Dean of the Faculty of Arts and Sciences
Dartmouth College
September 2016
About Dartmouth College

Founded in 1769 and located in bucolic New Hampshire, Dartmouth pioneered the collegiate tradition of the liberal arts and remains fully committed to the power of a broad-based undergraduate liberal arts education combined with focused graduate programs in medicine, business, the sciences, and engineering. A member of the Ivy League, Dartmouth is consistently counted among the country’s finest research institutions and among the nation’s top undergraduate teaching institutions. The College educates approximately 4,200 undergraduates and 1,950 graduate students in the arts and sciences and its four outstanding professional schools: the Geisel School of Medicine, the Thayer School of Engineering, the Tuck School of Business, and the School of Graduate and Advanced Studies.

Arts & Sciences (A&S), the jewel of Dartmouth College, encompasses 40 academic departments and interdisciplinary programs. Working both within and across disciplines, A&S faculty are innovators in their fields who, together with their students, are fully engaged in the pursuit and exchange of new knowledge. Dartmouth is led by President Philip Hanlon ‘77, who assumed the presidency June 10, 2013.

For additional information about Dartmouth College, please visit: http://www.dartmouth.edu/

The Opportunity

Reporting to the president and with a dotted line to the provost, the Dean of the Faculty of Arts & Sciences (dean) is the chief academic and administrative officer of A&S at Dartmouth. Candidates for the position will have a distinguished record as a scholar and teacher and be eligible for tenure as a full professor in a department or program within A&S. In addition, all candidates should possess the following:

- A strong, unwavering commitment to the primacy of the liberal arts;
- A commitment to building disciplinary strength as well as fostering interdisciplinary initiatives;
- An ability to attract, mentor, and retain top academic talent;
- Administrative acumen including a strong understanding of the financial and operational implications of decisions;
- An ability to communicate and to engage effectively with a wide range of constituents within and outside of both the Arts & Sciences and Dartmouth;
- A demonstrated commitment to diversity in all its forms; and,
- Intellectual curiosity, energy, bold thinking, and a willingness to take calculated risks.
Critical Competencies

Deep Commitment to a Liberal Arts Education: A scholar and educational leader with a deep appreciation for the values of the liberal arts across the arts and humanities, sciences and social sciences, the dean will support all disciplines while inspiring a culture of interdisciplinary learning and research. Advocating for both the liberal arts and the Arts & Sciences faculty, the dean will support and drive the continued excellence of the faculty, working closely with the provost, associate deans, and department chairs to recruit, support, retain and tenure a diverse, highly accomplished faculty. The dean will ensure that A&S is a vibrant, crucial player in intellectual pursuits across the institution, partnering with other schools as well as the centers, institutes, and museum. The next dean will be intellectually curious about a broad array of disciplines and will be a bold, creative leader, prepared to engage the community in a rapidly changing educational environment and the opportunities it presents to further distinguish Dartmouth’s leadership as a premier institution.

Operational and Financial Stewardship: The dean must have the ability to lead and manage in a complex and demanding environment characterized by shared governance. As the leader of the largest academic unit of Dartmouth and a participant on the institution-wide budget committee, he or she will have an understanding of financial and operational issues facing educational institutions. The next dean will lead a process to establish priorities, and will rely on evidence to assess options and make decisions to support those priorities. The dean will be a team builder who is capable of identifying, attracting, and developing top talent.

Bridge-builder: In an institution distinguished by a culture of collaboration, the dean will build connections across the institutions and model positive engagement between A&S and others at the College. The dean will strike a balance of advocating for A&S while serving as an institutional citizen, seeking ways to strengthen the profile of A&S and fostering a culture where all work in the best interests of the institution. The successful candidate must be an exceptional listener and consider the input and counsel from faculty to develop a shared vision for the critical missions of teaching, research, and service. As a key spokesperson for the arts and sciences, the dean will build relationships with external constituencies and partner with the provost and other leaders in the cultivation and stewardship of donors.

The Search Process

Dartmouth College is an equal opportunity employer and strongly encourages individuals of all backgrounds and cultures to consider this leadership position. The university’s commitment to inclusivity encompasses, but is not limited to, diversity in nationality, ethnicity, race, religion, gender, sexual orientation, age, and disability.

The Arts and Sciences search committee is being assisted in this process by Spencer Stuart, and welcomes comments, questions, and nominations, or expressions of interest. To contact the committee with comments, nominations, or expressions of interest, please send an e-mail with any supporting materials to the confidential address DartmouthAandSDean@SpencerStuart.com.