

Portland State University  
Portland, Oregon

Position Profile  
Dean Graduate School of Education  
November 2016

Prepared by:  
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Portland State  
UNIVERSITY

[www.pdx.edu](http://www.pdx.edu)

## About the Graduate School of Education

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Portland State University is seeking nominations and applications for the **Dean of the Graduate School of Education (GSE)**. The mission of the Graduate School of Education at Portland State University is to challenge itself and others to meet the lifelong educational needs of diverse urban communities. The GSE offers an array of comprehensive graduate programs with full CAEP, CACREP, and CORE accreditation. The School has 68 full time faculty, generates over \$7 million each year in external funding, and offers doctoral, master's degree and licensure programs to the 1,700 students currently enrolled.

The GSE is organized around four general department areas: a) Curriculum and Instruction, b) Special Education, c) Counselor Education and d) Educational Leadership and Policy. The GSE also includes the Helen Gordon Child Development Center, the Children's Center, the Oregon Center for Career Development in Childhood Care and Education, the Autism Training and Research Center, the Center for Student Success, the Early Childhood Council, and the Research Center on Inclusive and Effective Educational Practices.



The GSE offers over 35 state licensure and/or endorsement programs, master's degrees and a Doctorate of Education. Cohorts of students work together to complete licensure programs in Teacher Education, Special Education, Counselor Education, and Educational Administration. Faculty from Curriculum and Instruction and Special Education work together to integrate curriculum through collaborative teaching and program development. The GSE has significant partnerships with schools leading to excellent clinical experiences for candidates, enhanced professional development for practitioners, and improved education and counseling services for PK12 students.

The School's master's programs include post-secondary adult and continuing education; community, rehabilitation, school, and couples, marriage, and family counseling; educational leadership; curriculum and instruction, early childhood education, special education, and educational media/librarianship. In most cases, students have opportunities to work collaboratively with faculty in community-based projects or internships. The GSE is an active member of the Carnegie Project on the Education Doctorate and offers an innovative Ed.D. program in Educational Leadership.



## **Role of the Dean of the Graduate School of Education**

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The Dean is the chief academic and administrative officer of the Graduate School of Education and supports matters of concern to the School. The Dean reports directly to the Provost, and with the input of the GSE Leadership Team, makes recommendations in the areas of budget, curriculum, and personnel. The Dean represents the GSE on the Academic Leadership Team, and is an ex officio member of the Faculty Senate. The Dean is responsible for all aspects of the School's academic programming. The Dean must provide strong leadership in the initiation and development of all programs and the promotion of excellence in teaching, scholarship, and community outreach. In addition, the Dean has substantial responsibility for fundraising. In policy matters the Dean acts in consultation with appropriate faculty members, but is responsible for all decisions made by the School. In addition, the Dean plays a leadership role in advancing all institutional initiatives, including internationalization, diversity, assessment and sustainability.

Domains of responsibility include:

### ***Educational Leadership***

- Sponsors the school's role in the following areas:
  - PreK-12 teacher preparation and school improvement
  - Special education
  - Post-secondary education
  - Counseling
- Fosters commitment to equity and diversity by creating and implementing a comprehensive diversity plan that includes actively recruiting and retaining diverse faculty, staff and students, and preparing all GSE graduates to work effectively with diverse populations.
- Promotes and supports GSE engagement in impacting national initiatives related to professional education.

### ***Vision and Planning***

- Leads the School in addressing issues specific to urban educational and human service settings.
- Facilitates an innovative School-wide vision/direction.
- Leads the School in annual and longer-term enrollment, budget and curriculum planning. Provides dynamic leadership for the School as a key voice in education for the region.



### *Community Connections*

- Establishes, maintains and strengthens partnerships with public schools, business, public and private agencies, universities, community colleges, and research entities on educational programming and policy in the region.

### *Structure and Governance*

- Facilitates a collaborative working environment and faculty governance structures.
- Facilitates connections with other academic departments, linkages with other graduate and undergraduate programs.

### *Professional Development*

- Fosters pre-service and in-service professional development of PreK-16 educators and human service professionals including attention to assessment, technology, instruction and diversity.
- Promotes interdisciplinary collaboration and research within the school, across the university, and with community partners.

