



THE UNIVERSITY OF
SOUTHERN
MISSISSIPPI®

Dean, College of Nursing & Health Professions **Position Profile**





The Opportunity

The University of Southern Mississippi (USM) invites nominations and applications for the position of Dean of the College of Nursing and Health Professions (CNHP). USM seeks an experienced, dynamic, and collaborative leader who will build on the CNHP's positive momentum and champion its continued growth. USM is one of the nation's leading research institutions and is among 4% of institutions in the nation to earn the Carnegie Classification of Institutions of Higher Education's "R1: Very High Research Spending and Doctorate Production" designation. Recognized for excellence and value, USM is known for its extraordinary faculty, its welcoming atmosphere, and its reputation for producing loyal alumni. USM currently enrolls more than 11,500 undergraduate students and nearly 3,900 graduate students and boasts a 16:1 student to faculty ratio.

The Role of the Dean

The Dean of the College of Nursing and Health Professions (CNHP) is responsible for all operations of the college and provides leadership regarding research, graduate and undergraduate education at both the Hattiesburg and Gulf Park campuses.

The four schools that comprise the CNHP include the School of Health Professions, the School of Leadership and Advanced Nursing Practice, the School of Professional Nursing Practice, and the School of Speech and Hearing Sciences. The CNHP is also home to the Gulf Park Health Center, The Children's Center for Communication and Development, DuBard School for Language Disorders, Speech-Language Pathology Clinic, and Audiology Clinic.

The CNHP provides programs to prepare health-care professionals at the baccalaureate, master's, and doctoral levels who are equipped to transform health care and improve the health and well-being of individual patients, families, communities and populations.

Duties & Responsibilities

- › Serve as the College of Nursing and Health Profession's chief administrative and fiscal officer.
- › Provide strategic leadership and vision for the CNHP, aligning with the University's strategic plan.
- › Oversee the CNHP's planning, implementation, administration, coordination, monitoring, and evaluation of all academic curricula, support services, and administrative functions.
- › Provide sound fiscal leadership and demonstrate being a fiscally responsible steward of university resources.
- › In partnership with the USM Foundation, actively cultivate donors and lead the successful advancement and fundraising efforts of the CNHP.
- › Works with department directors and faculty to successfully recruit and retain faculty who are strongly committed to excellence in teaching, research, and service.
- › Build and maintain community partnerships with external stakeholders, including hospital systems and advisory boards.
- › Responsible for the oversight of all program accreditations within the CNHP.
- › Foster a culture of innovation, collaboration, and excellence within the CNHP.
- › Collaborate with other colleges or departments as appropriate to promote interdisciplinary initiatives and explore expansion of new initiatives.

Required Qualifications

- › Doctorate in a field represented by one of the academic departments or schools in the CNHP.
- › Academic achievements appropriate for appointment as a tenured full professor, including a record of excellence in teaching, research and scholarship.
- › Administrative and academic experience in positions with progressive leadership responsibilities.
- › Experience with accreditation, academic and professional program review, student learning outcomes and assessment, and curriculum development.
- › Experience with budgeting and financial planning.
- › Evidence of effective oral, written and interpersonal communication skills.
- › Ability to engage in successful external fundraising and community partnership efforts.

Preferred Qualifications

- › Doctorate in Nursing (PhD or DNP).
- › Eligible to be licensed in Mississippi as a Registered Nurse.
- › Administrative and academic experience at a Carnegie Classified R1: Doctoral Universities – Very high research activity or R2: Doctoral Universities – High research activity.



About the College of Nursing & Health Professions

Mission

The College of Nursing and Health Professions at the University of Southern Mississippi is an engaged interdisciplinary community of diverse students, staff, faculty, and external partners dedicated to excellence in research, teaching, and service. Through innovative and evidence-based practices, the College creates an educational environment that supports student success and prepares highly qualified professionals to improve health at the local, state, and national and global levels.

Vision

The College of Nursing and Health Professions aspires to be recognized for excellence in advancing health through exemplary academic programs, interdisciplinary research, and the quality of graduates.

Strategic Goals

- › Cultivate an environment of student success.
- › Deliver quality academic programs.
- › Strategically grow our presence.
- › Enrich community and clinical partnerships.
- › Enhance the quantity and quality of research and scholarship.

