



Dean, Price College of Business

Leadership Profile

October 2024



WittKieffer

Executive Summary

The [University of Oklahoma](#) (OU) invites nominations and applications for an innovative and collaborative leader as Dean of the Michael F. Price College of Business.

Created in 1890 and recognized as the state's flagship university, OU is a doctoral degree granting research university serving the educational, cultural, economic, and healthcare needs of the state, region, and nation. OU enrolls over 34,000 undergraduate and graduate students, representing 120 countries, has more than 2,800 full-time faculty, and offers 192 baccalaureate programs, 181 master's programs, and 87 doctorate programs. The [Michael F. Price College of Business](#), originally established in 1928, ensures the enduring global competitiveness of Oklahoma and the nation. As OU's second-largest college and fastest growing college, the Price College of Business is fully accredited by AACSB and educates more than 6,300 students through undergraduate, master's, executive, and doctoral programs across [six academic divisions](#) in accounting, entrepreneurship, and economic development, finance, management, and international business, management information systems, and marketing and supply chain management. The College has 124 faculty and 78 staff members, a budget of more than \$52 million, and more than \$200 million in endowments.

The responsibilities of the Dean include leading in operational excellence and strategic oversight for all undergraduate and graduate programs in the College on the Norman campus and the Gene Rainbolt Graduate School of Business in Oklahoma City. This position is a unique opportunity to lead a College with tremendous momentum but still in a phase of intense, active growth in both academic programs and research with the strong and unified support of the University, the state, and a dedicated alumni base.

The Dean is the Chief Academic and Administrative Officer of the College and reports to the Senior Vice President and Provost, sits on the Council of Deans, and contributes as an integral part of the leadership of the University team. The Dean holds the Fred E. Brown Chair in Business. The Dean will work collaboratively with academic units across the University to deliver world-class business degree programs for students, to foster and grow a strong, interdisciplinary research program, and to deliver exemplary service to the State of Oklahoma to further enhance the business enterprise system. The Dean will develop strategies to support the growth of the college, create entrepreneurial opportunities and related activities to leverage emerging technologies, undertake fundraising activities, articulate the mission of the College to stakeholder groups, and manage a complex academic unit underpinned by collegiality and inclusiveness.

The successful candidate will have an understanding of top-tier business schools and the evolving higher education landscape. The next Dean must have a record of excellence in teaching, scholarly or creative activity, and service suitable for appointment as a full tenured professor within an appropriate division in the College; a record of strong, collaborative leadership and sound fiscal management at the chair or director level or higher, or comparable experience in industry or government; demonstrated commitment to excellence in research; demonstrated effective skills in communication, planning, collaboration, and management; and demonstrated commitments to shared governance. An MBA or a related master's degree is required. An earned doctorate or other terminal degree is preferred.

To submit a nomination or express personal interest in this position, please see Procedure for Candidacy at the end of this document.

Role of the Dean, Price College of Business

The Dean of the Price College of Business is the Chief Academic and Administrative Officer of the College and reports to the Senior Vice President and Provost. The Dean will be a champion of the college's mission, advance and implement its strategic priorities, cultivate meaningful partnerships, generate resources in support of the college's initiatives, and manage the college's operations. The responsibilities of the Dean include operational and strategic oversight for all undergraduate and graduate programs in the College on the Norman campus and the Gene Rainbolt Graduate School of Business in Oklahoma City. The Dean will also be responsible for upholding the OU's mission of providing the best possible educational experience for students through excellence in teaching, research, and creative activity, as well as service to the state and society.

The Dean sits on the Council of Deans and contributes as an integral part of the leadership of the University team. The Dean provides leadership to 124 faculty and 78 staff and oversees a budget of more than \$50 million and endowments of more than \$200 million.

Reporting to the Dean are the following roles:

- Senior Associate Dean of Faculty & Research
- Associate Dean for Grad Programs
- Associate Dean of Undergraduate Programs
- Executive Director, Finance and Operations
- Executive Director, MBA
- Executive Director, Advancement
- Division Director, Accounting
- Division Director, Entrepreneurship & Economic Development
- Division Director, Finance
- Division Director, Management & International Business
- Division Director, Management Information Systems
- Division Director, Marketing & Supply Chain Management
- Secretary, Executive Committee/Executive Assistant to the Dean



About the Michael F. Price College of Business

Overview

In 1917, the School of Commerce and Industry, under the School of Arts and Sciences, changed to the School of Public and Private Business, becoming one of the first schools of business west of the Mississippi. In 1997, OU alumni Michael F. Price (BBA 1973) made a historical donation to name the College the Michael F. Price College of Business. Today, with 6,300 students, 124 faculty, and 78 staff, the Price College of Business is proud of the education it's bringing to tomorrow's leaders. OU and the Price College of Business stay competitive while serving as the flagship university for Oklahoma, but also attract a large number of students from North Texas and beyond. The Price College of Business, as well as its Steed School of Accounting, is accredited by the AACSB International.

