



Dean, School of Interdisciplinary Studies Texas Christian University Leadership Profile

Texas Christian University (TCU) invites nominations and applications for the position of Dean of the School of Interdisciplinary Studies (SIS). The next Dean will have the opportunity to lead a high-potential School and sharpen its strategic focus by capitalizing on current strengths and identifying new areas of synergy and innovation. Inherently problem based, Interdisciplinary Studies connects diverse experts and methods to address complex challenges. It invariably contains an integrative element (for example, race, gender, sexuality, class) that brings together and benefits from traditional disciplinary knowledge and tools.

A private university located in Fort Worth, Texas, TCU is classified as a top 100 National University by *U.S. News & World Report* and has a Carnegie Classification of R2: Doctoral Universities – High Research Activity. The University has a \$1.9 billion endowment and enrolls over 11,300 students. SIS and TCU support a robust teacher-scholar model that integrates teaching and research to benefit undergraduate and graduate students.

SCHOOL OF INTERDISCIPLINARY STUDIES

Founded in 2018, the School of Interdisciplinary Studies allows students to integrate content, data, methods, tools, concepts, and theories from two or more disciplines to construct a more comprehensive and finely tuned understanding of a problem. Ideal for addressing complex challenges that transcend individual disciplines or professions, the School of Interdisciplinary Studies promotes collaboration, integration, and innovation.

Some of the direct outcomes of interdisciplinary studies include:

- New discoveries and new knowledge
- New approaches to complex problem-solving
- Higher-level learning outcomes, such as critical thinking, analytical skills, creativity, flexibility
- Better workforce preparation
- Reinvigoration of the home disciplines
- New or improved opportunities for community collaboration/partnership

The mission of the [School of Interdisciplinary Studies](#) is to empower change agents to tackle big questions by integrating diverse perspectives, disciplines, and methods of inquiry. The School's promise is to connect experts, ideas, and communities to promote empathy, respect, and justice. The tripartite vision is to transform communities through diversity, equity, and inclusion; to enable scholarly and radical collaborations; and to model deep, integrated learning that connects academic disciplines, faculty, and students to broader communities. SIS offers undergraduate majors in Comparative Race and Ethnic Studies, Women & Gender Studies, and Interdisciplinary Inquiry. SIS minors include Comparative Race and Ethnic Studies, African American and Africana Studies, Latinx Studies, and Women & Gender Studies. Additionally, Comparative Race and Ethnic Studies and Women & Gender Studies offer graduate certificates. What makes interdisciplinarity unique at TCU are contributions made by non-degree bearing units that offer courses: IdeaFactory and University Life. Idea Factory works with many TCU departments and communities and offers a variety of ways to engage: courses, workshops, co-curricular and community initiatives. University Life offers academic credit bearing courses at TCU. The unique placement of these programs within SIS benefits not only faculty, staff and students within SIS, but the University as a whole. SIS has reach to every TCU undergraduate through the Introduction to University Life courses and over 175 courses across SIS departments. Housed in SIS, Women and Gender Studies has 150 affiliated faculty and Comparative Race and Ethnic Studies has 76 affiliated faculty. In the Fall of 2020, SIS boasted 43 students majoring, 67 minoring, 58 pursuing graduate certificates, and 9 pursuing an emphasis in SIS programs. SIS has 6 budgeted full-time faculty and 5 budgeted full-time staff positions.

[Comparative Race and Ethnic Studies](#)

In addition to examining the experiences of marginalized communities in the U.S. and beyond, students explore race and ethnicity as active social, political, historical and cultural processes and use race and ethnicity as categories of analysis across time and space.

[Women & Gender Studies](#)

TCU's Department of Women & Gender Studies puts women, gender, and sexuality at the center of academic investigation. Programs promote inquiry into the intersections of gender with other identity categories; the workings of power in society; and the means of advancing social justice and equality.

[IdeaFactory](#)

The TCU IdeaFactory is dedicated to supporting the innovation spirit of TCU students, staff, and faculty by providing an environment where students, faculty, and staff use human-centered design and systems thinking in order to become social innovators and social change agents.

[University Life](#)

Introduction to University Life is an academic success seminar for incoming TCU students that helps students cultivate habits of learning and academic achievement.