Schools & Academic Programs

School of Health Professions

Graduate Programs

- › Athletic Training (MSAT)
- › Public Health (Master's)
- › Physician Assistant Studies

Undergraduate Programs

- › Kinesiotherapy
- › Public Health
- › Recreational Therapy
- › Sports Medicine

School of Speech & Hearing Sciences

Graduate Programs

- › Audiology (Doctorate)
- › Speech-Language Pathology (Master's)

Undergraduate Programs

Speech Pathology and Audiology

School of Leadership & Advanced Nursing Practice

Graduate Programs

- › Clinical Nursing (Doctorate)
- › Family Nurse Practitioner (Doctorate)
- › Nurse Anesthesia (Doctorate)
- › Nursing Leadership (PhD)
- › Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner (Doctorate)

School of Professional Nursing Practice

Undergraduate Programs

- › Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN)
- › Bachelor of Science in Nursing – RN (RN-BSN)
- › Health Sciences (Bachelor's)
- › Accelerated Bachelor of Science in Nursing (ABSN)

Campus Facilities

Hattiesburg Campus

Asbury Hall

- › Dean's Office
- › School of Professional Nursing Practice
- › School of Leadership and Advanced Nursing Practice
- › Simulation Center

DuBard School for Language Disorders

Elizabeth Harkins Hall

- › School of Health Professions
- › Sports Medicine and Community Health Lab

J.B. George

- › School of Speech and Hearing Sciences
- › Speech–Language Pathology Clinic
- › Audiology Clinic
- › The Children's Center for Communication and Development

Gulf Park Campus

Future Site of Gulf Park Language and Speech Therapy Center

- › Speech–Language Pathology Clinic
- › Audiology Clinic
- › The Children's Center for Communication and Development
- › DuBard School for Language Disorders

Gulf Park Health Center

- › Provides basic medical care, health and wellness visits, and referrals as needed to Gulf Park campus faculty, staff and students.

West Academic Building

- › School of Health Professions
- › School of Professional Nursing Practice

The Children's Center for Communication & Development

The Children's Center is currently providing comprehensive early intervention and preschool therapy services to 133 children across Southeast Mississippi at no cost to their families. A clinical division of the School of Speech and Hearing Sciences, The Children's Center was founded in 1974 and was built on the knowledge and understanding that language, cognitive development, physical development and emotional growth are intertwined, and that early intervention is most successful when a comprehensive, family-centered approach is taken towards a child's development.

The Children's Center is a full service, intensive, transdisciplinary program located on both the Hattiesburg and Gulf Park campus. The children served represent a range of disabilities that include various communication and developmental disorders, such as Down syndrome, hearing impairment, cerebral palsy, autism, Rett syndrome, traumatic brain injuries, aphasia, apraxia, and conditions related to premature birth.

In addition to providing innovative and exemplary direct services, The Children's Center provides preprofessional training to college and university students. Disciplines that are supported at The Children's Center include: speech–language pathology, audiology, special education, early childhood

education, physical therapy, occupational therapy, social work, nursing, recreational therapy, and music therapy.

The Children's Center's multidisciplinary team also provide on and offsite training to practicing clinical and educational professionals from around Mississippi as an American Speech and Hearing Association (ASHA) Continuing Education Provider.

Through The Children's Center's direct services, preprofessional and professional training, ad hoc consultations, and interagency collaboration and partnership, thousands of children with disabilities are better served each year throughout Mississippi and the region.

Dubard School for Language Disorders

The DuBard School for Language Disorders was established in 1962 and is a clinical division of School of Speech and Hearing Sciences.

The DuBard School is a public school that offers a full time enrollment program, which is the total educational program for approximately 80 students each school year. These students have severe language-speech disorders, hearing impairments, and the written language disorder of dyslexia. The students transfer back into their local school districts when they have achieved the oral communication and academic skills necessary to be independent and successful in a traditional school environment. The full time enrollment program is offered at no charge to students and their families. Students come from school districts across the state.