The Purpose of Price

The modern public research university is an organization of scholars engaged in discovering and sharing knowledge to improve the human condition, particularly for residents of the state funding the university. Reflecting the essence of this view, The University of Oklahoma's purpose is elegant in its simplicity and profound in its depth: OU changes lives.

The AACSB, the world's leading accreditor of business schools, promotes the view that business schools are a force for good by contributing to the economy and society through scholarly thought leadership, education, and community engagement.

The Purpose of Price effectively integrates these two perspectives. As the business school of the flagship public research university in the state of Oklahoma, the Purpose of Price College is to ensure the enduring global competitiveness of Oklahoma and the nation. In other words, the College exists to be a force for good for the economy and people of Oklahoma and the nation.

The Price College of Business fulfills its purpose in three ways:

- **Into the Issues:** tackling the biggest and most important business issues of the time
- **Data Drive:** generate valuable insights that make companies and organizations more effective, more efficient, and more enduring.
- **Ready to Lead:** Preparing the students as the leaders that Oklahoma and the nation need.

Vision

The Price College of 2026 will be **Bigger, Broader, and Better**. Over the next five years, the college will outpace its peers by reaching further, farther, and higher than any other business school in the region to transform individuals and businesses, develop and champion innovative ideas, and deliver exceptional educational experiences.

- **Bigger** by investing in growth to meet rising demand for our successful programs, increasing the size of the faculty and staff to support higher enrolments, pursuing larger funding endowments to fuel the success, completing renovations and further expanding our campus, and playing a leading role in the transformation of OU as an engine of startup creation and innovation.
- **Broader** the college's impact by diversifying the portfolio of academic programs, extending the college's reach and improving access through best-in-class online delivery, incorporating high-impact learning experiences from beyond the classroom, serving lifelong learners through a wider array of offerings, catalyzing innovation

across OU and within Oklahoma's start-up ecosystem, and developing a thought leadership platform to share our insights with the world.

- **Better** by improving the quality of education and the student experience, incorporating best practices into teaching, expanding student services, increasing research quality and productivity, recruiting and retaining top talent, revitalizing infrastructure and processes, and investing in rebranding and integrative marketing to share the success stories with the world.

Academic Divisions & Programs

Price College boasts a diverse and comprehensive academic landscape, encompassing six distinct divisions with 12 undergraduate programs, 14 graduate programs, seven Ph.D. programs, and an Executive Education Academy that caters to a wide array of interests and career paths. The academic offerings span a broad spectrum, ensuring that students can find a program that aligns with their passions and aspirations.

The Price College's commitment to excellence is reflected in the depth and breadth of the academic divisions, each offering a unique blend of theoretical knowledge and practical skills that prepare students to excel in their chosen fields.

- [Accounting](#)
- [Entrepreneurship](#)
- [Finance](#)
- [Management & International Business](#)
- [Management Information Systems](#)
- [Marketing & Supply Chain Management](#)
- [Price Executive Academy](#)

Programs and Initiatives

Price College of Business offers a diverse range of programs designed to empower students with the skills and experiences they need to excel in the dynamic world of business. Students gain hands-on, real-world training through simulated business opportunities, working closely with professors, industry professionals, and community partners. For high-achieving undergraduate business students, the college offers opportunities to develop leadership potential and broaden perspectives.

The college offers professional development opportunities through speakers, special events, and workshops. These programs collectively reflect Price College's commitment to student development and ensuring their ability to succeed in the ever-evolving business landscape.

- [First Fidelity Bank Integrated Business Core Program](#)
- [The JCPenney Leadership Program](#)
- [Center for Student Success](#)
- [Tom Love Innovation Hub](#)

Centers & Institutes

- [Center for Business of Healthcare](#)
- [Center for Financial Studies](#)
- [Center for Management Information Systems Studies](#)
- [Center for the Creation of Economic Wealth](#)
- [Energy Institute](#)

Board of Advisors

At Price College, the [Board of Advisors](#) is a powerhouse of industry leaders who drive innovation and excellence in business education. Representing a wide range of sectors, they play an indispensable role in guiding the strategic direction of Oklahoma's top-ranked business school. Through their active involvement and commitment, the Board guides continuous improvement and innovative advancements at Price College, ensuring that the institution remains at the forefront of business education.