### *Resource Development and Advocacy*

- As part of a \$300 million comprehensive campaign, leads fundraising and development efforts for the GSE in partnership with unit development officer.
- Articulates vision for and leads fundraising efforts for new GSE building campaign.
- Provides support for grant writing and extramural funding efforts.
- Advocates and articulates the unique dimensions of the GSE to others throughout the university and in the broader community.

## **Qualifications and Experience**

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The successful Dean candidate will be an experienced academic and administrative leader with a high level of energy, enthusiasm, drive, and an engaging personality necessary to achieve ambitious goals. A qualified candidate must possess:

- An earned doctorate in an education related field.
- Record of successful higher education administrative leadership experience in the education sector, including long-range planning, program and curriculum development; people management; budget and enrollment management.
- Strong record of teaching and scholarly productivity.
- Evidence of creative educational leadership, organizational abilities, and interpersonal skills.
- Successful record of fundraising or external funding.
- Record of success in outreach and partnerships with community, public, private and/or government organizations.
- A record that shows a meaningful commitment to, and demonstrated/specific accomplishments in, social justice using an equity lens and inclusive practices.

- Knowledge about managing budgets and allocating resources with a high level of transparency and fairness.
- Superior communication skills - the ability to articulate a compelling message to diverse audiences; clarity in written and oral presentation.
- Evidence of collaboration or interface with policy makers, education licensing boards and state-level Department of Education.

A strong potential Dean will also bring many, if not all of the following professional qualifications, skills, experiences, and personal qualities:

- Evidence of attention to issues of governance in a complex organization.
- A clear understanding of leading-edge methods and instructional technologies to support faculty and students in a large public university.
- Experience leading accreditation efforts and the assessment of learning outcomes.

**Key Cultural Competencies:**

- Creates an environment that acknowledges, encourages and celebrates differences.
- Functions and communicates effectively and respectfully within the context of varying beliefs, behaviors, orientations, identities and cultural backgrounds.
- Seeks opportunities to gain experience working and collaborating in diverse, multicultural, and inclusive settings with a willingness to change for continual improvement.



## **About Portland State University**

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Over the last 66 years, Portland State University has developed from a temporary extension center to its position today as a nationally recognized urban research university, the largest and most diverse in the Oregon state system. The institution was first established as the Vanport Extension Center in June 1946 to satisfy the demand for higher education in Portland for returning World War II veterans. Classes were held in the vacated-for-summer Vanport Junior High School. That first summer session had 221 students. Over 1,410 students registered for the 1946 fall term.

Following the Vanport Flood of 1948, the college became known as "the college that wouldn't die" for refusing to close after the flood. The school occupied Grant High School in the summer of 1948, and then moved to hastily-converted buildings at the Oregon Shipyard, known as the Oregon Ship. In 1953, the school moved to downtown Portland and occupied the vacated buildings of Lincoln High School on SW Broadway Street, including the "scabby" Lincoln Hall, then known as "Old Main." The school in 1955 changed its name to Portland State College to mark its maturation into a four-year degree-granting institution.

Portland State University continued to grow with graduate programs added in 1961 and doctoral programs in 1968. The institution was granted university status by the Oregon State System of Higher Education in 1969, becoming Portland State University (PSU). In 2014, Portland State became an independent public body governed by a 15 member Board of Trustees appointed by the Governor with the approval of the Oregon Legislature. The state appropriation and all major academic policies and program changes at Portland State are coordinated through Oregon's Higher Education Coordinating Commission in order to prevent inadvertent duplication of programs and to ensure the continuity of existing integrated programs.

### **PSU Today**

Portland State University's motto is "*Let Knowledge Serve the City.*" The University is an anchor institution, providing the Portland region with a highly educated population, substantial economic impact, and distinctive contributions to its culture. The University promotes access, inclusion and equity as pillars of excellence. It is committed to curiosity, collaboration, stewardship and sustainability; strives for excellence and innovation that solves problems and believes everyone should be treated with integrity and respect.

### **Mission Statement**

- We serve and sustain a vibrant urban region through our creativity, collective knowledge and expertise.
- We are dedicated to collaborative learning, innovative research, sustainability, and community engagement.
- We educate a diverse community of lifelong learners.
- Our research and teaching have global impact.