The DuBard School outclient therapy program provides fee-based individual and small-group therapy for clients ages birth through adulthood who have a diagnosed language, speech or hearing disorder, or a combination of these disabilities. Included are those whose learning differences are in oral language, speech, reading or a combination of oral and written language deficits, including dyslexia.

The DuBard School also serves as a referral service, as more than 400 referral calls are received by the school each year. One of the goals in bringing the gift of language to individuals with communication disorders, including the written language disorder of dyslexia, is to ensure all individuals receive the best services available, no matter where they are located.

The school is staffed by nationally certified speech-language pathologists, certified academic language therapists and educators of students with hearing loss. They teach children ages 3-13 through a special phonetic, multisensory program called the DuBard Association Method®.

Professional development opportunities are offered in the DuBard Association Method® through supervised practicum for university students, courses, staff development programs and on-site consultations across the United States and in several foreign countries. The DuBard School is a practicum site for university students majoring in speech-language pathology, audiology or dyslexia therapy. It also serves as an observation and practicum site for those in nursing, kinesiology, science education, music, and social work.

The school was designed to serve students with severe language-speech disorders, including developmental aphasia and childhood apraxia of speech, deafness and hearing impairments, as well as those with the written language disorder of dyslexia.

Speech-Language Pathology Clinic

The Speech-Language Pathology Clinic within the School of Speech and Hearing Sciences provides cost-effective intervention and assessment services to individuals of all ages and populations in the following areas: traumatic brain injury, language, articulation, phonology, literacy, aphasia, swallowing, voice, accent modification, autism, social communication and fluency. Nationally certified speech-language pathology faculty supervise the services provided by graduate student clinicians. The Clinic also provides clinical experiences for undergraduate speech and hearing students to observe and assist in the delivery of services. Therapy sessions, which typically range from \$100+ in a hospital, private practice, outpatient facility or skilled nursing facility, are provided to patients at the low cost of \$5-\$30 per session. Faculty, staff and students receive a discounted rate. These fees are the only source of revenue for the clinic. Patients receive intervention services two to four times weekly during each academic semester. Additionally, the Speech-Language Pathology Clinic partners with local school districts to assist with kindergarten speech and hearing screenings when needed. The Clinic provides services to over 12 counties in Mississippi.

Audiology Clinic

The Audiology Clinic within the School of Speech and Hearing Sciences provides services to children as young as two weeks old to persons 99+ years old. Services provided within the Clinic include identification of newborn hearing loss, monitoring and identification of school-aged children, auditory processing disorder evaluations, evaluation of adults with late onset or progressive hearing loss, as well as fitting/amplification devices (hearing aids and FM systems), and evaluations for fitting/programming cochlear implants and bone anchored hearing devices. Services are provided by national board certified and state licensed audiology faculty and staff.

The Audiology Clinic partners with Forrest General Hospital to provide hearing screenings for infants within their Neonatal Intensive Care Unit and at their developmental clinic at the local YMCA. The Clinic is a referral site for diagnostic evaluations for infants that fail the universal newborn screening at their respective birthing hospitals throughout South Mississippi. The Clinic supports school-aged children by collaborating with school districts to help ensure all educational needs are met for children with hearing impairment. The Audiology Clinic is a Community Care Provider for the Veteran's Health Administration, providing hearing evaluations and hearing aid fitting for veterans across South Mississippi. The Clinic further supports the community by providing hearing screenings for local schools and participating in local health fairs. On campus, audiology students provide hearing screenings to faculty and staff during the Audiology Awareness Month and World Hearing Day events at a reduced rate.

The Audiology Clinic functions to give clinical experiences for audiology students to observe and participate in the assessment and management of patients with a variety of hearing and communicative challenges.



About The University of Southern Mississippi

The University of Southern Mississippi (USM) is a comprehensive public research institution delivering transformative programs on campuses in Hattiesburg and Long Beach, at teaching and research sites in central and southern Mississippi, as well as online. As an economic driver, USM generates an annual economic impact of more than \$600 million across the state. USM welcomes a diverse student body of nearly 16,000, representing 71 countries, all 50 states, and every county in Mississippi. USM students have collected four Truman Scholarships and 36 National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowships, while also leading Mississippi with 29 Goldwater Scholarships, an honor that recognizes the next generation of great research scientists.