Interdisciplinary Inquiry

If students' academic interests extend beyond traditional academic disciplines, the Interdisciplinary Inquiry major can help them achieve their academic and professional goals.

African American and Africana Studies

African American and Africana Studies (AAAS) minor is an interdisciplinary program that offers an introduction to the study of African intellectual heritages locally and globally. The AAAS minor and emphasis focus on the global links across the African diaspora, and examines the contributions of the African intellectual heritages as key components of American culture.

Latinx Studies

Latinx Studies is an interdisciplinary program that critically examines cultural, political, historical, religious and social conditions of Latina/o communities in the United States, providing students a larger awareness of diversity in the U.S. society.

The School of Interdisciplinary Studies upholds cultural diversity as a guiding principle. It is essential to the success of the School that the SIS community fosters academic communities that empower members with a wide range of social identities and ancestries and includes consideration of racial, ethnic, diasporic, economic, religious, gendered, and orientational distinctions. As this range continues to grow with time, the development of knowledge and skills that accurately and ethically process cultural change becomes all the more necessary. Innovation is deeply embedded in SIS, as is partnership for the betterment of SIS's communities, and success in both pursuits can be measured by gains in effective collaboration, which require intercultural competency.

Most important, the SIS community understands how every one of us inherit, inhabit, nurture, and cooperate with a multitude of communities subjected to histories that have real, lasting effects on the conditions we live in at present, and these histories have not distributed available resources and protections to all communities justly. To remedy this obstacle to equal opportunity and to ensure that the SIS community attracts, retains and develops top talent to work on the issues and challenges that SIS is designed to improve, the SIS community is committed to establishing and evolving institutional frameworks that equitably incorporate the values, judgment, methods, and needs of people from historically disenfranchised communities. As emphasized in the 2020-2021 SIS Unity Taskforce Report which has informed this document throughout, SIS reflects a deep commitment to advancing critical thinking and promotes an awareness of our complex and rapidly changing world through curricula, programming, research, and teaching rooted in interdisciplinary and radically collaborative work.

THE ROLE OF THE DEAN

The Dean of the School of Interdisciplinary Studies is the chief administrative, academic, budgetary and advancement officer for the School. The Dean provides creative vision and leadership for the School while serving as a leader across the University, the region, and globally. The Dean fosters collaborative opportunities on behalf of the School both internally and externally to engage students, faculty, and

community partners and further the School's mission. The incoming Dean will benefit from the recent SIS Unity of Vision Taskforce Report and its underlying research, work that informs this document throughout. This effort will help equip the Dean with understandings of the School's constituents and possible directions for forward momentum.

The Dean reports to the Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs and Provost Dr. Teresa Abi-Nader Dahlberg and serves as a member of the Provost's Council, working with other academic leaders to further the [*Vision in Action: Lead On*](#) Strategic Plan. The Dean oversees faculty, staff, and students, and works closely with a leadership team consisting of an Associate Dean, Assistant Dean, two department chairs, and an assistant to the dean.

OPPORTUNITIES AND CHALLENGES

The next Dean of the School of Interdisciplinary Studies will lead the following efforts:

Create and support an environment for developing a comprehensive, ambitious, and dynamic vision for the School's future. Working with the Provost, college and school deans, the Dean participates in developing policy and strategic planning and represents the School internally and in the larger community and region. In both internally and externally facing facets of the role, the Dean will collaborate to advance the TCU strategic plan *Vision in Action: Lead On*.

In leading the School during this important period, the Dean will play a critical role in effectively bringing together the varied departments, articulating and implementing a School strategic plan, and guiding the School through the process of creating a unified scholarly identity, refining its culture of academic excellence, and strengthening external partnerships to advance research and community impact. The Dean will provide opportunities for faculty to shape the culture and identity of their programs, create environments for interdisciplinary learning and support student learning and growth.

Develop supportive structures, promote openness and transparency. As a highly visible academic leader, the Dean will be expected to strengthen SIS's reputation by engaging the campus in a professional and genuine manner, in a multitude of settings. Of chief importance will be his/her/their ability to ask thoughtful questions, seek input, listen carefully, share information openly, communicate decisions with clarity and care, and foster collegiality. With input from the SIS community and beyond, the Dean will develop policies and practices within SIS that promote success in teaching, research, and community engagement.

