

Harris Search Associates

I N N O V A T I O N + T A L E N T

West Virginia University

Chair of Sociology and Anthropology Search



Harris Search Associates

Summer 2013

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About West Virginia University

West Virginia University, is a doctoral, Research High-Activity, land-grant institution located in Morgantown, West Virginia. Morgantown offers plentiful educational opportunities as well as recreational outlets that draw on the natural beauty and rich culture of Appalachia. Recently Morgantown was selected as the best small city in the east and is located in the scenic foothills of the Appalachian Mountains, 75 miles south of Pittsburgh and 200 miles west of Washington, DC. The WVU student body population is approximately 30,000. Additional information about the university and community may be found at www.wvu.edu.

The University offers 193 bachelor's, master's, doctoral, and professional degree programs in 15 colleges. WVU has produced 25 Rhodes Scholars including former WVU president David C. Hardesty, Jr. The University also has produced 30 Goldwater Scholars, 19 Truman Scholars, 5 members of USA Today's "All-USA College Academic First Team", and 2 winners of the Morris K. Udall Undergraduate Scholarship

About the Department of Sociology and Anthropology

The Department of Sociology and Anthropology offers two BA degrees (one in Criminology and the other in Sociology & Anthropology) and the MA in Sociology. In addition, the Department is in the process of developing a PhD program. In the spring of 2013, a combined 948 students were majoring in the Department's programs (778 in Criminology and 170 in Sociology & Anthropology). This makes the Department of Sociology and Anthropology the largest department in terms of student majors in the Eberly College of Arts and Sciences.

The Department is staffed by 21 full time and 8 part-time faculty. Among the full time faculty are seven Assistant Professors, six Associate Professors, and two professors, as well as six non-tenure track full time instructors.

The Department's faculty have won numerous awards in recent years including the 2013 Best Book award from the Urban Affairs Association, The History of Sociology Distinguished Publication Award for 2013, and the 2010 West Virginia's Professor of the Year awarded by the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement and Support of Education.

More about the Department of Sociology and Anthropology can be found at:

<http://soca.wvu.edu/>

The Position

The Department of Sociology and Anthropology at West Virginia University is seeking applicants for the position of Department Chair. Applicants must have a Ph.D. in Sociology and be qualified for appointment with tenure at the rank of Associate or Full Professor at WVU. The successful applicant will possess strong administrative and interpersonal skills, will be responsive and resourceful in advocating for the faculty, and will have the ability to guide the Department strategically, while promoting its tradition of collegiality.

Applicants must have administrative experience relevant to the Chair's role in a multi-disciplinary department and extensive experience on the faculty of a department with a Ph.D. program in order to help us as WVU launches a Ph.D. in Sociology. In addition, applicants must have an active research program, a distinguished scholarly record, and evidence of high quality teaching.

The applicant's research program should be in an area complementary to the existing research strengths of the department, and a history of extramural funding is preferred. Broad familiarity with the disciplines of sociology, criminology, and anthropology is essential, as the Department offers undergraduate programs in these areas that are among the most popular in the Eberly College of Arts and Sciences with over 800 undergraduate majors.

Duties and Responsibilities:

- Directs and leads the Department of Sociology and Anthropology. Creates the strategic direction and vision for the delivery of quality and responsive curricula and programs.
- Oversees the planning and implementation of a new PhD program in Sociology
- Participates in developing and implementing college-wide and campus initiatives.
- Promotes partnerships with constituents in the external educational, professional and business communities.
- Promotes faculty research and scholarly activity.

- Supports curriculum development and revision as related to program goals and outcomes.
- Communicates openly and frequently with staff and program coordinators while fostering a collaborative team model.
- Assists in the design of recruitment activities to attract qualified full and part-time faculty.
- Manages within a student-centered, learner-based environment.
- Monitors compliance with state, regional and specialized accreditation organizations.
- Promotes an environment supportive of the Department mission and vision.
- Promotes the professional development and mentoring of faculty and staff.
- Participates in mediating faculty and student issues, grievances, and appeals.
- Participates in and oversees selection, hiring, and other personnel decisions associated with academic faculty and staff.
- Encourages inclusive excellence by promoting an appreciation for diversity and difference

Knowledge, Skills and Abilities:

- Knowledge of college educational philosophy and top management administrative practices and procedures; college curricula and instructional programs.
- Knowledge of college policies and procedures.
- Ability to collaboratively lead and manage an academic area.
- Ability to think creatively to resolve issues and overcome everyday challenges.
- Ability to work effectively in a multi-ethnic/multi-cultural environment with students, faculty and staff.
- Ability to speak effectively to employees, faculty, staff and community groups.
- Record of securing external funding.
- Experience with budget management and development.
- Record of strategic planning and program assessment and improvement.
- Understanding of the mission and goals of a comprehensive university.
- Dedication to advancement of excellence in undergraduate, graduate and doctoral education.
- National/international recognition as a scholar and leader that would merit appointment as a full or associate professor.
- Commitment to academic innovation and integrity.
- Advocate for diverse research and educational excellence as appropriate to college programs.
- Ability to work effectively with and build consensus among a diverse faculty, student body and

administration.

- Excellent communication and interpersonal skills.
- Active involvement with professional organizations.
- Commitment to recruiting and retaining diverse faculty, staff and students.

Applications must include: 1) a letter of interest that addresses the position requirements and summarizes qualifications, previous leadership experience and accomplishments, and articulates relevance to leading a multi-disciplinary department; describes research interests; courses taught, and history of mentoring graduate and undergraduate students; and 2) full curriculum vitae.

Materials should be sent electronically to Jeffery Harris, Managing Partner, Harris Search Associates, Email: jeff@harrisandassociates.com Tel 614-798-8500 x 125.

Review of applications begins August 15, 2013 and will continue until the position is filled.

West Virginia University is an affirmative action, equal opportunity employer and the recipient of an NSF ADVANCE award for gender equity. The University values diversity among its faculty, staff, and students.

Contact Information:

Jeffrey Harris

Managing Partner, Harris Search Associates

Tel: 614-798-8500 ext.125

Cell: 614-351-2100

Email: jeff@harrisandassociates.com

www.harrisandassociates.com

Or

Dr. Joel Stegall

Senior Consultant

Tel: 614-798-8500 ext. 140

Email: joel@harrisandassociates.com