SEARCH PROFILE:

CAL TURNER ENDOWED CHAIR OF BUSINESS
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THE OPPORTUNITY

Fisk University seeks an inventive and collaborative scholar to become the inaugural Cal Turner Endowed Chair in the vibrant city of Nashville, TN. The Cal Turner Endowed Chair will be a faculty member in the Department of Business Administration, which is part of the School of Arts, Humanities and Professional Studies.

The appointee will work with an energized and experienced group of business faculty members in the Department of Business Administration, as well as engaged members of the business community to build a program of nationally recognized excellence producing strong outcomes for students. As a member of the Department of Business Administration, the Cal Turner Endowed Chair (CTEC) will support the department’s curriculum and service goals of integrating theoretical knowledge and practical skills to solve problems facing organizations and institutions in our community and in society at large. Currently, the Department holds ACBSP accreditation. The candidate selected for this position will be expected to provide leadership in the continuing development and implementation of the University’s plan to obtain initial AACSB accreditation. Other areas of responsibility include oversight of curriculum planning and management, including enrollment management and program evaluations. In addition to developing new degree programs, there is a strong interest in providing students with online degree options.

The Endowed Chair will take office in late summer/early fall 2022. The following profile provides nominators and prospective candidates with information about the position, the University, and participation in the search.
ABOUT FISK UNIVERSITY

Fisk University is a premier private liberal arts institution, with a strong focus on science, located in Nashville, Tennessee. Founded in 1866, it is one of the oldest Historically Black Colleges and Universities in the nation. The University has distinctive strengths in science, business, arts, and health which are all outgrowths of a strong liberal arts foundation. The University also has internationally renowned flagship programs in music, fine arts, and natural sciences, showcased by the multi-award winning Fisk Jubilee Singers®, the unrivaled Art Galleries, and world-class research activity. The dual focus on liberal arts and science provides students with the holistic, 21st century education they need to lead successful, significant lives. The careful arrangement and rigor of the curriculum prepares students to be critical thinkers and problem solvers, with strong cultural and moral values. Social justice is a hallmark of Fisk and is interwoven into the very fabric of the institution. The educational experience is designed to teach students to be conscious of societal trends and impacts to ensure they courageously advocate for themselves and those less fortunate.

Fisk University is the #1 liberal arts, Historically Black College and University in the nation for research. The University’s research expenditures are perennially ranked among the top of all liberal arts institutions in America. For over 150 years, the institution has admitted students from around the world, and challenged them to shatter ceilings, think aspirationally, and create change. Using the intimate setting of Fisk, students are submerged in a highly intellectual research climate which inspires them to reach their full potential. The interdisciplinary and diverse approach, reinforced through a strong faculty and staff, ensures students are exceedingly well prepared for their career of choice. Fisk students lead, make a difference, and create generational change.

In 1930 the University became the first HBCU in the nation to gain accreditation by the Commission of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools. Throughout its history, the University has played a major role in securing successful futures for African Americans. Influential graduates include, among others, W.E.B. Du Bois, Judith Jamison, John Hope Franklin, David Levering Lewis, John Lewis, Diane Nash, Nikki Giovanni, and Kim Whitley.

STRATEGIC PLAN

The institution has a four-year Strategic Plan which began in 2018 and concludes this year. The plan consists of seven guiding principles: Transformational Student Experience, Academic Excellence with a Focus on Liberal Arts and Science, Thrive, Diversity and Social Justice, Community Partnerships, Continuous Improvement, and Globalization. For more information about the strategic plan, click here.

MISSION AND VISION

Fisk University produces graduates from diverse backgrounds with the integrity and intellect required for substantive contributions to society. Our curriculum is grounded in the liberal arts. Our faculty and administrators emphasize the discovery and advancement of knowledge through research in the natural and social sciences, business, and the humanities. We are committed to the success of scholars and leaders with global perspectives.

Fisk University aspires to be among the best liberal arts institutions in the world.
Fisk currently enrolls 941 students, of which 89% are full time. The majority of students are undergraduate with a small graduate population of 43 students. The University is looking to expand its graduate programming. The University attracts a diverse group of students, with 33% from Tennessee, 57% from other states, and an international population of 11%. The student population is comprised of 86% African American, 11% international and 3% of other racial and ethnic backgrounds. A small percentage (3%) are working adults.