Identify opportunities and innovations to support SIS while fostering enrollment growth and fiscal sustainability. As all higher education institutions are dealing with the impacts of COVID-19, the next Dean of SIS will be tasked with optimizing the simultaneous goals of academic excellence and relevance and fiscal sustainability. The Dean will be an advocate for SIS to identify new opportunities to engage students across the university in curricular offerings, to increase external support, and to strategically manage budget and existing resources. The Dean will partner with faculty to identify additional funding sources to enhance the research, teaching, and outreach capacity of the School, including support from community

partners, government agencies, innovative programming, and other funding sources. The Dean will also partner with Advancement to provide alumni engagement and articulate compelling opportunities for donor support. In all of these efforts, the Dean will maintain a mission-centered framework that ensures prospective opportunities will be considered against market *and* mission benchmarks.

Build community while raising awareness of SIS's brand. As the face of the School, the Dean is responsible for building and maintaining successful partnerships, both internally and externally. Within the University, the successful candidate will work in a positive, collaborative, and creative manner to represent the needs of all departments and initiatives strategically and diplomatically within the School and with stakeholders beyond SIS. The development of an SIS strategic plan that interdependently engages SIS faculty, staff, and students will be essential. A unified SIS community will be an important measuring stick of the plan's success. The Dean will elevate awareness and understanding of the School's purpose, value, and distinction. These efforts across TCU and with community partners will raise the profile of the School.

Evaluate the School's curricular programs and student success. In November 2019, the TCU Board of Trustees requested a university-wide curricular review to ensure the University's curricular offerings prepare students to lead within a continuously evolving world. Since then, the COVID-19 pandemic has presented additional opportunities to examine long-standing protocols for course delivery, class size, interdisciplinary collaborations and student success, with the goal of continuously improving and adding value to the University's already exemplary record for student retention, graduation and placement into careers or graduate and professional school. In close collaboration with faculty and staff, the Dean will work to sustain and develop units and programs within SIS while leading discussion on and supporting the development of new courses, areas of the curriculum, public programs, and other research/creative activity.

Champion diversity, equity, and inclusion. In alignment with an inclusive excellence framework, the Dean will support TCU's commitment to academic excellence by fostering a diverse and inclusive community. The Dean will also recruit, attract and retain faculty, students and staff from historically marginalized and underrepresented backgrounds. It is vital that the Dean possess the skills, passion and commitment to advance diversity and foster an equitable and inclusive environment for all individuals.

KEY RESPONSIBILITIES

In addition, below are some key responsibilities:

- Report directly to the Provost and operate in an environment where governance is shared, openly and unambiguously, between faculty and administration;
- Work effectively with the Provost, Associate and Vice Provosts, Deans, Department Chairs, faculty, and staff to advance the University's strategic plan, to develop the School's strategic plan and advance its commitment to inclusive excellence;
- Achieve successful philanthropic support for the School by working closely with university advancement and development personnel;

- Establish, maintain, and build upon key relationships with alumni, student groups, community leaders, and other significant stakeholders;
- Implement effective policies to attract, retain and support diverse and excellent undergraduate and graduate students in all programs;
- Implement effective policies to attract, retain and support diverse and excellent faculty and staff in all units;
- Support faculty, staff, and students working in and across departments and programs, within the SIS and across the University;
- Support faculty, staff, and students in identifying, securing, and reporting internal and external funding for scholarship and its equivalents;
- Collaborate actively across School faculty and programs to enhance the national and international stature of the School;
- Envision and implement plans that deepen interdisciplinarity within the University community;
- Develop the SIS budget and ensure efficient management of resources.

REQUIRED QUALIFICATIONS

The Dean will hold an earned doctorate in a field relevant to the School and will have a distinguished record of achievement commensurate to that of Full Professor. In addition, successful experience as an academic leader, such as a Department Chair, Associate Dean, Dean, or Program Director, is needed.