Vision, Mission and Values

Since its founding in 1910, The University of Southern Mississippi has been inspired by those who desire to push traditional higher education boundaries. The University community cares deeply about its students and has purposefully worked to increase academic and student success and to position its graduates to live ethical and meaningful lives, while building a better world for future generations. The University's mission and vision guide these efforts:

Mission

The University of Southern Mississippi engages students at all levels in the exploration and creation of knowledge. Our hallmark is a fully engaged lifelong learning approach integrating inspired teaching, collaborative research, creative activity, and service to society. Southern Miss produces graduates who are ready for life; ready to succeed professionally and as responsible citizens in a pluralistic society.

Vision

The University of Southern Mississippi is distinctive among national research universities in adding value to our students' experience, uniquely preparing them to be ready for life.

Values

The mission of the institution is supported by the following values:

- › Research and instructional excellence focused on student success at all teaching sites and through campus-based and distance education.
- › Student engagement that fosters personal growth, professional development, and a lifelong commitment to growth and learning.
- › An inclusive community that embraces the diversity of people and ideas.
- › Institutional governance that respects academic freedom and faculty inclusion.
- › A campus culture characterized by warmth and mutually supportive connections among students, faculty, staff, and alumni.
- › An approach to academics, research, and personal conduct based on integrity and civility.
- › An evolving curriculum that fosters lifelong curiosity and critical thinking and prepares our graduates to be ready for life.
- › Community participation that promotes social responsibility, citizenship, and economic development.

The University of Southern Mississippi – Quick Facts

- › **President:** Joseph S. Paul, Ph.D.
- › **Provost:** Lance Nail, Ph.D.
- › **Founded:** 1910
- › **Enrollment:** 15,000 + students
- › **Campuses:** Hattiesburg and Long Beach
- › **Carnegie Classification:** R1, Community-Engaged
- › **Accreditation:** Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC)
- › **Economic Impact:** \$660M+
- › **Athletic Conference:** Sun Belt Conference

Institutional Strategic Goals

- › Support student success to foster retention, progression, and graduation.
- › Promote teaching, research, and creative excellence.
- › Strategically expand undergraduate and graduate enrollment.
- › Strengthen economic and community partnerships.
- › Invest in faculty and staff to maximize their potential.
- › Promote a culture of inclusiveness of people and ideas.
- › Enhance physical, technological, and financial infrastructure to support our mission, vision, and values.
- › Improve efficiency and effectiveness of institutional processes and systems.

2025 – 2029 Strategic Plan

The University community has embraced an ambitious vision for the future that necessitates deliberate, synchronized, and collaborative efforts campus-wide. The 2025 Strategic Plan serves as the guiding roadmap for the university community through 2029, leading Southern Miss to capitalize on its achievements and sustain our upward momentum.

The roadmap harnesses the institution's strengths and embraces opportunities for growth in the complex higher education environment. With a commitment to excellence and innovation, we will overcome challenges and surpass the boundaries of traditional thinking, forging new paths and a brighter future for Southern Miss students, faculty, staff, alumni, friends, industry partners, and the world.

Forging a path of innovation, we will overcome obstacles to student success using evidence-based strategies to enrich the student experience. Our faculty will continue to make impactful contributions to their field as we foster a supportive and experiential learning environment. Simultaneously, Southern Miss is dedicated to maintaining an environment conducive to groundbreaking research and creative endeavors to attract talented faculty. Collaboration is essential to achieving these goals, and a commitment to strong community and industry partnerships will drive our community and societal impact.

The 2025 Strategic Plan embraces the uniqueness of Southern Miss. Our caring, student-centric approach, willingness to challenge the status quo, and our readiness to explore novel approaches to higher education challenges serve as the foundation of Southern Miss Grit. We are asserting our position as a distinctive research university, delivering high-quality education, and actively engaging our partners. Together, we will achieve long-term success.

The full strategic plan can be viewed [here](#).

Academic Programs

USM's 843 full-time and part-time instructional faculty members are committed to preparing students to make a meaningful difference in the world. Of the full-time faculty, 74% hold the highest degree in their field, and 51% are female. The University offers over 130 undergraduate majors and 70 minors. At the graduate level, the University offers 81 doctoral, two specialist, 126 master's and 20 certificate programs. The University is organized academically into four colleges, a Graduate School, an Honors College and University Libraries.

