



PennState

Position Specification

The Pennsylvania State University University Park, PA

Dean, Schreyer Honors College

The Pennsylvania State University (Penn State) invites applications and nominations for the position of Dean of the Schreyer Honors College. The College is one of the nation’s most distinguished and selective honors colleges. The mission of the Schreyer Honors College is to promote academic excellence with integrity, build a global perspective, and create opportunities for leadership and civic engagement.

THE PENNSYLVANIA STATE UNIVERSITY

Founded in 1855, Penn State established its [land-grant mission](#) to include teaching, research, and public service to support the citizens of the Commonwealth. In collaboration with industrial, educational, and agricultural partners, the University disseminates, integrates, and applies knowledge that is valuable to society. Today, the University is a leader in research, learning, and engagement that facilitates innovation, embraces inclusion and sustainability, and inspires achievements that will affect the world in positive and enduring ways.

Granted the highest rating for research universities by the Carnegie Classification and ranking 23rd among public universities in *U.S. News & World Report's* 2021 list, Penn State is a comprehensive academic institution with a \$7 billion annual operating budget. Operating and functioning as one University geographically distributed, Penn State enrolls approximately 90,000 students on [24 campuses in Pennsylvania](#) and online via its [World Campus](#). The University has more than 21,000 full-time faculty and staff, and it offers more than 275 baccalaureate majors.

At the University Park campus, Penn State's largest campus and its administrative hub, degree programs are administered in 12 colleges: Agricultural Sciences, Arts and Architecture, Business, Communications, Earth and Mineral Sciences, Education, Engineering, Health and Human Development, Information Sciences and Technology, Liberal Arts, Nursing, and Science.

Penn State is home to more than 200 research centers, laboratories, and institutes, many of which are nationally or globally known, such as the [Center for Collegiate Mental Health](#). The University's [interdisciplinary research institutes](#) include the Clinical and Translational Science Institute, Humanities Institute, Huck Institutes of the Life Sciences, Institute for Gravitation and the Cosmos, Institutes of Energy and the Environment, Materials Research Institute, Penn State Cancer Institute, Social Science Research Institute, and Sustainability Institute.

During the past four decades, strategic planning has paved the way for Penn State to become one of the world's outstanding public universities. [Penn State's current University-wide strategic plan](#), titled "Our Commitment to Impact," establishes and elucidates the University's priorities and goals through 2025.

The strategic plan's six [foundations](#)—Enabling Access to Education; Engaging Our Students; Advancing Inclusion, Equity, and Diversity; Enhancing Global Engagement; Driving Economic Development; and Ensuring a Sustainable Future—connect to empower and sustain Penn State's [institutional values](#).

The plan's [five thematic priorities](#) are Transforming Education, Enhancing Health, Stewarding Our Planet's Resources, Advancing the Arts and Humanities, and Empowering Through Digital Innovation. These strategic areas of focus embody existing and emerging strengths and opportunities identified during Penn State's planning process. Each represents a breadth and depth of expertise and interest across multiple units where the University is well positioned (with continued commitment and strategic investment of resources) for profound and measurable contributions. The themes intersect with unit plans and pull from the human capital, infrastructure, and programs they represent. By focusing on synergistic energy and resources, they will enable a previously unimagined Penn State impact.

Several [signature initiatives](#) have emerged from Penn State's strategic planning efforts. The University community is advancing the work of these initiatives, which are intended to engage at a large scale, as well as measurement of outcomes and impact. The five funded signature initiatives—one for each thematic priority—are [One Penn State 2025](#) (Transforming Education), the [Consortium To Combat Substance Abuse](#) (Enhancing Health), the [Humanities Institute](#) (Advancing the Arts and Humanities), the [Center for Immersive Experiences](#) (Driving Digital Innovation), and the Consortium for Integrated Energy Systems (Stewarding Our Planet's Resources).

[Penn State's research](#) and development expenditures have increased steadily during the past decade, contributing to the state's economy through innovation and technology

transfer. The University's research expenditures reached a record high for the fourth consecutive year in the fiscal year 2019-2020, totaling \$1.01 billion, a \$40 million increase from the previous year. The total includes a record \$663 million in federal funding and \$375 million from a combination of private, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, and University sources. *The Chronicle of Higher Education* ranked Penn State as the [top producer of Fulbright U.S. scholars](#) among research institutions in the nation, with 13 awards for 2019-20.

With an annual operating budget of approximately \$59.2 million and 572 full-time equivalent faculty and staff, the [University Libraries comprise](#) 13 libraries at University Park and libraries at 22 other campuses, including the Penn State Health Milton S. Hershey Medical Center. Its collections include more than 9.2 million volumes, 7.8 million titles, and 2.6 million electronic books, as well as extensive holdings of maps, microforms, government publications, archives, and audiovisual materials.

Penn State generates more than \$11.6 billion annually in economic impact for the Commonwealth. As part of its [Invent Penn State](#) initiative, the University has funded more than 20 innovation hubs, designed to bolster entrepreneurship and economic development in communities surrounding its campuses across Pennsylvania.