DESIRED QUALITIES

- Experience successfully communicating to students, faculty, administrators, and employers the value of interdisciplinarity for graduates within all disciplines across the University;
- Respect for departmental self-determination and understanding and supporting the balance of teaching, research, and service in alignment with the TCU faculty workload model;
- A deep understanding and appreciation of shared governance and transparency, which includes a transparent communication style that focuses on relationship and consensus-building while demonstrating authenticity and quality;
- Strong record of teaching and leadership in undergraduate and graduate education;
- Understanding and appreciation of the teacher-scholar model and demonstrated track record of excellence in both teaching and scholarship;
- Ability to work with undergraduate and graduate programs in a variety of disciplines within the SIS fields;
- A demonstrable commitment to inclusive excellence and ability to ensure a welcoming, nurturing, and equitable environment for a diverse community of faculty, staff, and students, and a track record of recruitment and leadership in this arena;
- Experience working collaboratively in both teaching and scholarship across disciplines and colleges, and a proven track record of creating or overseeing programs;

- Demonstrated success fostering collaboration and partnerships across academic affairs, student affairs and support services;
- A strong track record of identifying, developing, expanding, and sustaining public and private partnerships and sources of funding, as well as an ability to partner with the University's advancement office to build foundational relationships with alumni, parents, and friends of the School;
- A familiarity and understanding of the challenges with non-funded research;
- The ability to bring visibility to the research and educational accomplishments of the School both within and outside the campus;
- A deep understanding of the landscape of interdisciplinary education and significant experience addressing the needs of employers and community leaders;
- The breadth of knowledge and foresight needed to identify existing, emerging and interdisciplinary fields for investment, both within the School and collaboratively with other schools and colleges in TCU and beyond;
- Demonstrated ability to develop and promote activities that support a diverse faculty and staff, oversee faculty and staff recruitment and development, manage promotion and tenure, and appoint departmental chairpersons and directors, as needed;
- The ability to foster a culture of high ethical standards and effective business practices in the School, including exceptional fiduciary skills;
- Demonstrated ability to foster innovation in teaching pedagogy and curriculum design;
- Ability to work collegially and collaboratively with other University senior administrators (e.g., deans, vice chancellors, associate and vice provosts, etc.);
- A predisposition of appreciation and support for SIS community members focused on School initiatives that fall outside of formal academic programs and departments; and,
- Creativity, an entrepreneurial spirit, and the agility to bring new ideas to fruition in a timely fashion.

TEXAS CHRISTIAN UNIVERSITY

Texas Christian University is a private university located in Fort Worth, Texas. TCU is a top 100 National University as classified by *US News and World Report* and has a Carnegie Classification of R2: Doctoral Universities – High Research Activity. The University has a \$1.9 billion endowment.

Founded in 1873, Texas Christian University sits on 295 acres nestled in a tree-lined neighborhood of Fort Worth, just minutes away from downtown. TCU's mission has always been rooted in educating individuals to think and act as ethical leaders and responsible citizens of a global community. Starting with just 13 students, brothers Addison and Randolph Clark brought to life their vision of an institution that would "promote literary and scientific education" rooted in values and character. TCU was one of the first co-ed institutions west of the Mississippi. They succeeded in creating an enriching community for men and women to acquire a liberal arts education and strive for the greater good.

As the world changes dramatically, TCU remains a thriving and purposeful academic community seeking to continue its path to maintain a warm sense of community that supports shared aspirational thoughts and action where all can find a common cause. Over the past 20 years, TCU has invested more than \$1 billion into new and renovated facilities where students are supported in their quest for education, inspiration and success. Nearly 150 years later, TCU is still honoring its history and legacy, with over 90,000 living alumni and over 11,300 students striving to serve the greater good.

ACADEMICS

A Carnegie classified R2 Doctoral University – High Research Activity institution with a \$1.9 billion endowment, TCU enrolls over 11,000 students, including approximately 9700 undergraduate and 1670 graduate students. It offers 116 undergraduate areas of study and 110 graduate areas of focus. TCU is comprised of 10 schools and colleges, including the John V. Roach Honors College and the new School of Medicine, which is operated in collaboration with the University of North Texas Health Science Center in Fort Worth.