Opportunities and Expectations for Leadership

In no particular order, the Dean will be charged with addressing the following opportunities and challenges:

- **Support the College's ongoing initiatives and articulate a shared vision for its future success**
The Price College has been experiencing tremendous growth as there is a strong demand for business education in this part of the country. The College has grown from 3,600 students to over 6,000 students, and about 25% of the university's incoming freshman class are admitted into the College. The College's current strategic plan *Bigger, Broader, Better* runs through 2026 and guides and informs the decision making and action planning for the College. The next Dean should be committed to listening and learning about the history, context, and culture of the college and support the ongoing initiatives ensuring that resources, both human and capital, are aligned to provide appropriate support. The next Dean will advocate for the needs of the College with university leadership in a productive way.
- **Actively engage in resource generation to support the College**
With the substantial growth of the College, the need to generate additional resources has also grown. The College has had a steady growth in philanthropic support over the last five years (the current endowment is over \$200 million, and annual giving for FY24 was \$41 million). The pipeline for potential supporters is strong, as there are untapped opportunities from alumni and friends of the College. It is expected that the next Dean will be a passionate advocate for the College and devote significant time and energy to further the College's strong culture of philanthropy. To attain this goal, the Dean will be supported by dedicated development and alumni relations professionals.
- **Address key issues facing the College**
Like every college of business, Price College is facing its own set of interconnected challenges that the new Dean will need to address to advance academic excellence. For example, addressing the inherent challenges related to the rapid growth of the College in terms of students, human capital, and the accompanying space requirements are areas that will need to be addressed. The next Dean will be a creative problem solver and change manager who can work collaboratively with faculty, staff, and university leadership to implement changes to support the College's well-being and ensure its sustainability.
- **Raise the profile of the College**
As the business school of the flagship public research university in the state of Oklahoma, the purpose of Price College is to ensure the enduring global competitiveness of Oklahoma and the nation. In other words, the College exists to be a force for good for the economy and people of Oklahoma and the nation. OU has aspirations to become a member of the AAU, and it is expected that Price College will play a significant role in these efforts to ensure that the College produces outcomes similar to those of other business schools at AAU institutions. The College has a reputation for providing high-quality business education and high-impact experiential learning opportunities for students. The next Dean must be a passionate, articulate, and authentic communicator of the College's values, goals, and impact on internal and external constituents in Oklahoma and across the country in order to make the College more distinctive and identifiable.
- **Ensure an excellent student experience**
Consistent with the recommendations of AACSB, the Price College of Business's faculty and staff are deeply committed to providing excellent teaching and learning experiences for students and ensuring that the College achieves comprehensive and rigorous student success metrics. The college boasts outstanding graduation and retention rates, and a new career center is being launched for Price College students. As the level of interest in the College continues to grow, the next Dean will be expected to ensure that the College has sufficient resources to support strong student outcomes. The new Dean should be committed to student success, comfortable and eager to engage with students, have a visible presence around the College, and create a welcoming environment for all students.
- **Engage alumni and external partnerships to build mutually beneficial relationships**
The education at the Price College of Business extends far beyond the classroom. The College benefits from

a passionate and supportive alumni base, who are actively involved in mentoring students, providing insights about the skills and knowledge sought by employers, and supporting the College with generous donations. The College's Advisory Board helps to cultivate and encourage continuing affiliation between alumni and external partners. The next Dean will be expected to effectively engage with industry, alumni, and other external partners to understand their needs and find ways to establish mutually beneficial relationships. The next Dean should clearly articulate the connection between the education and research that the College undertakes with the needs of industry.

- **Recruit, develop, and retain a talented faculty and staff**

In partnership with department chairs and College leaders, the next Dean will be expected to help attract, retain, and support a group of outstanding faculty and staff. It is essential that the Dean understands and champions the College's commitment to research, entrepreneurship, and experiential learning and seeks to enhance the scholarly reputation of the College. The Dean's leadership is essential to supporting scholarship and investing in mentorship and professional development to ensure individual and collective success. As chief academic officer, the next Dean will lead by example and recruit, support, and inspire an exceptional faculty and staff.