The University's current development campaign, [A Greater Penn State for 21st Century Excellence](#), seeks to fulfill the institution's historic mission to serve the public good and create a better future for its students, the Commonwealth, and the world. With an overall goal of \$2.1 billion, the campaign invites Penn State's alumni and friends to become partners in fulfilling the University's three core imperatives: [Open Doors](#), [Create Transformative Experiences](#), and [Impact the World](#).

The [Penn State Alumni Association](#) is the world's largest organization of its kind, with 174,000 dues-paying members and more than 726,000 living alumni worldwide.

Additional statistics and information about the University are available through the Office of Planning, Assessment and Institutional Research's [Data Digest](#), including dashboards related to student enrollment, degrees awarded, graduation and retention, and faculty and staff.

SCHREYER HONORS COLLEGE

The Pennsylvania State University is the land-grant university of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and comprises the University Park campus, where the administrative offices of the [Schreyer Honors College](#) are located, and 24 other campuses throughout the state. The College was founded in 1997 with a generous gift of \$30 million from benefactors William A. and Joan L. Schreyer that transformed the highly successful University Scholars Program into a prominent honors college. In 2006, an additional gift of \$25 million was presented by the Schreyer family and today, more than 15,000 alumni have graduated from Schreyer. Drawing upon select faculty from across the University

who offer small classes and seminars, the Schreyer Honors College provides students with extensive opportunities for undergraduate research, study abroad, professional internships, alumni mentoring, and a national forum for innovation and best practices in learning methods.

Each year, the College receives more than 4,000 applications for 300 first-year student slots, and there is an additional admission option for continuing Penn State students. Overall, there are nearly 2,000 students enrolled in the Schreyer Honors College, representing 3% of Penn State's undergraduate population. The Schreyer Honors College employs 29 full-time staff members, and the 2020-21 operating budget is approximately \$2 million. The current value of the endowment for the Schreyer Honors College is \$132,870,120.

More than \$7 million is awarded to Scholars in grants and scholarships on a yearly basis to support the College mission. Scholars complete a required undergraduate honors thesis to conclude their honors experience and demonstrate their achievement of [the College's four student learning outcomes](#).

In 2020, Schreyer 's 1,931 students represented 37 states and 27 countries, with 1,386 Pennsylvania residents, 401 out-of-state resident, and 144 international students.

Mission of the Schreyer Honors College

The mission of the Schreyer Honors College is to promote Academic Excellence with Integrity, Build a Global Perspective and Create Opportunities for Leadership and Civic Engagement.

Key Priorities and Responsibilities

The Dean serves as the academic leader and executive officer of the College and reports to the Executive Vice President and Provost of the University. The Dean is a member of the University's Academic Leadership Council and the University Park Council of Academic Deans. The Dean is responsible for:

- Planning
- Budgeting
- Student recruitment and retention
- Policy implementation
- Fundraising
- The quality of teaching and learning experienced by students in honors courses
- Oversight of the Presidential Leadership Academy

The Dean oversees the [Presidential Leadership Academy](#), which is administratively positioned and separately endowed within the College. The Presidential Leadership Academy provides opportunities for select groups of Penn State students to develop leadership fundamentals and critical thinking skills through classes taught by the Dean of the Honors College and the University President. The Dean also accompanies students on multiple field trips per year to sites around the nation to gain broader perspectives on socio-political issues and leadership styles.

Qualifications

The position requires an individual who can lead effectively and manage a college that is a multidisciplinary, multi-campus center of undergraduate academic excellence.

Required qualifications include:

- The ability to articulate and implement a vision for honors education
- Prior experience in academic leadership with supervision of personnel and the responsibility for strategic management of programs and resources
- A clear and demonstrated understanding of and commitment to diversity, equity, and inclusion that aligns with the University's mission of public service
- An ability to inspire the Schreyer Honors College community to expand their knowledge and understanding in a global perspective
- A commitment to innovative approaches to enrich student lives in and out of the classroom
- Strong consensus building and interpersonal skills
- An ability to work effectively with diverse constituencies within the University community and with external stakeholders, including donors and alumni
- An earned terminal degree
- An outstanding record of teaching and research
- Credentials appropriate for a tenured appointment at the rank of professor

Desired qualifications include:

- Achievements and demonstrated innovation in undergraduate education
- Background in an honors program or other academic programs of excellence
- Fundraising and grant writing experience
- Familiarity with multi-campus institutions

Salary will be commensurate with experience and qualifications.

APPLICATIONS AND NOMINATIONS

The University, through the Provost, has retained Storbeck Search, a national executive search consulting firm, to assist in this search. The review of candidates will begin immediately and continue until the position is filled. Nominations, inquiries, and application material, including a letter of interest addressing qualifications, curriculum vitae, and the names of five professional references, should be forwarded in confidence to:



Steve Leo, Partner
Vicki Henderson, Senior Associate
Storbeck Search
PennStateDeanHonors@storbecksearch.com
610-572-4296

Employment will require successful completion of background check(s) in accordance with University policies. Final candidates for the position will be required to complete a full background check process, including education, employment, and criminal as appropriate.

To review Penn State Annual Security Reports, visit <https://www.police.psu.edu/annual-security-reports>. Printed reports are available on request.

The Pennsylvania State University is an equal opportunity, affirmative action employer, and is committed to providing employment opportunities to all qualified applicants without regard to race, color, religion, age, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, national origin, disability or protected veteran status.