



The Search for the Esther Mackintosh Humanities Scholar of the University

THE OPPORTUNITY

Morningside University invites applications for the Esther Mackintosh Humanities Scholar of the University. This newly established endowed professorship offers a rare opportunity for a scholar to promote and celebrate the value of humanistic inquiry on campus and in the community. Housed in the interdisciplinary Humanities department, this is a nine-month, tenured, faculty position at the rank of associate or full professor to begin in August 2022. This is an exciting opportunity for a humanities scholar who is passionate about the importance of the humanities to higher education and our society. The Mackintosh Humanities Scholar will champion the interconnectedness of the humanities throughout the various disciplines of the University, demonstrating to faculty within and beyond the humanities the value and relevance of the humanities in the 21st century.

The successful candidate will bring a transformative mindset to the humanities and will promote the inherent value and exciting potential of the humanities in new ways. Through teaching and scholarship, the ideal candidate will infuse experiential learning and “big ideas” in combination with forward-thinking approaches into the humanities. The scholar will have the opportunity to design unique courses as well as to develop or implement an active, multi-disciplinary research agenda relevant to current students and the general public.

The position will have a three-course teaching load (twelve hours) and be expected to teach an experientially based May Term every three years. Candidates from any humanities discipline are encouraged to apply. Preference will be given to faculty who currently hold tenure, or have previously held tenure, and have attended or taught at small private colleges or universities. At least one course each year should be team-taught with a faculty member outside of the humanities.



ABOUT THE UNIVERSITY

Morningside University is a small private comprehensive university set on a beautiful 69-acre campus located in the heart of Iowa's fourth largest city, Sioux City. This tri-state area along the Missouri River that includes Nebraska and South Dakota is frequently referred to as Siouxland, which has a population of more than 140,000.

Morningside's educational programming is designed to meet the needs of undergraduate, post-undergraduate, and graduate students in an increasingly fast-paced world. A small, collegial, and mission-driven community, Morningside is dedicated to integration of liberal arts and professional study. Offering more than 65 academic programs with a 13:1 student:faculty ratio, the University highly values excellence in teaching and learning. Morningside is recognized for providing undergraduate students with exceptional active learning, and for its online graduate programs, flexible post-baccalaureate programs, and online bachelor's degree completion options. Total enrollment is approximately 2,400 students from nearly all 50 states and almost 20 countries.

Morningside offers robust study abroad and May Term programs that give students the ability to customize their education and access a global network of opportunities. The University is also home to 28 athletic teams that are often competitive at a national level, as well as to visual and performing arts, more than 50 clubs and organizations, and other well-established active learning options that engage students outside the traditional classroom setting.

The humanities lie at the core of the University's mission and developing new, innovative strategies to deepen the study of the humanities across the curriculum is central to the University's vision for 21st century education.

MISSION STATEMENT

The Morningside University experience cultivates a passion for lifelong learning and a dedication to ethical leadership and civic responsibility.

VISION STATEMENT

The University is a student-centered participatory community, offering a liberal arts curriculum combined with a diverse array of practical experiences. The goal is the development of the whole person through an emphasis on critical thinking, effective communication, cultural understanding, practical wisdom, spiritual discernment, and ethical action. The Morningside University graduate is equipped for both personal and professional success.

2,411
Total Students

1,157
Undergraduate Students

1,254
Graduate Students

74
Full-Time Faculty

162
Part-Time Faculty

189
Total Staff

13,153
Living Undergraduate
Alumni

17.6%
Students of Color



VIBRANT, STRONG, & STUDENT-CENTERED

Over the past 15 years, every single acre of the Morningside University campus has been remodeled and reoriented to place students at its center. In that same time, the University has raised more than \$125 million in gifts, with \$70 million dedicated to new and renovated facilities. During this period the University has also increased full-time enrollment by 75 percent and graduate enrollment by 700 percent. This led to Morningside being selected as a “Best Place to Work” by the Chronicle of Higher Education. Other highlights include:

