SEARCH PROSPECTUS:

Professor and Director of the School of Computing and Informatics
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The University of Louisiana at Lafayette is the second largest university in the state and the largest of the University of Louisiana System’s nine institutions. UL Lafayette had a Fall 2019 enrollment of 19,400 students.

UL Lafayette has been ranked among the top 10 universities in the U.S. for its percentage of research and development expenditures funded by business. It is one of 250 universities worldwide in the National Academy of Inventors, an organization that encourages and supports inventors working in academic settings. The University is a member of the Southeastern Universities Research Association and the Carnegie Foundation has designated it as a Doctoral University with Higher Research Activity. Only 107 institutions hold this classification.

The University joined the top 25 percent of U.S. colleges and universities that exceeded $100 million in research and development funding in 2017. The following year, the total was $124.7 million, ranking the UL Lafayette at No. 146 in the nation in terms of R&D expenditures. Individual programs exceed the University’s national ranking. For example, in 2018, UL Lafayette was No. 39 in the nation in R&D expenditures in computer science. It was in the top 12 percent in the nation in R&D funding in biological and biomedical sciences.

The University receives more financial support through partnerships with business, industry and government entities than all other University of Louisiana System institutions combined.
HISTORY AT A GLANCE

Founded in 1898 as Southwestern Louisiana Industrial Institute, the University adopted its present name in 1999. Throughout its 120-year history, UL Lafayette has been recognized for innovative programs that respond to changing workforce needs, that embrace emerging technologies and that promote south Louisiana’s distinctive cultures.

UL Lafayette offers the state’s only doctoral degree in Francophone studies and Louisiana’s only master’s degree in informatics. The University is a recognized leader in a host of research disciplines, including science, engineering, computer science, sustainable energy and biopharmaceuticals.

Its academic programs are divided among eight colleges, in addition to the Graduate School: the Ray P. Authement College of Science, the B.I. Moody III College of Business Administration, University College, and the colleges of the Arts, Education, Engineering, Liberal Arts and Nursing and Allied Health Professions.

MISSION AND VALUES

MISSION
The University of Louisiana at Lafayette offers an exceptional education informed by diverse worldviews grounded in tradition, heritage, and culture. They develop leaders and innovators who advance knowledge, cultivate aesthetic sensibility, and improve the human condition.

VALUES
The University strives to create a community of leaders and innovators in an environment that fosters a desire to advance and disseminate knowledge.

They support the mission of the University by actualizing their core values:

- **Equity**: striving for fair treatment and justice
- **Integrity**: demonstrating character, honesty, and trustworthiness
- **Intellectual Curiosity**: pursuing knowledge and appreciating its inherent value
- **Creativity**: transcending established ideas
- **Tradition**: acknowledging the contributions of the Acadian and Creole cultures to the region and to the University’s history
- **Transparency**: practicing open communication and sharing information
- **Respect**: demonstrating empathy and esteem for others
- **Collaboration**: understanding the connection with others and working to realize synergies through teamwork and collegiality
- **Pluralism**: believing in the inherent worth of diverse cultures and perspectives
- **Sustainability**: making decisions and allocating resources to meet the needs of the present, while preserving resources for the future

LAFAYETTE, LOUISIANA

Lafayette is located in the heart of Cajun and Creole country. The community celebrates the past and has its finger on the pulse of the future. It has a population of about 125,000, and is the largest city in Acadiana, a nine-parish region in south-central Louisiana.

Creativity and innovation are evident in most areas of life in Lafayette. The city is known for advanced technology research and application as well as for its leadership in sustainable practices – and UL Lafayette, its students and graduates, are a big reason why.

Lafayette is the cultural center of south Louisiana’s heritage, and is, according to The Wall Street Journal, the happiest city in the U.S. Major music festivals and the state’s second-largest Mardi Gras celebration happen right next to the University’s campus every year.

In addition to a thriving and diverse music scene, Lafayette is also known for its cuisine. Southern Living magazine named it one of the South’s Best Food Cities in 2018.
• U.S. News and World Report ranked the University of Louisiana at Lafayette among the top 300 national universities in the 2020 edition of “Best Colleges.”

• Washington Monthly magazine has cited UL Lafayette as one of best universities in the nation at helping low-income students earn degrees. It ranked UL Lafayette among the top 300 national universities.

• UL Lafayette is a two-time winner of the Higher Education Excellence in Diversity Award from INSIGHT into Diversity magazine. Fewer than 100 universities in the United States earn that distinction.

• A 2015 economic impact report found that UL Lafayette generates $6.53 for every $1 the University receives in state funds. According to that same report, UL Lafayette graduates increased Acadiana’s gross domestic product by about 9%, which is nearly $2.6 billion.

• The university is ranked No. 195 among all universities in the world for its sustainable and green practices.

