Dean, College of Engineering and Computer Science

The University of Central Florida invites applications and nominations for the position of Dean, College of Engineering and Computer Science. This position reports to the Provost and Executive Vice President.

Located in Orlando, UCF is one of the nation’s most dynamic metropolitan research universities. It is now seeking an innovative leader for the College of Engineering and Computer Science to fully integrate the college’s strengths both internally and externally and continue the college’s strong academic and research performance.

UCF is ranked as a “very high research activity” institution by the Carnegie Foundation and is committed to world-class research with local, national, and international impact; innovative partnerships; and the integration of technology and learning. The U.S. News & World Report’s Best Graduate Schools guide ranked UCF as the No. 4 “up-and-coming” school in the country. Currently 92 undergraduate, 85 master’s and 30 doctoral programs are offered along with the M.D. degree in the College of Medicine.

UCF received $130 million in external research funding in FY12, and for the last two years, the College of Engineering and Computer Science has led all units at the university in securing funding. UCF’s national reputation as a leader in innovation and entrepreneurship has contributed to the research growth, as have unique partnerships with groups such as the Florida High Tech Corridor Council (www.floridahightech.com), which provides funding for faculty who conduct joint research and development with regional industry.

Many early career faculty from the college have received in the last decade NSF CAREER, AFOSR Young Investigator and ONR Young Investigator awards. CECS is home for many society fellows and a member of the National Academy of Engineering.

In Fall 2011, enrollment in the College of Engineering and Computer Science was more than 7,400 students. The college has five academic units: Civil, Environmental, and Construction Engineering; Electrical Engineering and Computer Science; Industrial Engineering and Management Systems; Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering; and Materials Science and Engineering. In addition, a new program in bioengineering is being developed and will be housed in the College.

As the principal academic and administrative officer of the college, the dean provides the vision and leadership required to fulfill the mission of the college and to achieve its goals in teaching, research, and service. The dean guides the college’s efforts in academic program and curriculum development, faculty and staff development, external fund raising, and the building of
partnerships with the business community and college alumni. The dean is also responsible for outreach both to other colleges as well as to government agencies. The dean serves as a member of both the Provost’s Council and the Deans’ Council. A dean’s advisory board consisting of representatives from industry and academia meets every semester.

A candidate for the position of dean must:
- have an earned doctoral degree in engineering, computer science, or closely-related discipline
- meet the standards for a tenured appointment at the rank of professor within one of the college’s departments

Additional qualifications include:
- national recognition based upon scholarship accomplishment and engineering education
- strong understanding of educational trends and practices in engineering, research and collaboration
- significant administrative and leadership experience and strength in consensus building
- significant record of securing funded research
- deep commitment to diversity

Preference will be given to candidates who meet these qualifications and who demonstrate personal qualities that would be helpful in establishing contacts with university faculty, students, alumni, the business community, and local, state, and national leaders; fund-raising capabilities; expertise in budgetary management; commitment to promotion of engineering as a profession; and experience with the accreditation process.

Search Process

The Search Committee invites letters of nomination, applications (with a letter of interest, a complete CV, and a list of at least five references that includes contact information), or expressions of interest to be submitted to the search firm assisting UCF. References will be contacted only for short-listed candidates after notification of the candidates. Review of materials will begin immediately. Please submit nominations and applications by January 2, 2013. Applications received after this date may be considered at the discretion of the committee and/or hiring authority.

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UCF is an equal opportunity, affirmative action employer and encourages the candidacies of women, members of racial and ethnic minorities, and persons with disabilities. All searches and documents are subject to the Sunshine and public records laws of the State of Florida.