



Presidential Search

The McKendree University (McKendree) Board of Trustees invites nominations and applications from exceptional leaders to serve as the University's next President. The current President, Dr. James M. Dennis will retire after 26 years of exemplary service. The new President must be a dynamic leader with the ability to chart a powerful and compelling vision for the future that leverages the University's deep commitment to student success and further strengthens McKendree's mission to provide a high-quality educational experience that prepares students for leadership roles in society.

The University

McKendree University is a nationally ranked, private university offering undergraduate, graduate and online programs. The 235-acre campus is located in Lebanon, Illinois, approximately 25 miles from St. Louis, Missouri. Selected academic programs are also offered at facilities in Radcliff, Kentucky, Scott Air Force Base, Illinois, and several other locations throughout the region. Founded in 1828 as the Lebanon Seminary, McKendree is the oldest university in Illinois and the oldest in the nation with continuous ties to the United Methodist Church. The institution enrolls approximately 2,000 undergraduates and nearly 600 graduate students representing 38 countries and 41 states. McKendree is comprised of the College of Arts and Science, the School of Business, the School of Education, and the School of Nursing and Health Professions. The University participates in NCAA Division II athletics and is a member of the Great Lakes Valley Conference. Campus housing includes traditional style residence halls, suite style, and apartment style living facilities. Ninety percent of first-year students live on campus.

The University is accredited by the Higher Learning Commission and is ranked by *U.S. News and World Report's* 2020 "Best Colleges" edition in the top tier of Midwest regional universities. Students are drawn to McKendree's reputation for academic excellence and student engagement. McKendree has been recognized for many years as a "Military Friendly School" and one of "America's 100 Best College Buys." The University's commitment to volunteerism, service learning and civic engagement earned it a place on the President's Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll for the seventh time since 2006. For more information about McKendree University, please visit <https://www.mckendree.edu/>.

Position Summary

Reporting to the Board of Trustees, the President serves as the University's chief executive officer and is charged with setting the University's vision and directing the effective deployment of its assets to realize this vision. In the role of President, this individual will further strengthen McKendree's critical role in the lives of its students by ensuring its ability to continue providing the rigorous, broadly based liberal arts education and educational experiences for which it has become known. McKendree's next President will continue the University's tradition of academic excellence while embracing its commitment to improving the lives of its students, citizens within its community, and beyond. In doing so, the President will champion McKendree's values by encouraging a broader vision, enriched purpose, engagement with community, commitment to responsible citizenship, openness to new ideas, and a dedication to lifelong learning among its campus and surrounding communities.

In guiding the University's academic, scholarly, co-curricular and outreach efforts, the President will serve as a driving force in McKendree's efforts to shape its students' experience through innovative thinking, community engagement, and transformative education. He or she will be an accessible leader to students of the University and recognize the centrality of students to the University's mission. He or she will inspire the faculty and show appreciation for the efforts of staff. The President is the leading spokesperson and will be an influential leader who possesses excellent judgment and diplomacy, personal and professional integrity, and a reputation for working collegially and collaboratively with internal and external constituencies.

Qualifications

Excellent communication skills are of paramount importance, as the President will serve as the chief representative and champion of the University to a wide variety of internal and external constituencies. Proven management experience, requisite expertise in working collaboratively with diverse groups in complex organizations, and strong interpersonal skills are essential. This includes, but is not limited to, the ability to motivate an organization to strive for a common goal. A track record of innovation; commitment to supporting teaching, research, and creative scholarship of the highest quality and the academic freedom on which they depend; and an appreciation for higher education structure and culture also are essential.

Although a terminal degree and exceptional academic administrative experience are preferred, the Board of Trustees also welcomes and encourages candidates who have achieved noteworthy success in their respective fields outside higher education to apply. These candidates must have demonstrated experience and a track-record of success working in a decentralized organizational structure where success is achieved in partnership and collaboration rather than solely direct authority.

For a full position profile and list of qualifications, please visit www.mckendree.edu/presidentialsearch.

Application and Nomination Process

The Search Committee will begin reviewing applications immediately and will continue to accept applications and nominations until the position is filled. Applicants must submit a current curriculum vitae/resume and a letter of interest describing relevant experience. Submission of materials via e-mail is strongly encouraged. Nomination letters should include the name, position, address and telephone number of the nominee. All nominations and applications will be handled in confidence.

Applications and letters of nomination should be submitted to:



Alberto Pimentel, Managing Partner

Storbeck/Pimentel & Associates
6512 Painter Avenue
Whittier, CA 90601

Refer to code: "**McKendree-President**" in subject line

Email: apsearch@storbeckpimentel.com

EEO/ADA/Vet/Disabled