Position Specification

The University of Texas at Dallas

Dean, Erik Jonsson School of Engineering and Computer Science

May 2017
POSITION SPECIFICATION

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INSTITUTIONAL BACKGROUND / CULTURE

The University of Texas at Dallas is an innovative, doctoral-granting institution in the heart of North Texas that has been recognized in the highest classification of research activity by the Carnegie Commission on Higher Education.

About The University of Texas at Dallas

The Times Higher Education ranks the University of Texas at Dallas as #1 in the nation and #21 in the world among universities under 50 years of age. UT Dallas is counted among only 115 universities in the United States with an R1 Carnegie Classification and was ranked #32 for in-state and #56 out-of-state in the top 100 “Best Value” colleges in the United States, according to Kiplinger’s Personal Finance in 2016. Since its founding in 1969, the University has grown to include 143 degree programs, with cutting-edge curricula serving a variety of undergraduate and graduate student interests.

The University continues its original commitment to providing some of the state’s most-lauded science and engineering programs and has also gained prominence for a breadth of educational paths, from business to biomedical engineering to arts and technology. The wealth of learning resources available to UT Dallas students is the result of a concentrated effort to attract the top minds on both ends of the classroom relationship. Joining the faculty’s Nobel laureate and members of the National Academies are 561 tenured and tenure-track professors hailing from the world’s best colleges and universities. In addition, UT Dallas is home to numerous centers, labs and institutes that facilitate research and opportunities for hands-on learning.

With an enrollment of nearly 27,000 students, UT Dallas attracts top scholars and faculty to the vibrant and globally connected Dallas-Fort Worth area. Average SAT scores among entering freshmen — 1261 in fall 2016 — are traditionally ranked among the highest of public universities in Texas. UT Dallas has eight schools:

- **School of Arts and Humanities**
- **School of Arts, Technology, and Emerging Communication**
- **School of Behavioral and Brain Sciences**
- **School of Economic, Political and Policy Sciences**
- **Erik Jonsson School of Engineering and Computer Science**
- **School of Interdisciplinary Studies**
In the past decade, the University has undergone substantial growth, including an enrollment increase of 80 percent, the addition of 3.5 million square feet, and $1 billion in development to campus. These advancements provide a strong foundation for the University’s rapidly evolving programs and research.

For more information, please visit http://www.utdallas.edu.

About the Erik Jonsson School of Engineering and Computer Science

With deep ties to industry, the Jonsson School’s legacy is one of corporate involvement and public support to better educational opportunity in North Texas. While the University was established to provide an education to those who would be motivated to work in the applied sector of North Texas’ advanced technology industry, an explosion of growth in the 1980s precipitated the call to establish an engineering and computer science school. When the School was founded in 1986, it was the first public engineering school established in Texas since 1950. The School was named for the late Erik Jonsson, former mayor of Dallas and co-founder of Texas Instruments and UT Dallas.

The School has 161 tenure track and 83 non-tenure track faculty, as well as 4,474 undergraduate and 2,408 graduate students. The School is supported by 204 staff and includes six departments: Bioengineering; Computer Science; Electrical and Computer Engineering; Materials Science and Engineering; Mechanical Engineering; and Systems Engineering. Six undergraduate degrees, 17 graduate degrees, and five graduate and executive education certificates comprise the educational base of the Jonsson School. There is a strong collaborative spirit between the departments, evidenced by numerous joint faculty appointments and a congenial, interactive, and interdisciplinary research and teaching focus. With over $51 million in annual research expenditures, the School is also home to eight research centers, including: Center for Control Science and Technology; Center for Robust Speech Systems; iPerform Center for Assistive Technologies to Enhance Human Performance; Net-Centric Software and Systems Center; Silicon Wafer Engineering and Defect Science Center; Texas Analog Center of Excellence; Texas Biomedical Device Center; and the Wind-Energy Science, Technology, and Research Industry/University Cooperative Research Center.

In 2016, a $108 million, 220,000-square-foot Bioengineering and Sciences Building (BSB) became the largest academic building on campus. The four-story building connects to UTD’s 192,000 square foot Natural Science and Engineering Research Laboratory for easy access and interdisciplinary collaboration. Construction recently began on a new 200,000-square-foot Engineering Building aimed at accommodating the rapid growth in the university’s engineering programs and increase in externally funded research capabilities. The building, which will primarily house the Department of Mechanical Engineering, will contain research and teaching labs, faculty offices, student workspaces and a 300-seat-auditorium. Completion is expected by the start of the Fall 2018 semester.