To learn more about the University of Louisiana at Lafayette, please explore: www.louisiana.edu.
The Ray P. Authement College of Sciences at the University of Louisiana at Lafayette is dedicated to the advancement of scientific knowledge through research and the extension of the scientific heritage through teaching. The college offers eight bachelor’s degree programs in biology, chemistry, computer science, environmental science, geology, informatics, mathematics and physics; five master’s degree programs in biology, computer science, geology, mathematics and physics; and three doctoral degree programs in biology, computer science and mathematics. The college had a Fall 2019 enrollment of 2,375, including 2,064 undergraduates and 311 graduate students.

Dr. Azmy S. Ackleh is the college’s dean. He holds the Ray P. Authement Endowed Chair in Computational Mathematics.

Please watch this brief video to learn more about the Ray P. Authement College of Science: [VIEW VIDEO]

THE SCHOOL OF COMPUTING AND INFORMATICS
The School of Computing and Informatics is a unit within the Ray P. Authement College of Sciences. It has 28 full-time faculty members and an enrollment of approximately 880 students, including over 140 graduate students. The school offers bachelor’s degrees in computer science and in informatics; master’s degrees in computer science, computer engineering and informatics, and doctoral degrees in computer science and computer engineering. The bachelor of science degree program in computer science is accredited by the Computing Accreditation Commission of ABET.

UL Lafayette is a historic leader in computer science. It created the nation’s first master of science program in computer science in 1962, and launched Louisiana’s first doctoral degree program in computer science six years later. Today, internationally recognized faculty balance excellence in teaching with rigorous research goals, and contribute to curriculum, assessment, advising, among other duties. They seek a director who will provide vision and bring each of their strengths and talents together to take the school to the next level of excellence.

In the past decade, NSF ranked the school’s Center for Advanced Computer Studies (CACS) among the top 30 programs in the nation in terms of research and development expenditures. CACS was established in 1984. Over the years, its faculty has included a number of ACM, AAAS and IEEE fellows, and five recipients of the NSF Career Award. The school leads the NSF multi-institutional Center
for Visual and Decision Informatics. The Center for Visual and Decision Informatics is the only such NSF Center in the nation that focuses on data science, big data analytics and visual analytics. Its external grants exceed $3 million annually, and it provides an average of $300,000 a year in externally funded research assistantships.

**DEGREE PROGRAMS**

**B.S. Computer Science (ABET accredited)**
- With concentrations in:
  - Video Game Design and Development
  - Scientific Computing
  - Cloud Computing
  - Computer Engineering

**B.S. Informatics**
- With concentrations in:
  - Business Informatics
  - Health Informatics
  - Cyber Security
  - Systems Administration
  - Interactive Digital Media

**M.S. Computer Science**
**M.S. Computer Engineering**
**M.S. Informatics**
**Ph.D. Computer Science**
**Ph.D. Computer Engineering**

**FACULTY, STAFF, AND STUDENTS**
21 tenured and tenure-track at all ranks
9 instructors at all ranks
2 systems administrators and 3 administrative assistants

**Enrollment (Fall 2019)**
- B.S.: 739 (3 year average: 706)
- M.S.: 53 (3 year average: 54.7)
- Ph.D.: 88 (3 year average: 77.7)
- Degrees awarded (2018-19)
  - B.S.: 75 (3 year average: 78.7)
  - M.S.: 36 (3 year average: 29.3)
  - Ph.D.: 8 (3 year average: 7.7)

**FACULTY RESEARCH**

**Knowledge and Information Systems**
- Big Data and data mining; Data analytics and visualization

**Artificial Intelligence**
- Deep learning; Machine vision; Cognitive studies

**Computer Communication and Networking**
- Internet of things; Mobile computing; Wireless communications

**Software Artifacts**
- Graphics and human-computer interaction;
  Operating systems; Programming languages and analysis

**Computer Systems and Architectures**
- Cloud computing; Cyber security; Embedded systems; VLSI systems

International recruitment of students continues to play an important role in the School of Computing and Informatics, and is supported by a newly appointed Executive Director of Globalization at the university. Recent legislature now allows the university to charge international and out-of-state students the same tuition as in-state students.
POINTS OF PRIDE FOR THE SCHOOL OF COMPUTING AND INFORMATICS

• Based on research and development expenditure, Computer Science at the University of Louisiana at Lafayette was ranked 44 in 2014 and 53 in 2015 by National Science Foundation (NSF).

• The Center for Advanced Computer Studies (CACS) was established in 1984. Over the years, CACS has hosted a distinguished faculty, including IEEE Fellows, ACM Fellows, AAAS Fellows, and NSF CAREER Award recipients. CACS has been featured as one of the top 50 computer science graduate programs in the country for the 2013 - 2014 academic year.