- **Strengthen relationships and build bridges across campus**

The faculty and staff of the College are dedicated to serving the research and education mission of the University. The new Dean will share that commitment and seize the opportunity to build partnerships across the University and advocate for the College while championing the University's best interests. The Dean will join a community of Deans who meet regularly. These meetings not only allow open communications about college and campus policies but also provide opportunities for productive inter-College collaborations in teaching, research, and outreach.



Professional Qualifications and Personal Qualities

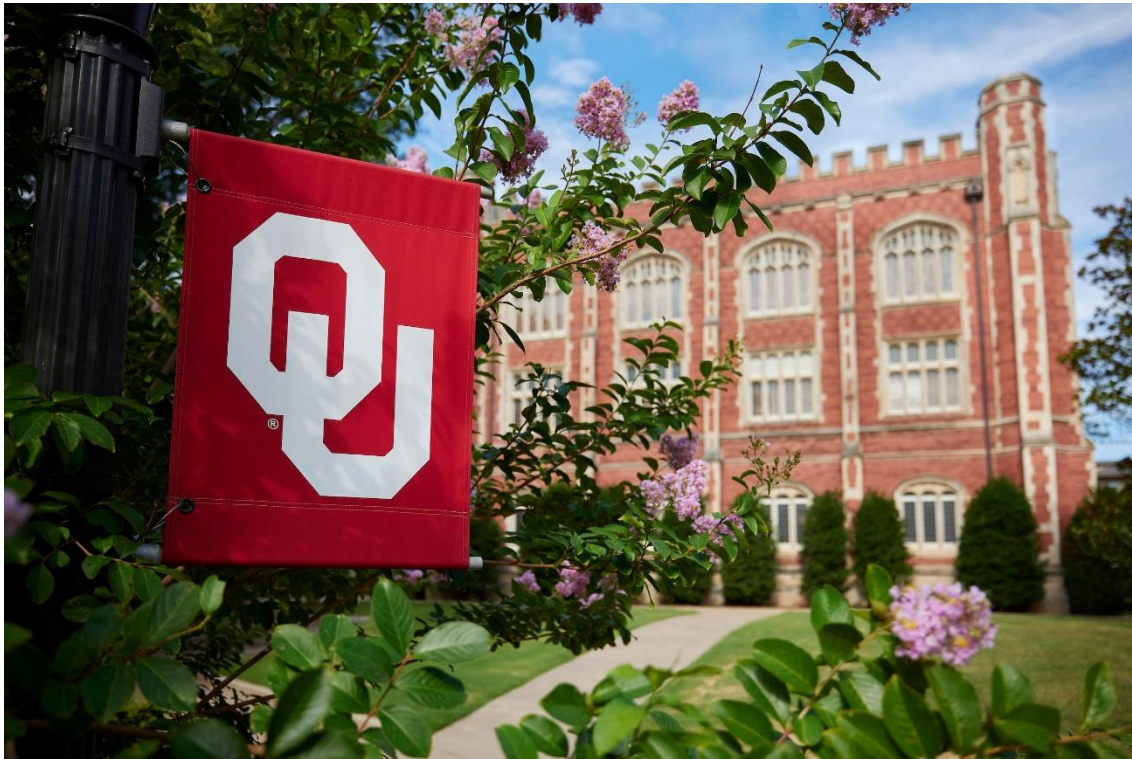
The next Dean of the Price College of Business will be an innovative and collaborative leader who is committed to the purpose of the College and the role that a college of business plays in a comprehensive university. The successful candidate will have an understanding of top-tier business schools and the evolving higher education landscape.

The next Dean must have a record of excellence in teaching, scholarly or creative activity, and service suitable for appointment as a full tenured professor within an appropriate division in the College; a record of strong, collaborative leadership and sound fiscal management at the chair or director level or higher, or comparable experience in industry or government; demonstrated commitment to excellence in research; demonstrated effective skills in communication, planning, collaboration, and management; and demonstrated commitments to shared governance. An earned doctorate or other terminal degree is preferred; applicants with a highest degree of MBA or a related master's degree may be considered.