More than half of the student population live on campus (currently close to 600 students). Students are active on campus with 53 student clubs and there is a high emphasis on student volunteer activity (in the past year, students volunteered more than 21,500 hours).

The University is an NAIA Division I institution offering men and women’s soccer, basketball, golf, indoor and outdoor track and field and cross country. The institution also offers three club sports.

In recent years, the University has focused on increasing its athletic profile considering the growing interest among student-athletes for an elite HBCU experience. Earlier this year, Fisk University launched the first HBCU Intercollegiate Women’s Artistic Gymnastics Team. The women’s gymnastics team exemplifies the values of Fisk University: determination, excellence, and a commitment to a more just and equitable future; values that have been consistently at the forefront of women’s gymnastics. The Fisk community is particularly excited to welcome a slate of remarkable student-athletes to campus this fall.

Fisk has 63 full-time faculty members. More than 80 percent of full-time faculty hold a doctorate degree, and almost 40 percent are tenured. The University also has 28 adjunct professors and 64 support staff.
ACADEMIC PROGRAMS

Fisk University has three schools, namely the School of Arts, Humanities and Professional Studies, the School of Life Sciences and Technology, and the School of Graduate Studies. The institution offers 27 undergraduate programs and 7 graduate programs. The School of Arts, Humanities and Professional Studies enrolls 674 students, 226 students are enrolled in Life Sciences and Technology, and 41 students are in Graduate Studies. The most popular programs are biology, business administration and psychology.

The University has a branch campus in Clarksville, TN which was established in 2019. The focus of the Clarksville campus is online programming, as well as non-traditional and adult learners. Currently, Clarksville offers three bachelors programs - homeland security, criminal justice, and an online program in elective studies.

Fisk also offers dual degree programs with Case Western Reserve and Vanderbilt University that are designed as “three + two” dual degree programs in various engineering disciplines. More information about the dual degree programs can be found [here](#).

**Accreditation:** Fisk University is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges SACSCOC (a reaccreditation visit was just completed in March 2022), and has an upcoming accreditation visit with the National Association of Schools of Music (NASM) in 2023.

INSTITUTIONAL LEADERSHIP

Dr. Vann R. Newkirk, Sr., a native of Elizabethtown, North Carolina, was named the 17th President of Fisk University by the Board of Trustees on February 15, 2021. He served as Fisk University’s Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs from 2018 until his Presidential appointment. He formerly served as Provost/Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs and Professor of History at Elizabeth City State University.

Dr. Newkirk has an extensive leadership record with proven evidence of effectiveness on many levels. He has a 25-year career in creating innovative educational programs which have enhanced enrollment at each institution in which he was formerly employed. Over his career he also built and managed off-campus degree programs, enhanced sponsored programs’ productivity, and played major roles in the administration of institutional research and effectiveness. A noted historian, Newkirk has written extensively on crime and punishment in the state of North Carolina. He is the author of the seminal work on subject, *Lynching in North Carolina* (2008), which won the Willie Parker Peace History Award for the best non-fiction study of North Carolina in 2009.

In addition to the Provost, the President’s Senior Leadership team is comprised of the Executive Vice President (Advancement), the Vice President/Chief Financial Officer, and the Associate Provost for Student Affairs and Wellness.

Fisk has a 22-member Board of Trustees which meets three times annually. The Board includes two student and two faculty representatives.
ABOUT THE DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

The Department of Business Administration, which is part of the School of Arts, Humanities and Professional Studies, offers a major in business administration for a Bachelor of Science degree, an associate degree in business, and is currently planning its first graduate program in Executive Leadership and in Health and Administration. Within the major of business administration, students may choose a specialized concentration in accounting, financial economics, international business relations, and management. Students may also pursue a joint baccalaureate degree and Master of Business Administration (MBA) degree in conjunction with the Owen Graduate School of Management at Vanderbilt University. A concentration is available in Music Business through Belmont University. Students may also pursue a joint baccalaureate degree and Master of Business Administration. Finally, a joint major in business administration in conjunction with a major from outside the department is another option.

