



THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY

**Dean, The Ohio State University at Mansfield
Position Description**



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The Ohio State University invites applications and nominations for the position of Dean of the Mansfield Campus. The regional campuses are integral in the success and identity of Ohio State, and the Dean will have a unique opportunity to play a defining role in shaping the future of the Mansfield campus, develop new and additional priorities and aspirations, and lead the campus to even greater levels of excellence and impact.

The Ohio State University regional campuses offer diverse opportunities for learners, have unique assets, robust partnerships, and are in vibrant and supporting communities, all of which allow for personalized teaching, learning, research, and community engagement experiences for students, faculty, and staff. These open-access campuses offer multiple pathways for students to develop the skills and knowledge to successfully meet their future career goals. We seek an entrepreneurial leader with a record of innovative, student-centered program design and implementation who is passionate about serving an open-access campus and is energetic about building dynamic and supportive community relationships and partnerships.

The success of each regional campus requires a leader with experience supporting and engaging in state-of-the-art student recruitment and retention initiatives, developing, and supporting an engaging student experience, mentoring, and leading faculty, promoting high impact practices, and developing and stewarding community partnerships. The dean will have a record of building and developing teams, especially with staff and faculty that have diverse responsibilities in support of student success. They must have a record of assessing student outcomes and partnering on designing academic experiences that offer students clear pathways to achieve their goals. The dean must promote a holistic faculty experience and engage as a collaborative partner to create and support opportunities for excellence in teaching, scholarship, and community engagement while recognizing the unique mentoring, student support, and service functions on a regional campus.

Position Overview

The dean is the academic leader of a regional campus, has faculty status and tenure in an appropriate department, and works collaboratively and consultatively with faculty, staff, and university administrators. The regional deans serve on the Ohio State Council of Deans and have collaborative working relationships with their cohort of regional deans, college deans, department chairs, and academic administrators. The dean will be expected to align the campus priorities with the current university academic plan and work collaboratively with college deans, unit vice presidents, and other academic leaders to clearly articulate and operationalize the regional campus as an anchor institution, locally. The dean reports to the Senior Vice Provost for External Engagement and works closely with the Executive Vice President and Provost to:

- Promote, direct, and/or support the teaching and learning, community engagement, partnership, and research opportunities of the campus.
- Collaborate with academic units, faculty, partner institutions, and the community on the development and implementation of new and innovative student/learner pathways to an Ohio State degree, minor, and/or certificate.
- Support shared service models with co-located institutions and actively engage with Columbus and regional campus partners to identify opportunities to share expertise across campus boundaries to enhance student enrollment and outcomes.

- Evaluate, in an ongoing manner, curriculum offerings and enrollment trends in collaboration with departments and colleges to meet the needs of regional campus students and be appropriately responsive to local stakeholders.
- Provide campus leadership and partner with university offices to support and advance a broad range of support services and student life programs that meet the needs of commuter and/or residential students.
- Collaborate with the Office of Strategic Enrollment Management in a way that advances student recruitment, marketing, onboarding, yielding, enrollment, and progression initiatives; serve as a public face in the community and advocate for student engagement in higher education.
- Establish clear priorities and engage in robust fundraising and alumni engagement initiatives in collaboration with University Advancement.
- Collaborate with the Vice Provost and Dean for Online Learning, in a way that advances the core academic functions of the campus, provides pathways for learners, and engages new partners.
- Contribute to a positive and welcoming environment for all current and potential faculty, staff, students, and community members while exercising transparency and strong communication.
- Seek input from external stakeholders, including the campus Advisory Board and key current and potential collaborators on program opportunities and partnerships.
- Represent the campus and university within the local and regional communities through service on nonprofit and community leadership boards.
- Review faculty for annual performance, promotion, and/or tenure in partnership with academic units where required.
- Engage and support a cohort of associated faculty and work in partnership with campus leaders to ensure appropriate integration into campus and units.
- Work cooperatively with the co-located community or technical college, an independent institution that shares the campus, to enhance student pathways, engage with the community, and activate campus assets, in alignment with the current framework plan, to increase access to higher education knowledge, expertise, and resources.
- Provide leadership for campus budget and operations, working collaboratively with the campus Vice President of Business and Finance and/or campus finance director, directors of facilities and operations, and appropriate campus and university stakeholders.

Experience and Requirements

1. Doctoral degree or other terminal degree.
2. Experience as a dean, academic director, chair, or academic leader of a unit and/or campus is preferred.
3. Record of teaching, research and innovation, and community engagement.
4. Demonstrated leadership and administrative accomplishments.
5. Strong commitment to success in supporting diversity, equity, and inclusive environments for all.
6. Demonstrated experience working collaboratively with communities and external stakeholders.
7. Demonstrated success raising funds through private individuals, foundations, and public grants.