In addition, the university seeks a leader with most of the following professional qualifications and personal qualities:

- Experience working in a high-growth environment.
- Effective interpersonal and communication skills, including the ability to motivate and inspire internal and external constituents of the College.
- Knowledge of accrediting standards pertinent to the College and the ability to implement processes and procedures that ensure the maintenance of accreditation.
- The ability to secure external funding from various sources, including private donors, foundations, and government agencies.
- Experience evaluating emerging technologies and leading projects and/or initiatives that promote the creative and effective use of technology and electronic resources to enhance the educational experience.
- The ability to collaboratively shape a strategy, identify metrics that track outcomes, and ensure progress towards intended goals.
- An understanding of faculty governance practices and a commitment to transparency and integrity in decision-making.
- A demonstrated commitment to the College's mission of teaching, research, service, and educational outreach and the ability to support the college's pursuit of academic and research excellence across a diverse set of disciplines.
- A record of success in improving outcomes for students, including building partnerships with businesses, alumni, and other external constituents that increase access to experiential learning opportunities, internships, and jobs.
- The ability to foster and sustain a collegial, inclusive environment that attracts and retains high-quality faculty and staff.

About The University of Oklahoma



Overview

Created by the Oklahoma Territorial Legislature in 1890, the University of Oklahoma is a doctoral degree-granting research university serving the educational, cultural, economic, and healthcare needs of the state, region, and nation.

The University's first president, David Ross Boyd, arrived in Norman in August of 1892. By 1895, there were four faculty members, three men and one woman, and 100 students enrolled.

Today, there are more than 32,000 students at the University. It is Norman's largest employer, and the city itself has grown to a population of more than 110,000 residents.

The Norman campus serves as home to all of the university's academic programs except health-related fields. The OU Health Sciences Center, which is located in Oklahoma City, is one of only four comprehensive academic health centers in the nation with seven professional colleges. Both the Norman and Health Sciences Center colleges offer programs at the Schusterman Center, the site of OU-Tulsa.

OU has more than 2,600 full-time faculty members, and has 20 colleges, across three campuses, offering a variety of bachelor's, master's, doctoral and doctoral professional, as well as multiples graduate certificates.

The Norman campus is majestic, with meticulously manicured grounds. There are sculptures by internationally renowned artists, serene park and fountain settings, and soaring Prairie Gothic architecture in every direction.

The Fred Jones Jr. Museum of Art has been acclaimed as one of the finest university art museums in the country, and it recently received the largest gift of French Impressionist paintings - the Weitzenhoffer Collection - ever given to a university.

Mission

To provide the best possible educational experience for the students through excellence in teaching, research and creative activity, and service to the state and society.

Strategic Plan

In 2020, the University of Oklahoma launched the strategic plan for the Norman campus, [Lead On, University](#). There are 5 Pillars that define how the university will fulfill its purpose – they are objectives carried out through the implementation of thoughtful, concrete strategies and tactics.

- Become a top-tier public research university
- Prepare students for a life of success
- Make OU's excellence affordable and attainable
- Become a place of belonging and emotional growth
- Enrich and positively impact the nation and the world

Leadership

Senior Vice President and Provost André-Denis Wright

André-Denis Wright is a microbiologist and the Senior Vice President and Provost of the University of Oklahoma. Previously, Dr. Wright was an Endowed Dean of the College of Agricultural, Human, and Natural Resource Sciences at Washington State University (2018-2021); an endowed Professor and Director of the School of Animal and Comparative Biomedical Sciences at the University of Arizona (2014-2018), and former Chair of the Department of Animal Science at the University of Vermont (2009- 2014).

For more than two decades, Dr. Wright's research investigated host-gut microbe interrelationships within and between different groups of production animals, such as dairy cattle, beef cattle, and sheep; the dietary effects on different microbial populations in the rumen; the composition of bacteria and methanogenic archaea in the human gastrointestinal tract (GIT) of individuals with healthy colon, diverticulosis, inflammatory bowel disease, colon polyps, or colorectal cancer, the identification of GIT microorganisms as potential biomarkers for the early detection and prevention of colorectal cancer and other colonic diseases in humans, and understanding the link between GIT methanogens and obesity in humans.

Dr. Wright received his M.S. and Ph.D. degrees from the University of Guelph in Canada. He has published 114 peer-reviewed papers, contributed 18 book chapters, presented 100 conference papers, and delivered 34 plenary lectures in 10 countries. Dr. Wright has served on review panels for the USDA, NSF, and NASA. He has also served as an external scientific reviewer for the governments of Canada, Russia, Kazakhstan, Scotland, and Switzerland, and in 2008, he had a ciliated protozoan named after him, *Apokeronopsis wrighti*, in recognition of his contributions to microbiology.

President Joseph Harroz, Jr.

Serving the University of Oklahoma for over 27 years in various leadership roles, Joseph Harroz Jr. was named the 15th president of OU on May 9, 2020. Harroz's previous service to the university includes a one-year term as interim president, nine years as Dean of the College of Law, 12 years as general counsel, and two years as vice president for executive affairs.