Portland State University's reputation is built on excellence through accessibility, innovation, collaboration, engagement, sustainability, and transformation. The university's programs continue to garner national recognition and rankings and it was named one of the top ten innovative universities in the country (US

News and World Report 2016-2017). To see an up-to-date list of the outstanding PSU rankings and references by Princeton Review, Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching and other nationally respected organizations, please click on the following link:

<http://www.pdx.edu/profile/portland-state-university-rankings-and-references>

Portland State University has 28,000 students – approximately 22,500 undergraduates and 5,500 graduate students. Some 62 percent of the students are full time, approximately 78 percent are residents of Oregon, and 70 percent are transfer students. The university offers over 200 degree programs at the bachelors, masters and doctoral level. The university has approximately 7,000 employees, including research and instructional faculty, academic professionals, managers, and staff and administrators.

### **Diversity, Inclusion and Globalization**

Since its founding, Portland State has embraced a mission of access to higher education for students across the state. Throughout its growth and development, PSU has remained committed to providing access and opportunity to students from regional, national, and international communities in their pursuit of lifelong learning and diverse educational goals. To this end, PSU has utilized an equity lens in its strategic plan and values diversity and fosters a climate of mutual respect and inclusiveness that celebrates the diversity of its students and supports different points of view and the open exchange of ideas. The university is also committed to building the diversity of its faculty and staff to enrich the educational experience of students both inside and outside the classroom and give them the skills they need to flourish and succeed in a diverse global society.

### **Campus Development and Community Partnerships**

Portland State University has developed a reputation as a national model for urban universities that enhance their region by working with partners to solve problems. Advancing community partnerships remains a strategic, core value of PSU as articulated in PSU's current [Strategic Plan](#). PSU remains committed to the further and ongoing evolution of a dynamic, energetic, and inviting University District. The university has invested in infrastructure improvements— such as the streetcar and light rail systems — that enhance the quality of the urban experience.

The PSU campus consists of 49 acres and 50 buildings, including 11 residential student-housing properties. Since 2000, Portland State has added more than 1 million square feet of new space through real estate acquisitions and has plans for new capital investments. The university's special emphasis on the values and practices of community engagement reinforces the potential for successful economic development partnerships and makes PSU a catalytic institution with a sphere of influence that expands well beyond its contributions to a vibrant and active downtown. For more information about Portland State University, click here: <http://www.pdx.edu/aboutpsu>

## About Portland

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Big city excitement and small town charm make Portland, known as "the City of Roses" one of the most popular cities on the west coast. Situated approximately 70 miles from the Pacific Ocean where the Columbia and Willamette Rivers meet, Portland enjoys a magnificent setting, combining sparkling waterways with lush greenery rarely found in urban settings. Portland is home to approximately 610,000 residents and the population of the surrounding metropolitan area is approximately 2.35 million. Portland is widely recognized in national surveys and rankings as one of America's most livable cities. Click here to learn why metro Portland has become a top national tech destination:

<http://www.techtownportland.com/>

Portland's historic old town, many galleries and museums, Saturday Market, Waterfront Park and an abundance of fine restaurants keep residents and visitors busy and satisfied. The performing arts in the area offer classical music, jazz and blues as well as theater and dance. Portland is just a short distance from the spectacular Columbia Gorge and Multnomah Falls, windsurfing at Hood River, valley wineries, skiing at Mt. Hood, and the drama of the Oregon coast.

Portland is known for its extensive park system of more than 200 parks. These encompass such areas as the elm shaded South Park Blocks in the downtown area and Washington Park, home of the Rose Gardens and the Japanese Gardens. Portland's Forest Park, at nearly 5,000 acres, is the largest park within a city in the U.S. and has nearly 50 miles of walking trails.

Portland's award winning mass transit system is one of the most extensive and advanced in the U.S. and includes buses and the MAX, an urban light rail line, as well as a downtown transit mall.



## **Inquiries, Nominations and Applications**

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While applications and nominations will be accepted until the position is filled, interested parties are encouraged to apply by **January 12, 2017**. To apply online, go to <http://higherdecisions.com/> and select this vacancy. Please submit a PDF version of your curriculum vitae and letter of interest upon application. Your letter should address your motivation for considering the position. All applications and nominations will be held in confidence.

### **For nominations or further information:**

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*PSU is an affirmative action/equal opportunity employer, and seeks candidates who are committed to the highest standards of scholarship and professional activities and a campus climate that supports equality, diversity and inclusion.*



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