Others allow them to live on their own, in apartments or dormitories with other university students.
- **Journey of Service** – A serving community, compelled by the Gospel, Quincy University faculty, students, and community reach out to those in need, especially those who are most vulnerable and forgotten. Living faith is expressed in lives of service in imitation of Jesus. Quincy University recognizes the dignity and value of each human person. There are several volunteer and community service opportunities available to the Quincy University community.
- **Academic Enrichment** – Quincy University's internship and study abroad opportunities, as well as service opportunities lead to deep academic enrichment for its students. Students who take advantage of Quincy University's diverse programs of study will gain:

Academic Success Skills

Career Planning
Early Exploratory Internships
First-Year Experience/Senior Year Experience

Mission Statement

Quincy University stands as a Catholic, independent, liberal arts institution of higher learning in the Franciscan tradition.

Inspired by the spirit of Francis and Clare of Assisi, we respect each person as a sister or brother with dignity, value, and worth.

We work for justice, peace and the integrity of creation.

We prepare men and women for leadership and for the transformation of the world by educating them to seek knowledge that leads to wisdom.

We welcome and invite all to share our spirit and life.

University Vision

Quincy University will be known as a caring and engaged learning community, enriched by its Franciscan heritage, and committed to preparing ethical leaders for an interdependent world.

To realize this vision, Quincy University will strive to:

- Build and maintain a sense of community, while promoting the value of inclusion and diversity among all its constituencies;
- Increase its financial and human resources as a foundation for excellence in all that it does;
- Develop its faculty and staff to flourish as effective educators, mentors, advisors, advocates, and scholars;
- Promote a culture of innovation; and
- Embrace the Franciscan values of:

Hospitality and respect for all
Reconciliation, justice and peace
Service to others
The integrity of creation

Accreditation

Quincy University is accredited by The Higher Learning Commission, a commission of the North Central Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools as a four-year university. It is approved by the Illinois State Teacher Certification Board to offer education programs for elementary and high school teacher certification.

Quincy University is a constituent member of the National Catholic Education Association of American Colleges, and is affiliated with the Catholic University of America.

Quincy University is also a member of the American Council on Education, Council of Independent Colleges, Association of Franciscan Colleges and Universities, the Associated Colleges of Illinois, the Federation of Independent Illinois Colleges and Universities, Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development, Illinois Association of Colleges for Teacher Education, Illinois Association of Teacher Educators, Illinois Association for Teacher Education in Private Colleges, and the Council for Exceptional Children.

The University is approved by the State Approving Agency for educational assistance benefits to veterans and veterans' dependents and by the Immigration and Naturalization Service of the U.S. Department of Justice.

ACADEMIC LEADERSHIP

Quincy University's presidential leadership is strong, its financial profile improving, the faculty is excellent, and student recruitment and retention solid. The academic profile is strong and poised for continued refinement and growth.

In this context; Quincy University seeks academic leadership that will focus on the following:

Vision

Quincy is committed to a vision that promotes the centrality of teaching and learning. It intends to create an environment where innovative approaches to teaching and learning are developed and implemented. The VPAA will be expected to support the improvement of existing programs, help develop new and innovative interdisciplinary offerings and collaborate in establishing priorities for planning and implementing these new or enhanced offerings. Questions of concern include; "How do we distinguish ourselves from other similar colleges?" "What should students be learning?" "What are the current trends in our respective areas and how prepared are we to include them within the structure of our curriculum?" "How effective are we in emphasizing leadership, ethics, character, and civic engagement?" These, and other questions, must be addressed to secure and build upon the solid foundation of the academic program.

Leadership

Quincy University has many loyal and hard working faculty and staff who look to the VPAA for leadership, collaboration, and empowerment. The next VPAA must engage the entire community in reflecting and planning for the future of the academic life of QU. S/he must embrace diversity in thought and action and model a life of servant leadership in the Franciscan tradition; intellectual achievement, acceptance and inclusion. Additionally, s/he must maintain a working knowledge of trends and national priorities for higher education as well as public and social policy in America. It will also be important that the VPAA have an entrepreneurial spirit, with particular experience or interest in building off-campus and distance learning programs. In doing so, the VPAA must engage the community in discussions of the academic mission and programs; encourage the setting and achievement of high standards, and serve as an external

interpreter and an enthusiastic spokesperson for the University, its academic mission, and its programs.

Budget and Finance: The VPAA must be skilled in the nuances of budget development and oversight; work collaboratively with the President, Academic Unit Leaders, Faculty; and Vice President for Business in developing academic priorities and focus; and effectively work with constituent groups to implement academic programs consistent with the QU mission.

Technology: Given the changing role technology plays in support of academic programs, instruction, faculty and student research, and related areas, the VPAA must review and be prepared to support, where appropriate, the constant adaptation of technology and information systems. An on-going review of existing policies and practices will greatly assist in the mission appropriate uses of technology.

Diversity and Inclusion

Quincy students, not surprisingly, are successful and positive about their collegiate careers. These students are hard working and thrive in a community interested in both their intellectual progress and personal development. Students describe a culture of hard work, shared purpose, and individual freedom that encourages each individual to reach his or her full potential. Diversity adds greatly to the culture of the community, and Quincy is committed to diversity in all of its forms and for all constituent groups. While improvements in all areas of diversity have required considerable effort, significant progress has been made. In an effort to carry out its mission more effectively, and to prepare its students for the environment in which they will function in the 21st century, efforts to value and enhance diversity must continue. Academic freedom and excellence flourish in an environment that encourages the fullest possible diversity of ideas and expression.

Collegial and Other Relationships

It is imperative that the new VPAA forge the best of personal and professional relationships with key constituencies; to include, but not limited to, faculty, students, academic departments, as well as with key campus stakeholders such as student services, athletics, international programs, academic advising etc.) It is expected that the new VPAA will provide a style of leadership that recognizes the central importance of continuing to build campus community, mentoring of students in the best of Franciscan traditions, while attending as well to the University's relationships with the surrounding region.

VPAA ATTRIBUTES

To provide the leadership required to enhance Quincy's distinguished academic program, it will be important that the next VPAA have the following attributes;

An informed commitment to the ideals of a Catholic, liberal arts education commensurate with its Franciscan mission, as articulated in the Mission Statement, and vision of Quincy University;

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 what goes into teaching, learning and scholarship based on academic qualifications that would be deserving of tenure in one of the academic departments at the University;

An appreciation of Quincy's distinctive culture and values, and its special niche in higher education;

Significant and successful academic administrative experience;

A collaborative, inclusive, servant leadership style forged in an ongoing, intimate awareness of the needs of all campus community members;

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 an academic leader in a consultative environment, and skill in negotiating with all groups;

Energy, stamina, enthusiasm, and a sense of humor

NOMINATIONS AND INQUIRIES

The VPAA Search Committee will begin a review of candidate applications immediately and continue until an appointment is made. For full consideration, it is recommended that application materials be received by **November 16, 2009**. Nominations and expressions of interest, which will include a letter of interest, curriculum vitae, and five professional references, with e-mail and telephone numbers included should be sent electronically (MS Word format preferred) to Quincy@academic-search.com.

The search is being assisted by Dr. Jamie Ferrare, Senior Consultant, Academic Search, jpf@academic-search.com - 202-263-7472.

For additional information about Quincy University, please visit its web site at www.quincy.edu.

*Quincy University is an equal opportunity employer
committed to diversity in the workforce.*