College of Arts & Sciences

Home to 14 schools and over 100 academic programs, the College of Arts and Sciences operates at the heart of the University's mission to educate students, lead the state and nation in the creative arts, and produce knowledge in the humanities, social sciences, mathematical and natural sciences, and engineering. Its faculty integrate innovative research with exceptional teaching and outreach, thereby providing paths to understanding the past, solving the problems of the present, and imagining the possibilities of tomorrow.

The College of Arts and Sciences offers more than 90 undergraduate and 40 graduate degrees covering diverse disciplines in the arts, humanities, social sciences, sciences and engineering, in addition to interdisciplinary areas.

The arts have been a central part of the University's identity and brand for decades. USM is an arts leader in the state and region, offering access to the arts to students, faculty, staff and community members who are able to see performances and creative work from exceptional artists spanning a wide range of genres. USM is one of the only 14 R1 and D1 institutions in the nation accredited in theatre, art and design, dance and music.

College of Business & Economic Development

Home to 20 undergraduate and graduate academic programs, the College of Business and Economic Development prepares its students to adapt, think critically, solve problems, communicate effectively, utilize digital technology, and collaborate and lead across demographic and geographic boundaries.

Students may pursue an undergraduate or graduate degree from any five schools (Accountancy, Finance, Leadership, Management or Marketing) and experience engaged faculty and unique opportunities that will set them apart. The college offers 14 undergraduate programs, six graduate programs and six fully online programs.

College of Education & Human Sciences

Home to six schools and more than 25 undergraduate and graduate programs, the College of Education and Human Sciences provides transformative educational experiences through exceptional student support, online learning and pathways for working professionals at both the undergraduate and graduate levels. Students experience strong support, exposure to diversity of people and ideas, and quality University- and community-based practicum and internship experiences, and active engagement in research.

Exemplary faculty prepare educators, mental health, kinesiology and nutrition professionals and researchers to offer solutions addressing the needs of an increasingly diversified and evolving society.

Offering seven undergraduate and 19 graduate highly ranked and nationally accredited programs, the college prepares both traditional and nontraditional students with innovative curricula and field experiences in face-to-face, hybrid and online formats.

College of Nursing & Health Professions

Home to four schools and over 15 undergraduate and graduate programs, the College of Nursing and Health Professions offers educational opportunities for students interested in careers in nursing and health care, as well as robust graduate programs for licensed professionals returning for a doctorate or master's degree. Through the School of Health Professions, the School of Leadership and Advanced Nursing Practice, the School of Professional Nursing Practice and the School of Speech and Hearing Sciences, students will find programs in nursing, audiology, speech pathology, public health, athletic training, recreational therapy and kinesiotherapy that will prepare them for rewarding careers in health care. Graduates become health-care professionals who are equipped to transform health care and improve the health and wellbeing of individual patients, families, communities and populations.

Honors College

The Honors College provides nearly 500 curious, imaginative, aspiring scholars with small classes, opportunities for active learning, attentive mentoring and research experiences alongside cutting-edge scholars and artists. Students are encouraged to seize opportunities and determine their own paths in a supportive and challenging intellectual community characterized by a culture of excellence and service, both on campus and in the community.

Graduate School

Through an extensive selection of outstanding degree and certificate programs and professional development opportunities, graduate students at USM acquire the knowledge and skills for success. Graduates are prepared to impact the world in such diverse fields as ocean science, psychology, social work, nursing, business and the arts. Currently, more than 3,440 students from across the globe are pursuing degrees or certificates in a broad variety of programs across all academic colleges.

University Libraries

University Libraries consist of the Cook Library, Special Collections, the Gulf Coast Library and the Gunter Library. University Libraries supports the mission of USM by creating and providing access to an information-rich environment that fosters the intellectual development, diversity and creativity of the University community. University Libraries provides educational opportunities which support the success of Southern Miss students, faculty, staff and other researchers in their academic endeavors through collections, instructional services, and emerging trends in scholarship.