• The Undergraduate Informatics Program is the first such program in Louisiana, and is among an increasing number of such programs across the United States. The Master of Science in Informatics is also the first offered in the state.

• Their Undergraduate Computer Science Program is fully accredited by the Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology (ABET).

• UL Lafayette (then University of Southwestern Louisiana) established the Alpha Student Chapter of the Association of Computing Machinery in 1961.
The University seeks an individual with an outstanding record of proven leadership, teaching, research, and service to be hired at the rank of Professor for the position of **Professor and Director of the School of Computing and Informatics**. The successful applicant will develop a vision and build consensus for the school’s mission consistent with the college and University’s mission and goals while working with the faculty and administration to facilitate operations related to the school. The Professor and Director will lead the faculty in the expansion of the school’s academic programs and promote the growth of research and education capabilities in a way that enhances the school’s national and international reputation for excellence. They will serve as an advocate, both inside and outside the University, for the faculty and students of the school, reflecting their perspectives, concerns, and needs. They will manage the staff, resources, and facilities efficiently and effectively to ensure smooth daily operation of the school, including proper communication of policies and procedures. The Professor and Director will maintain research, teaching, and service activities as a Full Professor in the school.

The Professor and Director will bring vision and direction to a highly functional faculty and staff, who have continued dedication and commitment to the students and programs of the division. While the school has three distinct programs, Computer Science, Informatics, and Center for Advanced Computer Studies, the school functions as one and seeks a Professor and Director who will continue to promote standards, accountability, and transparency.

The Professor and Director will need to support faculty research, teaching, and services, as well as engage faculty in assessment, advising, and
other curricular matters related to the three programs. They should be able to balance managing and providing opportunities to internal and external constituents. While being fiscally astute and understanding budgetary matters, the Professor and Director will provide leadership in access and opportunities through grants and other methods of funding. The Professor and Director will have the ability to motivate colleagues through collaborative leadership and leverage the strengths of the unique faculty.

What are they really looking for?
• Vision for the School of Computing and Informatics
• One who motivates others to work on projects and initiatives
• Re-establishing the reputation the school has enjoyed in previous years
• Respect for the difference of personalities and domains of expertise among faculty and staff
• Assistance in striking a healthy balance for faculty between teaching, research, and service.

QUALIFICATIONS
The successful applicant must have a doctorate in computer science or a related area and a strong track record in doctoral student supervision, an externally funded research program, and intellectual interests to lead or contribute to multidisciplinary efforts. Applicants must have served in a leadership role in an academic environment, preferably as a Department Head at a university with strong research and teaching programs, and have a strong record of professional service in academic and research communities.
HOW TO APPLY?


Please upload a single PDF including the following:

i. Current CV demonstrating an exceptional research record and international reputation of scholarly distinction and accomplishments in the field of information commensurate with appointment at the rank of full professor;

ii. Names and contact details of 5 references (no letters are required at this time – references will only be contacted for finalists, and only after consultation with the candidate); and

iii. A cover letter focused on articulating your fit with the School of Computing and Informatics and addressing the following three questions:
   - What are the specific strategies you have used to create a collegial teaching and learning environment among faculty, staff, and students?
   - What would you do to develop an innovative, engaging, and inclusive learning environment for students, and how would this differ for undergraduate, master’s, and doctoral students?
   - What attributes do you think are necessary for a school to be ranked amongst Tier 1 research institutions and what role can you, as a director, play in achieving it?

iv. To be considered for the Computer Science Trust Fund Eminent Scholar Chair, the cover letter should also address the following:
   - How would you use the resources and prestige of the endowed chair professorship to enhance your research agenda?

v. Provide your transcripts (upon being shortlisted).

Confidential discussions about this opportunity may be arranged by contacting Kate Nolde at (Kate.Nolde@academicsearch.org) or Kate Cusimano at (Kate.Cusimano@academicsearch.org) consultants with Academic Search, Inc., Washington, D.C.

The University of Louisiana at Lafayette is dedicated to the goal of building a diverse faculty committed to teaching and working in a multicultural environment. Women, minorities, and individuals with disabilities are strongly encouraged to apply. The University of Louisiana at Lafayette does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, religion, sex, sexual orientation, or disability in admission to, access to, treatment in, or employment in its programs and activities as required by Title VI and Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Age Discrimination in Employment Act of 1967, Age Discrimination Act of 1975, the Equal Pay Act of 1963, Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, Executive Order 11246, Section 503 and 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Section 402 of the Vietnam Era Veterans Readjustment Assistance Act of 1974 and the 1990 Americans With Disabilities Act. See more at: [http://personnel.louisiana.edu/employment-opportunities/policy-nondiscrimination](http://personnel.louisiana.edu/employment-opportunities/policy-nondiscrimination).
ABOUT ACADEMIC SEARCH

Academic Search, Inc. is assisting University of Louisiana at Lafayette 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/.

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