



PROVOST AND VICE PRESIDENT FOR ACADEMIC AFFAIRS



UNIVERSITY OF BRIDGEPORT





THE OPPORTUNITY

To build new signature academic programs at the undergraduate and graduate levels designed to propel this doctoral university to its next level of academic excellence. Enlisting the prowess of the faculty and administration in achieving this lofty goal.

THE UNIVERSITY

Today, the University of Bridgeport (UB) is one of the country's leading institutions serving international students. Forty-one percent of its students come from countries abroad and there are 79 nations represented.

For 2008, the University achieved a record enrollment of over 5,300 students, with an FTE of 4,053. While most students are graduate or professional students, over 2,000 students are undergraduates.

Located in the largest city in Connecticut, it is situated on 52 beautiful acres overlooking the Long Island Sound. The University is in Fairfield County, the third largest concentration of Fortune 500 company headquarters in the United States. UB is one hour from New York City and three hours from Boston.





MISSION:

The University of Bridgeport offers career-oriented undergraduate, graduate, and professional degrees and programs for people seeking personal and professional growth. The University promotes academic excellence, personal responsibility, and commitment to service. Distinctive curricula in an international, culturally diverse, supportive learning environment prepare graduates for life and leadership in an increasingly interconnected world. The University is independent and non-sectarian.

THE UNIVERSITY (*continued*)

Carnegie classifies UB as a doctoral (DRU) institution. The State of Connecticut, Department of Higher Education accredits both the University and its programs. The New England Association of Schools and Colleges grants regional accreditation. Specialized accreditation has been obtained in education, dental hygiene, computer engineering, acupuncture and oriental medicine, chiropractic, naturopathic medicine, art and design, and business.

The University is organized into the following units: School of Arts & Sciences, School of Business, School of Dental Hygiene, School of Engineering, School of Education & Human Resources, International College, College of Chiropractic, College of Naturopathic Medicine, School of Continuing & Professional Studies, Acupuncture Institute, the Human Nutrition Institute and the English Language Institute. An excellent teaching and research faculty (117 full-time and 435 part-time) offers the various academic programs. Thirty-nine percent of the faculty is tenured. Some 18% of faculty members are professors, 18% are associate professors, and 28% are assistant professors while the remaining faculty hold clinical or lecturer status (renewable appointments).



BACKGROUND

Neil Albert Salonen became President in 2000 and since that time has transformed the institution. For many years prior to his service, the University experienced deficits and enrollment problems, but under the President's leadership the institution has turned around and is moving forward. The University is now self-supporting with balanced budgets, healthy financial reserves are being obtained, and morale has greatly improved.

Since 2000, the following has also been accomplished: enrollment has nearly doubled; the academic budget has more than doubled; three new academic divisions have been created and encompass three colleges, six schools, and three institutes; substantial academic-related physical plant improvements have been achieved, including the library, a number of laboratories, clinics, and classrooms; fulltime faculty has increased by 40%, administrative staff support in the Office of the Provost has doubled; faculty development has quadrupled; two new doctoral degrees, including the Ph.D. and six master's degrees and five on-line degree programs have been added; and a comprehensive program review process is in place.

CHALLENGES

Major challenges for the next provost/vice president for academic affairs are:

- Taking the University to its next level of academic excellence; leading the faculty in developing exciting new signature academic programs;
- Facilitating University strategic planning, linked to multiple-year budgets, for identifying the institution's most important priorities; assisting the President in developing a new academic vision for the future of the University;
- Recognizing the balance of professional and liberal arts academic programs; promoting inter-disciplinary opportunities throughout the colleges and schools;
- Finding and facilitating faculty development initiatives for research and teaching purposes; encouraging faculty/student research at the undergraduate and graduate levels; obtaining grants and foundation monies to facilitate these endeavors;
- Employing systematic program review and assessment of learning outcomes throughout the curricula;
- Developing new degree programs consistent with the University's mission and financial resources;
- Expanding undergraduate offerings and majors in order to grow the undergraduate student body; working cooperatively with enrollment management to realize this goal;
- Assisting the faculty and administration in improving the overall academic quality of students; promoting the Title III program to improve the skills of matriculating students;
- Increasing diversity among full-time faculty members; creating a positive multicultural environment within all academic units; increasing the number of full-time faculty members as financial resources permit;
- Streamlining faculty governance by revising and updating the faculty handbook; and
- Being transparent in all communications to the University community.



QUALIFICATIONS

The provost and vice president for academic affairs is the chief academic officer of the University. She/he reports directly to the president. All deans and directors of colleges and schools report to the provost along with the University librarian, registrar, the offices of academic resources, strategic planning, assessment & evaluation, international institutional cooperation, and accreditation.

The President and University community seek a new chief academic officer who is a person of vision, an entrepreneur, a strategic thinker, a fair and effective manager of people, and who:

- Is a seminal leader who “thinks outside of the box;” desires to lead evolutionary change; has an open mind; is a “hands-on” administrator;
- Holds an earned doctorate in an appropriate discipline from an accredited institution of higher education; has considerable senior level experience; has supervisory experience and has evaluated key faculty and staff; possesses full professor credentials in teaching and research;
- Believes passionately in higher education for preparing tomorrow’s leaders, academics, and professionals;
- Possesses strong financial, planning and accreditation skills;
- Seeks input before decision-making;
- Is a team leader and player; is a loyal member of the president’s team;
- Demonstrates excellent communication skills -speaking, listening, and writing;
- Is active in national and regional higher education associations; and
- Enjoys mentoring faculty and staff; develops effective programs for enhancing faculty efforts in teaching, research and service.



KEY INDICATORS 2008

Investment in Plant, less depreciation:	\$66.80 million
Plant Replacement Insured Value:	\$190.41 million
Cost of Operating Physical Plant:	\$11.46 million
Endowment:	\$3,703,000
Budget:	\$70.28 million
Tuition:	\$22,500
Fees:	\$1,970
Student Enrollment: Fall 2008/ Fall 2007:	2028 (Undergraduates) 1791 3295 (Graduates) 2961 5323 Total 4752
Tuition Discount Rate:	17.3%
Average SAT Score:	Fall 2008 895 Fall 2007 933
High School Rankings- Fall 2008:	Top 10%= 11% Top 25%= 30% Top 50%= 61%
Graduation Rate:	Fall 2001 4 years: 28% 5 years: 40% 6 years: 41.7%
Living Alumni:	53,021
Number of Full-time Faculty:	117
Tenured:	39 or 33%
Number of Part-time Faculty:	435
Faculty Salaries:	Professor: \$84,732 Associate Professor: \$74,561 Assistant Professor: \$57,898
Student/ Teacher Ratio: **FT+PT/3	14.95
Degrees: 2007-8	Undergraduate: 314 Graduate: 821 First Professional: 34
Library Volumes:	269,287
Athletics League:	East Coast Conference (ECC) NCAA Division II



APPLICATION PROCEDURES

To be considered, candidates should e-mail, as MSWord attachments, a cover letter that addresses the challenges and qualifications listed above, a current résumé, and the names, phone numbers, and e-mail addresses of five references to: bridgeport@rhperry.net. Applications are due by **February 27, 2009**, when screening will begin.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

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POLICY

R. H. Perry & Associates is committed to the highest standards of professionalism in all dealings with candidates, sources, and references. We fully respect the need for confidentiality and assure interested parties that their background and interests will not be discussed without consent of the applicant prior to her or his becoming a candidate.

The University of Bridgeport is an affirmative action, equal opportunity institution.

www.bridgeport.edu