- Implementation of the Sharon Walker Faculty Excellence Awards, the Thompson Staff Excellence Awards, and the Yockey Assessment Awards, which all encourage the development of employee talent while also serving as important recruitment and retention tools.
- Enhanced research opportunities, including the Summer Undergraduate Research Program (SURP) and the annual Palmer Research Symposium.
- The successful transition of Morningside athletics from NCAA Division II to the NAIA.
- New initiatives focused on establishing the performing arts as an integral part of the college experience.
- Dramatically expanded opportunities for students to study abroad:
 - » Creation of a May Term requirement with opportunities for local, national, or international study with Morningside faculty.
 - » Expanded exchange opportunities.
 - » Increased participation in study abroad from fewer than 10 students to more than 150.
- Launch of the Col. Bud Day Center for Civic Engagement, the Connie Wimer Women’s Leadership Program, Project Siouxland, and numerous other enrichment opportunities for students that encourage active learning and engagement.
- The launch of several new programs:
 - » Online bachelor’s degree completion options.
 - » A Master of Science in Nursing (MSN) and the college’s first-ever doctoral program, the Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP).
 - » Applied Agriculture and Food Studies.
 - » Criminal Justice.

THE OPPORTUNITY

The inaugural Esther MacIntosh Humanities Scholar will have a unique opportunity to create a vision and collaborate with colleagues in the humanities and across the university. The successful candidate will join a vibrant and engaged interdisciplinary humanities department that includes nine faculty from English, history, religious studies, Spanish, and philosophy. Morningside Humanities has a culture of collaboration and creativity within a supportive campus community.

Faculty members in the humanities have a strong record of scholarship and significant contributions to the Morningside community. The English program publishes a nationally awarded annual literary and art magazine called *Kiosk* and edits the *Morningside Review*, which features student scholarship across the University. The Humanities department has embraced an applied and pragmatic approach to demonstrating the value of the humanities more broadly. For example, the Humanities Speaker Series and endowed Goldstein and Wright Lectures showcase humanities research to the community. A scholar seeking colleagues who creatively apply humanistic thinking in new ways will find a good fit within the department.

The scholar will be part of the humanities department but will report directly to the vice president of academic affairs and receive a separate budget for professional development and community engagement activities. The goal of this structure is to provide an environment where scholarly passions and community involvement can be freely pursued and supported.





PREFERRED QUALIFICATIONS

The Esther Mackintosh Humanities Scholar will lead the University's efforts to achieve new levels of academic excellence and success in the humanities. The University is looking for someone who possesses a combination of knowledge, skills, and characteristics embodied in the following descriptions.

A candidate should be:

- A dynamic and creative teacher and scholar with a record of accomplishment in the humanities who possesses a doctoral or other terminal degree and the academic credentials suitable for an appointment at the level of associate /full professor.
- An ambassador of the humanities who values humanities and its connections to multiple disciplines and programs while sharing a deep and abiding passion for the University's mission.
- A team player committed to open dialogue that fosters a shared understanding of how the humanities can be integrated across and within multiple disciplines and academic programs. The successful candidate will demonstrate the ability to build bridges with colleagues from areas outside of the humanities with an emphasis on how cooperation among multiple perspectives and disciplinary frameworks enhances learning.
- A leader who shares the University's commitment to fostering a climate of inclusion and a campus reflective of the world's rich diversity and believes in the value of diversity in enriching the learning experience and the quality of life for students, faculty, and staff.
- A scholar and teacher who demonstrates excellence in student learning and pedagogical expertise in interdisciplinary approaches to scholarship and learning.
- An advocate for academic innovation in humanistic inquiry related to new and emerging trends in higher education, including strategic use of technology across the curriculum and civic engagement.
- An engaging and skilled advocate for the humanities: a public scholar and teacher who will be actively involved at the local, regional and national levels in promoting the role of humanistic inquiry to our understanding of contemporary issues.

NOMINATIONS & INQUIRIES

Academic Search (academicsearch.org) is assisting Morningside University. Nominators and prospective candidates may arrange a confidential conversation about this exciting opportunity with the Senior Consultant, Cynthia Patterson (Cynthia.Patterson@academicsearch.org).

Review of applications for the position will begin immediately and will continue until filled. For fullest consideration, applicant materials should be received by October 1, 2021.

1. A letter of intent addressing how the candidate's experiences match the position requirements.
2. A current CV/resume.
3. Contact information for at least five professional references, including email addresses and a brief note of the candidate's working relationship with each. References will not be contacted without the prior knowledge and approval of the candidate and at a later stage in the search.

Please send materials as an email attachment in Word (three separate documents) to MorningsideHumanities@academicsearch.org.

Morningside University strongly encourages women and minorities to apply.