As president of OU, Harroz led the development of the university's Strategic Plan – a comprehensive strategy that positions OU as one of the nation's leading public research universities marked by a transformative student

experience. At the heart of the Plan is the university's fundamental purpose – We Change Lives – three small but powerful words that carry deep meaning. The complete Strategic Plan is available at ou.edu/leadon.

Under Harroz's leadership, OU is making remarkable strides toward the fulfillment of the Strategic Plan. This marks the third consecutive year that OU has had record-breaking freshman classes. With nearly 5,200 students, the Class of 2027's record-setting size represents an 11% increase in new students over last year. The class is also breaking other university records, with the largest percentage of first-generation students and more underrepresented students than any other incoming class. Research at OU continues to shatter records, recently setting all-time highs for research expenditures (\$416.6 million university-wide for FY22 – an 8% increase from FY21) and sponsored research awards (\$210.4 million on the Norman campus for FY23 – a nearly 33% increase from the previous fiscal year).

Supporting Oklahoma's workforce is another key priority of the Strategic Plan. In recent years, OU has significantly expanded student enrollment in several key academic areas to support the state's workforce demands, such as nursing, aviation, and engineering. Enrollment in the Bachelor of Science in Nursing program has increased 73% compared to fall 2020, and across all Health Sciences academic programs, new student enrollment is up 16% over last year. OU has also expanded its top-ranked aviation program to meet growing workforce demands. Compared to last academic year, freshman enrollment in aviation programs has more than doubled, and the school's total enrollment has grown 48%. OU aims to increase enrollment in aviation programs to 600 students within the next four years. The OU Polytechnic Institute at OU-Tulsa will officially open its doors in Fall 2024, with plans to offer bachelor's degree completion and graduate programs in critical STEM fields. From cutting-edge curriculum to on-site training, the OU Polytechnic Institute will help meet the changing academic and workforce needs of the Tulsa region.

In Fall 2022, OU embarked on the largest philanthropic campaign in the history of Oklahoma higher education. With a historic goal of raising \$2 billion, "Lead On: The University of Oklahoma's Campaign for the Future" builds upon OU's core traditions while striving to reach new heights of excellence. In alignment with the university's Strategic Plan, the campaign prioritizes increasing access through enhanced student support and programming, fostering faculty growth, creating research opportunities, and encouraging a welcoming campus culture.

An abundance of other successes have come to life since the Strategic Plan's launch three years ago – the addition of premier freshman housing; the merger to create OU Health, Oklahoma's first fully integrated academic health system; joining the SEC; and more. Altogether, these endeavors are sparking a new era of excellence at OU.

A native Oklahoman, Harroz graduated Phi Beta Kappa from OU in 1989 with a Bachelor of Arts degree in economics and a minor in zoology. He earned his J.D. in 1992 from Georgetown University Law Center. A grandson of Lebanese immigrants to Oklahoma, Harroz is father to Joseph, Zara, and Jude and is married to Ashley Harroz.



Oklahoma City

Oklahoma City and the surrounding metropolitan area are very affordable places to live. Great grade schools, friendly people, and wonderful food are just a few reasons people choose to live and work in the heart of Oklahoma. Over the years, Oklahoma may have had its share of hardships, but it has made its people resilient and instilled in them a heart for helping and lending a hand if our neighbors are in need.

[Learn a little more about Oklahoma](#)

[Average goods and services cost in Oklahoma](#)

[Learn more about the home of The University of Oklahoma: Norman](#)

[Learn more about the home of The University of Oklahoma: Tulsa](#)

[Learn more about Oklahoma City and the metro area](#)



Procedure for Candidacy

All applications, nominations, and inquiries are invited. Applications should include, as separate documents, a CV or resume and a letter of interest addressing the themes in this profile.

WittKieffer is assisting the University of Oklahoma in this search. For fullest consideration, candidate materials should be received by **November 22, 2024**.

Application materials should be submitted using WittKieffer's [candidate portal](#).

Nominations and inquiries can be directed to:

Christine J. Pendleton and Natalie Song

OUPriceCollegeDean@wittkieffer.com

The University of Oklahoma, in compliance with all applicable federal and state laws and regulations does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, genetic information, gender identity, gender expression, age, religion, disability, political beliefs, or status as a veteran in any of its policies, practices, or procedures.

This includes, but is not limited to: admissions, employment, financial aid, housing, services in educational programs or activities, or health care services that the University operates or provides.