SEARCH PROSPECTUS:
Dean of the School of Physical Education, Performance and Sport Leadership

SPRINGFIELD COLLEGE
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Springfield College, located in historic Springfield, Massachusetts, announces the search for the next Dean of the School of Physical Education, Performance and Sport Leadership (PEPSL). The Dean reports to the Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs, and is responsible for creating an environment that is conducive to excellence in teaching, advising, scholarship and service and the education of students holistically for leadership in service to others.

The College invites nominations and applications for this outstanding opportunity which will be available July 1, 2020. The deadline for applications is March 1, 2020.
Springfield College is an independent, nonprofit, coeducational institution founded in 1885. Approximately 4,100 students, including 2,500 full-time undergraduate students, study at its main campus in Springfield, Massachusetts, and at its regional campuses across the country.

The College offers a range of undergraduate and graduate degree programs in the fields of health sciences, athletic training, exercise science, sport management, movement studies, physical education, business, social work, behavioral sciences, and the arts and sciences. It offers doctoral programs in physical education, physical therapy, and counseling psychology.

With its foundation of academic excellence and rich athletic heritage, Springfield College prepares students with real-world leadership skills for careers that transform lives and communities.

For the tenth year in a row, Springfield College has moved up the ranks in its U.S. News & World Reports category, ranking at 19th nationally. U.S. News & World Report also ranked the College 15th in a listing of Best Value Schools for Regional Universities—North. Springfield College has also been designated as a premier Leadership Development Center by the YMCA of the USA.

Known as the Birthplace of Basketball, Springfield College is where the sport of basketball was invented by graduate student James Naismith in 1891. There are numerous other notable alumni from the School of PEPSL, including William Morgan, who invented volleyball in 1894, Peter V. Karpovich, the father of modern strength training, Tony Dicicco, Head Coach of the US Women’s Soccer Team, World Cup and Olympic Champions, and actor and professional wrestler John Cena.
Since 1885, Springfield College has had a strong focus on its Humanics philosophy: educating students—in spirit, mind, and body—for leadership in service to others. The College has remained committed to Humanics, while evolving to remain relevant to prepare students for the future. Springfield College helps students grow holistically, enter fields that help others, and serve as leaders in their communities, organizations, and companies, at home, and around the world. Offering bachelor’s, master’s, and doctoral degrees, Springfield College is the best destination for those seeking a well-rounded education, strong academics, experiential learning opportunities, and active and fulfilling co-curricular involvement, including athletics.

Diversity and Inclusivity
The Division of Inclusion and Community Engagement promotes and maintains a campus culture of inclusive excellence while simultaneously providing the community with a central point of contact for those wishing to explore ways they can connect with and support the College’s outreach efforts. The division provides students, faculty, and staff with opportunities to work, live, and play across lines of identity and difference.

Founded in 1885 as the School for Christian Workers, Springfield maintains a deep commitment to social justice. In 1964, the College invited Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. as its commencement speaker, and awarded him an honorary doctorate. Today, the Division of Inclusion and Community Engagement honors that moment in the College’s history, and the College’s tradition of social justice by presenting the annual Martin Luther King Jr. Lecture.

ABOUT SPRINGFIELD COLLEGE (Cont.)

THE SCHOOL OF PHYSICAL EDUCATION, PERFORMANCE AND SPORT LEADERSHIP

School Mission
As the founding school of Springfield College, the PEPSL’s mission and Humanics philosophy is evidenced by enhanced curricula that offer purposeful experiential learning and expansive content knowledge. These educational experiences prepare students to meet the progressive rigors of their careers. PEPSL’s students are encouraged to be critical thinkers and change agents in their chosen fields of endeavor. PEPSL pledges its commitment to function as a collegial community dedicated to innovative teaching, meaningful community and professional service, and productive scholarly endeavors.

Academics
The School is organized into three departments: Sport Management and Recreation, Exercise Science and Athletic Training, and Physical Education and Health Education. With 62 full-time faculty, including 22 teacher-coaches, plus 615 undergraduate and 163 graduate students (as of Fall 2019), PEPSL is one of the largest schools at Springfield College.

PEPSL’s undergraduate major fields of study—applied exercise science, athletic training, nutritional sciences, physical education, health education, movement and sport studies, health promotion, sport management, and recreation management—
are nationally and internationally recognized as among the leading professional preparation programs in the United States. At the graduate level, the School currently offers 15 Master of Education and Master of Science programs, as well as three areas of study in its Doctor of Philosophy program. This spring Springfield will apply to elevate the three tracks within its Exercise Physiology and Sport and Exercise Psychology doctorate to separate doctoral programs.

All of PEPSL’s programs are accredited and/or approved by the appropriate national organizations or government agencies. Although each major is unique and prepares students to enter a variety of professions, they all have a general education foundation augmented by significant real-world experience built into the curricula. Most of the majors require at least two practical experiences, including a full semester internship, fieldwork, or student teaching.

Real World Experience
PEPSL’s students have been placed in internships with leading organizations such as ESPN, the New England Patriots, the Boston Celtics, Disney World, Boston Children’s Hospital, Connecticut PGA, Cooper Aerobic Institute, the Buffalo Bills, Stowe Mountain Resort, National Park Service, the universities of Tennessee, Texas, Auburn, and Massachusetts, YMCAs, and with many other sites. A large majority of PEPSL’s graduates secure their first jobs because of their exceptional performance in these high-quality learning experiences. PEPSL places student teachers within a 90-mile radius of the College for supervision and Massachusetts teacher licensing purposes. Springfield College’s eminence in sport, wellness, physical education, nutrition, exercise science, athletic training and recreation is the result of:

- Excellent program design
- Commitment and dedication of expert faculty
- High quality of students, and the
- Competency and achievement of alumni

At the graduate level, PEPSL offers opportunities for doctoral students to prepare for teaching careers through the Preparing Future Faculty series. The program consists of three semester-long courses: a seminar in contemporary issues related to higher education, physical education and sport; a course in instructional effectiveness, evidence-based practices, course design, curriculum development and reflective teaching; and a seminar about faculty roles. A fourth course, on scholarly writing and publication, will be offered next year.