Gulf Coast Academic Programs

USM's academic programs along the Gulf Coast are organized into three schools, in addition to two new health-care programs:

School of Coastal Resilience, Part of the College of Arts & Sciences

The School of Coastal Resilience connects the human experience of living on the coastlines to the ideas, policies and disciplines that shape the experience. Through research and instruction, faculty and students explore the dynamics between communities, broadly understood, and the coastal environment.

School of Leadership, Part of the College of Business & Economic Development

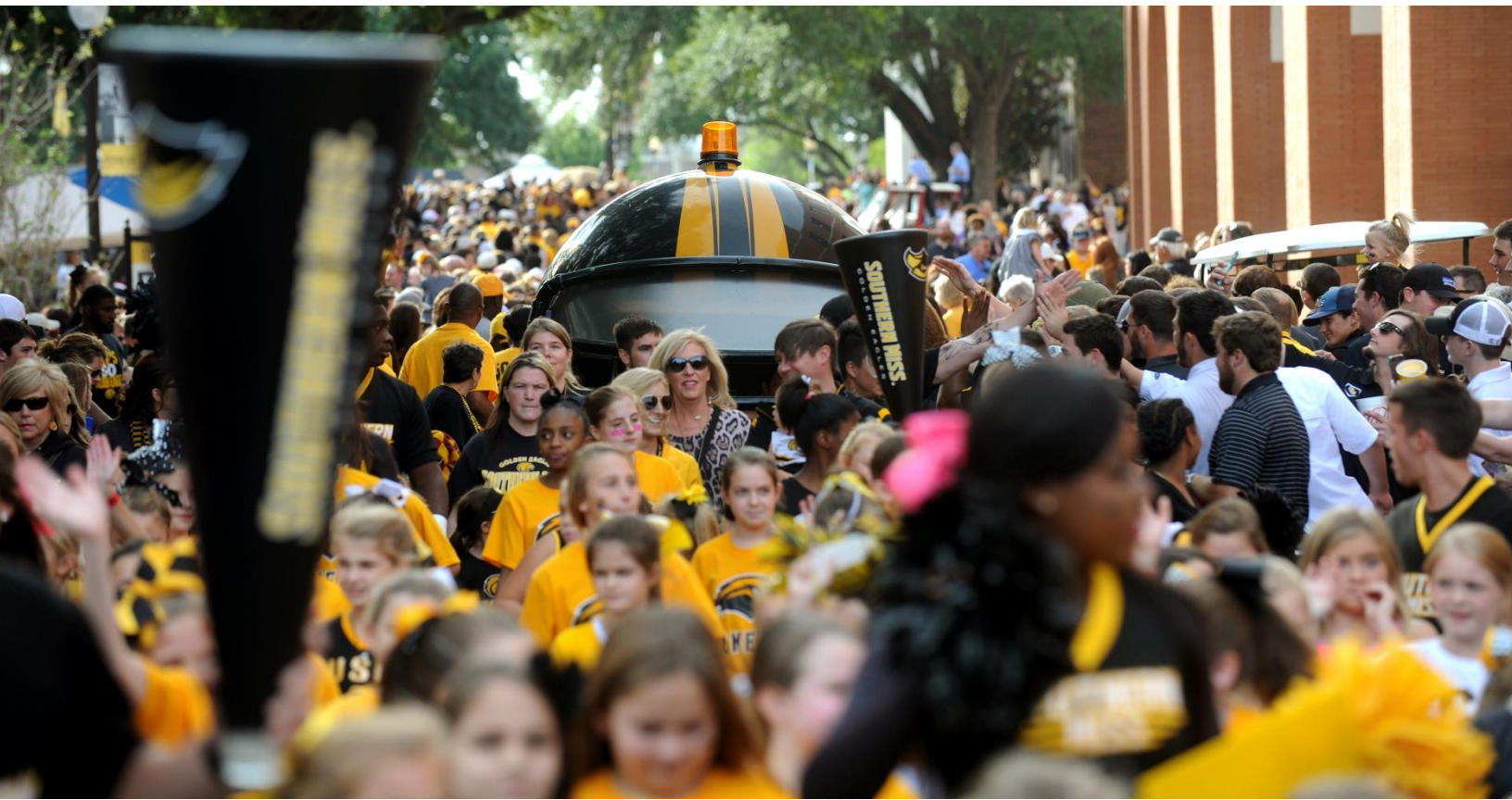
The School of Leadership develops and advances organizational leaders at the local, national and international levels. It provides distinctive and innovative educational programs, delivered through experiential and responsive methods, to address emerging social, economic and environmental challenges. The school's research focuses on the expansion of knowledge in business and technology.