In addition to coursework, students participate in community-related projects and competitive internships at corporations such as Goldman Sachs, Google and KPMG LLP. Students enrolled in the Department of Business Administration are eligible for membership in the Society for the Advancement of Management; the National Association of Black Accountants; and Enactus. Qualified students are inducted into the international honor society in business, Delta Mu Delta. The Business Administration Degree is accredited by Accreditation Council for Business Schools and Programs (ACBSP) and received accreditation in 2015. The Business reaffirmation is scheduled for 2025.
REQUIRED AND DESIRED QUALIFICATIONS

REQUIRED QUALIFICATIONS
• A Ph.D. in Business Administration, Marketing or Management from an AACSB accredited school or experience teaching at an AACSB accredited school;
• A record of teaching and scholarship commensurate with appointment at the rank of associate professor (full professor preferred), with tenure in any business discipline; and
• Successful experience in a position of academic leadership that demonstrates increasing levels of leadership responsibility and accomplishment.

DESIRED EXPERIENCES AND ATTRIBUTES
• Success with AACSB International accreditation efforts, and necessary external review processes;
• Familiarity with national developments in business schools/colleges;
• Strong interest in technology and innovation with the ability to lead the enhancement of teaching and learning through the meaningful use of technology and active learning strategies;
• An ability to create a model for business education that combines practices in traditional classroom instruction and limited residency programs;
• Verifiable dedication to undergraduate and graduate teaching and learning;
• Commitment to the career and academic advancement of faculty with diverse backgrounds;
• Effectiveness in budget management and fundraising;
• An ability to lead Centers, as well as business incubator programs;
• The ability to develop and work with an external advisory board that assists with fundraising;
• The ability to develop partnerships between the University and business communities;
• An ability to cultivate dynamic relationships with community leaders who are focused on economic development;
• The ability to lead student recruitment, retention, and placement;
• The ability to articulate a vision for the School and Department;
• The ability to work as a team member in fostering the achievement of the mission of the University;
• The skill to communicate effectively within the School and the University, and with alumni and community members;
• Commitment to the highest caliber of research, teaching, and professional excellence;
• A strong work ethic and the ability to prioritize and complete all position responsibilities in a timely manner;
• Superb written and oral presentation skills as well as organizational and interpersonal skills.
PROCEDURES FOR NOMINATION AND APPLICATION

Academic Search is assisting Fisk University in this national search.

Applications should consist of the following documents, to be submitted electronically in .pdf format: (1) a detailed cover letter addressing the expectations of the position; (2) a current curriculum vitae (CV); and (3) a list of five professional references with contact information and a note explaining your working relationship with each. References will not be contacted without explicit permission from the candidate. The position will remain open until filled, but only applications received by June 30, 2022, can be assured full consideration.

Applications, nominations, and inquiries may be sent in confidence to FiskEndowedChair@academicsearch.org. Nominations should include the nominee’s full name, position, institution/organization, and email address.

Those who are considering applying are encouraged to schedule a confidential conversation with the senior consultant for this search: Maya Ranchod Kirkhope, Vice President and Senior Consultant, at maya.kirkhope@academicsearch.org.

Fisk University is an equal opportunity/affirmative action employer. All persons will be offered employment and promotion on the basis of qualifications and capabilities without regard to race, religion, sex, national origin, qualified ADA recognized disability or veteran status. In addition, the University sponsors and encourages an environment of affirmative action toward equal opportunity in all divisions affecting the recruiting, hiring and promotion of employees at all levels.
ABOUT ACADEMIC SEARCH

Academic Search is assisting Fisk University in this work. For more than four decades, Academic Search has offered executive search services to higher education institutions, associations, and related organizations. Academic Search was founded by higher education leaders on the principle that we provide the most value to partner institutions by combining best practices with our deep knowledge and experience. Our mission today is to enhance institutional capacity by providing outstanding executive recruitment services, executive coaching, and transition support, in partnership with our parent organization, the American Academic Leadership Institute. For more information, visit www.academicsearch.org.

Committed to IDENTIFYING AND DEVELOPING LEADERS by providing the highest level of EXECUTIVE SEARCH to our higher education partners.