East Campus Outdoor Learning Center
PEPSL also oversees the East Campus Outdoor Learning Center. The 57-acre East Campus Outdoor Learning Center, located on the shores of Lake Massasoit, is focused on the development and implementation of experiential programming. Through facility rentals, team-building programs on the challenge course, and summer camps, participants are introduced to a variety of experiences focused on self-development. The Center also serves as an outdoor classroom for many of the adventure education and recreation management courses.
The next dean of PEPSL will enjoy an excellent opportunity to lead a storied program as it continues its evolution. Enrollment in the School remains strong across undergraduate and graduate programs, and the School enjoys national and international prominence. The College recently underwent a revision to its Core Curriculum, which is scheduled for implementation in 2020, and the School is currently in the final stages of its strategic planning process. The completion of these projects will allow the next dean of PEPSL to play a crucial role in shaping the School’s future.

Promoting and Fostering Excellence
Springfield College, and PEPSL in particular, benefit from a strong reputation for excellence. One of the dean’s primary responsibilities will be to create the foundation upon which the faculty can continue to uphold the tradition of excellence, while striving for ever higher quality. Building on the existing strengths of the School, the next dean will have the opportunity to encourage the continued pursuit of excellence in teaching, scholarship, and service.
Developing Academic Programs
While PEPSL, and the College more generally, enjoy strong enrollment, the competition for students in the Northeast means that the School must continually revisit its program offerings to remain relevant. At the same time, PEPSL's deeply rooted and unique connection to the mission of the College is its greatest strength and remains an important attraction for students. The School is preparing to offer a major in Recreation Management with a concentration in Community Youth Development Leadership at two of its regional campuses (Houston and Tampa) and online beginning in Fall, 2020. The next dean will have the opportunity to develop new and enhance current mission-related programs while honoring the deep and rich tradition at Springfield and PEPSL.

Supporting Scholarship
PEPSL is proud of its unique tradition of offering research doctorates in physical education across the areas of Exercise Physiology, Sport and Exercise Physiology, and Physical Education (Teaching and Administration). These programs thrive on the excellent research of PEPSL faculty, and their dedication to graduate student mentorship. The next dean will be expected to further support and encourage faculty scholarship and graduate student research.

Collaborating and Innovating
As the School continues to evolve, the new dean will have opportunities to collaborate with other deans across the College to create synergies, reduce duplication, and develop new programs. Ready opportunities exist for collaboration with programs in the health sciences, and there are many more possibilities to be explored. Additionally, the College has recently begun to enroll increasing numbers of international students, and further opportunities exist to create pathways to degree programs. The new dean will play an important role in leading innovation internally with the faculty in the School, and externally with other leaders at the College, and with international partners.
REQUIRED QUALIFICATIONS

An earned doctorate, academic leadership experience, and a scholarly record worthy of the rank of full professor, are required.

DESIRED CHARACTERISTICS

Springfield College desires that the next dean should demonstrate the following characteristics:

• A demonstrated commitment to mission-based leadership
• Teaching experience
• Creativity and innovation
• A record of student-centered decision-making
• A record of collaborative leadership and teambuilding
• Experience with and commitment to Intercollegiate Athletics as a co-curricular part of the College mission.

• Experience with facilities management
• Demonstrated commitment to diversity
• Ability to conduct data-driven analysis and propose solutions
• Experience with academic program accreditation
• Experience with teacher licensure
• Experience with donor relations
• Experience with grant-writing
The search is being assisted by Academic Search, Inc. To arrange a confidential conversation about this position please contact the senior consultant managing the search, Dr. Eric Richtmyer by email (eric.richtmyer@academicsearch.org) or by phone (202-332-4049). The position is open until filled, but only applications received by March 1, 2020 are assured full consideration.

To apply, a candidate should submit a thoughtful letter of interest addressing the leadership agenda, the required qualifications and desired characteristics; a current, long-form resume or curriculum vitae (showing relevant administrative responsibilities and accomplishments); and the names, phone numbers and addresses of at least five professional references, with an indication of the candidate’s relationship to each reference. References will not be contacted until a later stage in the search, and only with the candidate’s foreknowledge.

Nominations and application materials are to be sent to: SpringfieldPEPSL@academicsearch.org

Springfield College is committed to enhancing diversity and equality in education and employment.
ABOUT ACADEMIC SEARCH

Academic Search, Inc. is assisting Springfield College in this work. For more than four decades, Academic Search has offered executive search services exclusively to institutions of higher education. Academic Search was founded on the principle of strengthening higher education leadership through professional search services. We are the only search firm in the nation with a formal relationship to a premier leadership development program. As the subsidiary of the American Academic Leadership Institute (AALI), Academic Search provides substantial financial support to a number of leadership identification, development, and support programs across all sectors of public and private higher education. For more information, visit http://www.academicsearch.org/.

Committed to identifying and DEVELOPING LEADERSHIP by providing the highest level of search to our clients and assisting in ENRICHING THE PIPELINE of potential leaders in higher education.