The Jonsson School is committed to diversity and inclusion, as well as Veterans. Of the 800 Veterans enrolled at UT Dallas, approximately 20% are within the Jonsson School. The student experience is also very important at the School and there are over a dozen active student organizations ranging from discipline-specific organizations to diversity organizations. Some groups, like the UT Dallas battlebot team and the IEEE student chapter, have garnered national
awards. Faculty-mentored undergraduate research is also critical to the student experience within the Jonsson School and every engineering and computer science senior at UT Dallas is required to complete a team-oriented capstone project. This final project allows students to fully engage in the design process and put in practice their project-management and problem-solving skills. These UTDesign projects are proposed, sponsored and mentored by companies. Students not only get to work on a real-world problem, but also get to work in an environment similar to that of industry professionals. For corporate partners, UTDesign helps companies expand their resources by taking advantage of the skills, energy, and enthusiasm of talented engineering and computer science students.

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KEY RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE DEAN

The University of Texas at Dallas seeks an exceptional leader to serve as its next Dean of the Erik Jonsson School of Engineering and Computer Science. Reporting to and working with the Provost, and in coordination with the Deans from other Schools, the Dean will have responsibility for the strategic, programmatic, financial, fundraising, and management operations that support the mission and vision of the Jonsson School and its role within UT Dallas.

The Dean will:

- Define and execute a strategic vision for the future by articulating the distinctive needs and opportunities of the Jonsson School;
- Support and continue the collaborative, entrepreneurial spirit and a balance of scholarship of teaching, discovery, application, and integration within the School;
- Serve as a public voice for the School’s constituents;
- Attract external funding from federal agencies, corporations, foundations, and interested donors to support the Jonsson School’s mission and develop relevant industry and professional partnerships;
- Along with department heads, assure the continued prominence of the faculty by prioritizing the recruitment and retention of distinguished faculty which will promote and enhance a strong research agenda and inspire excellence in teaching and learning best practices;
- Identify opportunities in emerging areas of engineering for new programs and interdisciplinary initiatives; and
- Advocate internally for resources to support a growing research agenda, faculty, and student population.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE / QUALIFICATIONS

The successful candidate will have the highest commitment to academic and scholarly standards. As an accomplished scholar, compelling candidates will be able to inspire faculty and students with a sense of pride and purpose, serve as an innovative leader to grow and build high quality programs, and provide a dedicated and established commitment to both undergraduate and graduate education.

Compelling candidates will possess:

- The ability, in conjunction with the faculty and other administrative leaders, to articulate a vision for the Jonsson School and to develop and realize a plan to achieve it;
Experience in supporting and cultivating a distinguished, accomplished, and diverse faculty;
• The ability to articulate the School’s vision, goals, accomplishments and needs to a broad range of external constituencies, including alumni, academic, government representatives and the business and industrial communities;
• A commitment to attracting and supporting strong students and a dedication to creating a diverse, open, and inclusive environment at both undergraduate and graduate levels;
• The intellectual leadership and curiosity to provide guidance in order to enhance a robust research program;
• Outstanding communication skills with strong interpersonal skills;
• Demonstrated ability to lead by consensus and with transparency;
• The ability to lead sophisticated and effective development and fundraising activities; and
• Impeccable personal and professional integrity.

EDUCATION
The Dean should possess an earned Ph.D. in a field related to the School and possess a record of recognized achievement in teaching, research, and service that would warrant a tenured appointment at the rank of professor in the School.

COMPENSATION
The University of Texas at Dallas offers an attractive compensation and benefits package, commensurate with the successful candidate’s background and experience.

NOMINATIONS AND APPLICATIONS
For priority consideration, please apply by Friday, September 8th, 2017. Applications should include 1) a detailed curriculum vitae and 2) a letter of interest that addresses the responsibilities and requirements described above, as well as the applicant’s motivation to apply.

To ensure full consideration, inquiries, nominations, and applications should be submitted electronically, in confidence, to:

utdallas-jonssondean@KornFerry.com

KORN FERRY CONTACTS

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The University of Texas at Dallas is an affirmative action/equal opportunity employer.