8. Appreciation and understanding of shared governance, university structures and processes, especially concerning an open-access regional campus.
9. Ability to meet requirements for tenure, preferably at the full professor level, in an academic unit at Ohio State.

The Ohio State University

The Ohio State University is a world-class public, urban, land-grant research university with very high research activity, as classified by the Carnegie Foundation. As Ohio's flagship university, it is the leading comprehensive teaching and research institution in the state and one of the nation's top 20 public universities. Nearly 68,000 students are enrolled at Ohio State, including 53,557 undergraduates, 11,110 graduates, and 3,290 professional students. The Ohio State University campuses include the Columbus campus, its regional campuses at Lima, Mansfield, Marion, and Newark, and its Wooster campus, home to the Ohio Agricultural Research and Development Center and the Agricultural Technical Institute.

The Ohio State University has 15 colleges that offer more than 200 undergraduate majors and 97 master's programs, with 94 doctoral and professional programs. Ohio State is recognized for its top rated academic medical center and premier Comprehensive Cancer Center. Ohio State has almost 5,000 tenure-track, clinical, and research faculty and 2,655 associated faculty. The faculty includes members of the National Academy of Sciences, the National Academy of Engineering, the National Academy of Medicine, and the American Academy of Arts and Sciences; Sloan, Guggenheim, and Fulbright scholars; and distinguished fellows from numerous learned societies.

Ohio State Mansfield

The Ohio State University at Mansfield offered its first classes in 1958. The Mansfield campus sits on 640 acres and shares the campus with North Central State College. The campus is a thriving model for sustainability and environmental/natural resources experiential education and hands-on research. The campus has a 20-acre sugar bush used for maple syrup production; vernal pools, pine plantations, wetlands, and stream heads; and an ecolab collaboration with the School of Environment and Natural Resources. The two institutions have their own administrative leadership and governance structure, but partner through several shared services, including security, campus recreation, facilities, and several student events and programs.

Ohio State Mansfield currently enrolls 828 students who are taught and supported by 28 tenure track or tenured professors. The campus focuses on the success of a student academically (small class size; innovative instruction methods; undergraduate research opportunities; easy access to faculty and staff; new programs and facilities), but also the success of students as a person. Nearly a half-dozen faculty have won a University teaching award in the last decade. Over the last ten years, faculty and staff have received millions of dollars in federal funding and private grants. Of the four regional campuses, Mansfield has been the most successful in grant funding via foundation relations. Also, over the last ten years, over a dozen staff members have won University and College level awards and have been recognized for their outstanding impacts by governmental and off-campus entities.

Recent Initiatives and Successes

- Launched the Bachelor of Science in Engineering Technology (BSET) degree program;
- Opened a new community center as part of the on-campus student housing;
- Renovating facilities to offer BSET and Biology labs;
- Awarded over \$1.0 million from community foundation and private support for the engineering technology program;
- Received funding to launch the Upward Bound program and offer child care support to students, both in partnership with the Office of Diversity and Inclusion;
- Faculty provides leadership to the University's MicroFarm and Math Literacy initiatives; and
- Campus faculty lead all regional campuses in securing grants from Foundations.

The opportunities are endless to build stronger relationships with the community to leverage the property as well as with colleges and units within the university. Situated near the 179th Airlift Wing of the Air National Guard Base presents numerous opportunities as they launch a new cybersecurity mission. The campus has many opportunities to grow its relationship with K-12 education leaders to provide a pipeline to a degree program in support of a growing manufacturing, health care, and public service sector.

About Mansfield and Richland County

Mansfield, Ohio, located midway between Columbus and Cleveland, is the county seat of Richland County with a population of over 47,000 residents. Downtown Mansfield is home to several arts venues and attractions, including the Renaissance Theatre which hosts concerts, arts education programs, the Miss Ohio pageant, Broadway-style productions, and other family events. Mansfield is also home to the old Ohio State Reformatory, which has been the filming location for a number of major films, including The Shawshank Redemption. Mansfield offers a wide range of outdoor activities including many parks, bike trails, hiking trails, and ski slopes.

Applications and Nominations

Buffkin/Baker, an executive search firm, is assisting the university in the search. The search will remain open until filled, however, for optimal consideration, application materials should be received by **January 1, 2024**.

Candidates should submit a current curriculum vitae and a cover letter describing their interest and qualifications for the position.

Inquiries of interest, nominations, and applications should be submitted electronically, in confidence, to:
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