Morningside University is an equal opportunity employer and does not discriminate against qualified applicants on the basis of race, color, creed, religion, ancestry, age, sex, marital status, genetic information, sexual orientation, national origin, disability, gender identity, or veteran status.

USEFUL LINKS

[Morningside Website](#)

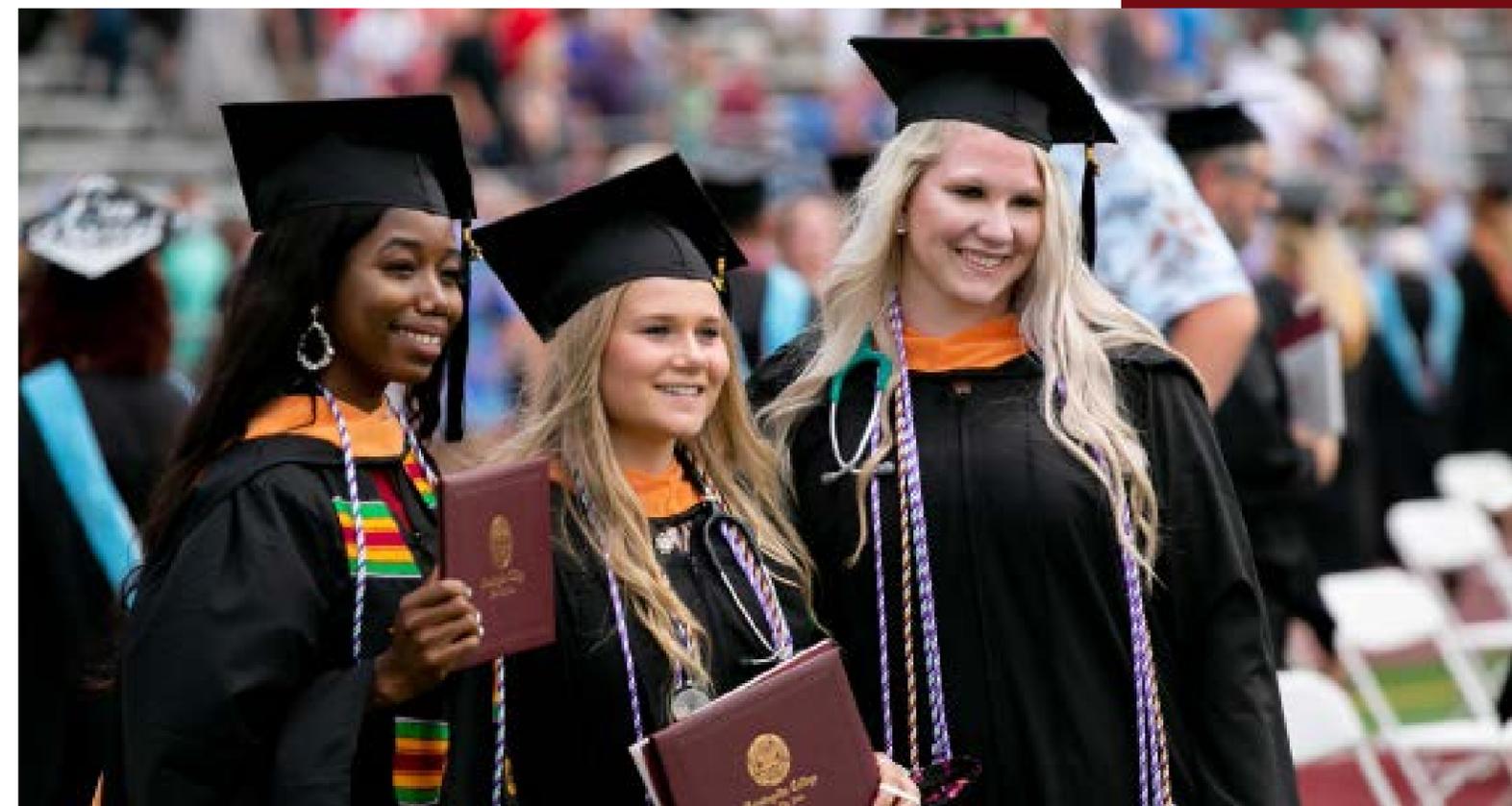
[Morningside Academic Information](#)

[Morningside Athletics Website](#)

[2020-2021 Fact Book](#)

[Morningside Board of Directors](#)

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