School of Ocean Science & Engineering, Part of the College of Arts & Sciences

The School of Ocean Science and Engineering harnesses elements from key areas of the University and the research programs along the Gulf Coast to create a regionally, nationally and internationally recognized leader in marine and coastal science.

College of Nursing & Health Professions

The College of Nursing and Health Professions is implementing innovative programs to address the shortage of health-care professionals in the region. The first cohort for a new Accelerated BSN degree based on the Gulf Park campus began classes in January 2023. A new Physician Assistant program was also recently approved for Gulf Park, which is slated to begin in January 2027.



Leadership & Governance

Mississippi's Institutions of Higher Learning (IHL)

The Mississippi Board of Trustees of State Institutions of Higher Learning governs the public universities in Mississippi, including Alcorn State University; Delta State University; Jackson State University; Mississippi State University, including the Mississippi State University Division of Agriculture, Forestry and Veterinary Medicine; Mississippi University for Women; Mississippi Valley State University; The University of Mississippi, including the University of Mississippi Medical Center; and The University of Southern Mississippi. Serving more than 95,000 students in an academic year, Mississippi's public universities prepare students with the knowledge and skills to be the leaders, educators, entrepreneurs and problem-solvers of tomorrow.

The Board of Trustees

The Board of Trustees is the constitutional governing body responsible for policy and financial oversight of the eight public institutions of higher learning. There are 12 board members, representing the three Supreme Court Districts. Appointed by the Governor and confirmed by the Mississippi Senate, the members serve nine-year terms. The terms are staggered so that only four members roll on or off the Board at the same time.

The Commissioner of Higher Education

The Commissioner of Higher Education is appointed by the Board and is responsible for administering the Board's policies at the eight universities in the state of Mississippi. Dr. Alfred Rankins Jr. was appointed commissioner of higher education beginning July 2018. As commissioner, Dr. Rankins advises the IHL Board on all matters pertaining to governing Mississippi's eight public universities and academic medical center. Dr. Rankins also supervises and evaluates the chancellor and presidents of the universities within the IHL system.

University Leadership & Governance

Dr. Joseph S. Paul was appointed USM's 11th president in November 2022. Dr. Paul worked for USM for over 40 years, retiring as Vice President for Student Affairs in 2015, and returned to serve as IEO. He has provided leadership in a variety of other roles at the University and in the Hattiesburg community.

Reporting directly to the President are the Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs, Vice President for Student Affairs, Vice President for Finance and Administration, Vice President for Research, Vice President for External Affairs, Director of Intercollegiate Athletics, General Counsel and Chief Communication Officer.

The Faculty Senate provides a forum and a voice for the faculty to assert its distinctive viewpoint and principles for the general welfare of the University. As duly elected representatives of the faculty, the Faculty Senate acts on matters relating to due process, governance, resource allocation and University planning. Together with the Staff Council and the Student Government Association, the Faculty Senate provides input to the University's Senior Leadership Team through its president and through voted recommendations and resolutions.

About Hattiesburg & the Mississippi Gulf Coast

Known as the “Hub City” for its proximity to New Orleans, Mobile, Jackson and the Mississippi Gulf Coast, Hattiesburg is the county seat and the largest city in Forrest County, with a 2023 population of 48,414.

Founded in 1882 by civil engineer William H. Hardy, Hattiesburg was named in honor of Hardy’s wife Hattie and first expanded as a center for the lumber and railroad industries. Today, the “Greater Hattiesburg” area attracts newcomers because of the diversity of its economy, quality education, thriving medical community, strong neighborhoods and central location.

As a medical hub, Hattiesburg is home to two major hospitals and the largest multi-specialty clinic in the state of Mississippi. Health care comprises 15% of the regional economy and services a broad 19-county region. South of Hattiesburg is Camp Shelby, the largest U.S. National Guard training base east of the Mississippi River, which hosts up to 100,000 National Guardsmen and Reservists annually.

Hattiesburg is known as a premier residential college city and is home to two universities, two community colleges, and eight primary and secondary education districts with top-performing K-12 schools.

The University has strong partnerships with city leaders and the community, and the city provides a warm welcome to students, offering opportunities for part-time jobs and internships, venues for live music, a historic downtown area, and a variety of local dining options.

The Hattiesburg Historic Neighborhood District was named one of the “Great Places in America” by the American Planning Association. Places are selected annually that represent the gold standard in terms of having a true sense of place, culture and historical interest. The 25-block neighborhood has one of the best collections of Victorian-era houses in Mississippi, which more than 90% of the houses substantially renovated and maintained.

Hattiesburg is also home to the African American Military History Museum. The building opened as a USO club in 1942 to serve African Americans serving at Camp Shelby, as local facilities were racially segregated. This building is the only remaining USO club site in the U.S. It has been adapted for use as a museum interpreting African American military history, including exhibits on the Revolutionary War, Buffalo Soldiers, World Wars I and II, Desegregation, the Korean War, Vietnam, Desert Storm, the Global War on Terrorism, and Hattiesburg’s Hall of Honor.

The Mississippi Gulf Coast spans 80 miles between Louisiana and Alabama and is a melting pot with exceptional charm and hospitality across 13 coastal communities. The Coast is filled with rich cultural activities and attractions, unique local shopping and art galleries, and one-of-a-kind dining experiences.

Originally dubbed “America’s Riviera,” The Mississippi Gulf Coast gained prominence in the early 1900s as a gambling and tourist mecca, an alternative to Florida as a warm, actively fun area and home to the longest

manmade beach in the world. After a brief disruption brought on by Hurricane Katrina, the Mississippi Gulf Coast bounced back quickly and better than ever.

Today, the coastal region features several distinctive business, industrial and government entities that have helped drive the growth and vitality of the area, including:

- › NASA's John C. Stennis Space Center – the largest rocket testing facility in the country.
- › Ingall's Shipbuilding – largest ship builder in the world. 70% of U.S. Navy vessels were built here.
- › Keesler Air Force Base – home of Naval Technology training and the 53rd Weather Reconnaissance Squadron, which host the world-famous Hurricane Hunters. It is the only operational unit in the world flying weather reconnaissance on a routine basis.
- › Chevron Pascagoula Refinery – one of the top 10 largest oil refineries in the country.
- › Navel Construction Battalion Center – home of the Atlantic Fleet Seabees.

The University has strong partnerships with the coast community, business and industry leaders, supporting blue technology innovation, workforce development and aquaculture that plays a key role in the Mississippi Gulf Coast's thriving seafood industry, which encompasses commercial harvesting, processing, wholesaling, fish markets and restaurants.





Nomination and Application Process

Compensation

Salary will be competitive and commensurate with qualification and experience.

How to Apply

Greenwood Asher & Associates® is assisting the University of Southern Mississippi with this search. Applications and nominations are now being accepted. Inquiries, nominations, and application materials should be directed to Kyle Pybus-Jerome and/or Andriel Dees from Greenwood Asher & Associates® at USMCNHP@greenwoodsearch.com. Application materials should include a:

- › Letter of interest that clearly states the applicant's qualifications for the position
- › Current résumé/curriculum vitae

Submission of application materials as PDF attachments is strongly encouraged. The search will be conducted with a commitment of confidentiality for candidates until finalists are selected. Initial screening of applications will begin immediately and will continue until an appointment is made. For best consideration, applications and nominations should be provided by May 16, 2025.

Please direct inquiries, nominations, and application materials to:

Kyle Pybus-Jerome, Senior Executive Search Consultant
kylepybusjerome@greenwoodsearch.com

Andriel Dees, Vice President of Executive Search
andrieldees@greenwoodsearch.com

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The University of Southern Mississippi is an equal opportunity employer. All qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, color, religion, sex, disability, age, sexual orientation, gender identity, national origin, veteran status, or genetic information. The University is committed to providing access, equal opportunity, and reasonable accommodation for individuals with disabilities in employment, its services, programs, and activities.