[AddRan College of Liberal Arts](#)

[Bob Schieffer College of Communication](#)

[College of Education](#)

[College of Fine Arts](#)

[College of Science & Engineering](#)

[Harris College of Nursing and Health Sciences](#)

[Neeley School of Business](#)

[School of Interdisciplinary Studies](#)

[John V. Roach Honors College](#)

[TCU and UNTHSC School of Medicine](#)

The University has approximately 700 full-time faculty members. For ten consecutive years, TCU has been selected as one of the Great Colleges to Work For®. With a 13:1 student-to-faculty ratio, TCU's teachers are deeply invested in the student's academic journey. The teacher-scholar model embraced by the faculty provides a balance of teaching, scholarship, and service.

LEADERSHIP

Provost Teresa Abi-Nader Dahlberg

In March 2019, Teresa Abi-Nader Dahlberg was named TCU's Provost and Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs (TCU Provost). Dr. Dahlberg joined TCU at a time of significant momentum and aspiration for our faculty, staff and students. Recent investments in academics, such as the launch of a School of Medicine in conjunction with the University of North Texas Health Science Center, as well as over \$1 billion in capital improvements, including new labs and academic facilities, enable TCU's continued success.

Dr. Dahlberg views higher education as a transformative experience. She brings a wealth of knowledge in interdisciplinary research, high-impact teaching practices, and inclusive excellence. To learn more about Dr. Dahlberg, see her profile in TCU Magazine. [Profile: Dr. Dahlberg](#)

Dr. Dahlberg earned a bachelor's degree from the University of Pittsburgh and Master's and Doctoral degrees from North Carolina State University. She has been recognized as Woman of the Year by the University of North Carolina at Charlotte (2005), Diversity in Business Catalyst by the Charlotte Business Journal (2006), Woman of Distinction for STEM Education by the Girl Scouts Hornets' Nest Council (2012) and was inducted into the electrical and computer engineering Alumni Hall of Fame by N.C. State University (2017).

At TCU, she holds the rank of professor in Engineering and Computer Science. Before her time at TCU, Dr. Dahlberg held positions as Dean, chief academic officer, associate dean, and center director at Syracuse University, The Cooper Union for the Advancement of Art and Science, and UNC Charlotte. Dr. Dahlberg founded the STARS Computing Corps, a National Science Foundation alliance for broadening participation through service-learning. She inspired the Prospect for Success campus-wide freshman experience at UNC Charlotte and launched the Office for Inclusive Excellence while at Syracuse.

The Provost's senior administrative team is composed of experienced leaders, including school and college deans, enrollment management, research, and graduate studies. The positive interplay of long-tenured leadership and new perspectives brought by recently welcomed colleagues helps to foster innovation and collaboration in academic affairs.

VISION IN ACTION: LEAD ON

Higher education is experiencing dynamic change, and TCU is eagerly preparing for a future of continued growth and academic excellence. Now more than ever, there are exciting opportunities to engage, educate and support students while continuing to strengthen TCU's position as a leading university.

As TCU looks towards the future, it identifies three foundational themes that transcend the institutional goals and are key to the University's strategic direction – Diversity and Inclusion, Student Experience and Student Support. These fundamental themes are explored in TCU's strategic plan: [Vision in Action: Lead On](#). Below are four key points of focus in the plan:

Strengthen the academic profile and reputation – An academic reputation of a university is of great, perhaps critical, importance in determining whether undergraduate and graduate students choose to come to TCU. Similarly, it influences faculty when they make a career choice and commitment.

Strengthen the endowment – The tremendous generosity of TCU donors throughout history has shaped TCU. The caretaking and stewardship of the endowment is essential to the growth of TCU and its financial emancipation from a budget that has excessive dependence on student tuitions. The demographics of the future demand that TCU prioritize the use, value, and growth of the endowment which will allow TCU to continue to support a balanced and academically distinguished academic enterprise.

Strengthen the TCU experience and campus culture – TCU has always promoted strong ethical values and principled secular behavior. Given the national debates and dialogues on race and gender, united with the themes of privilege, wealth disparity, and unequal opportunity, the TCU community is uniquely positioned to model inclusive leadership within a campus community where all are welcome and no one is excluded.

Strengthen the workforce (both employees & graduates) – Each student who entrusts themselves to TCU’s guidance, each faculty member who serves as a teacher and a scholar, and each person who underpins the various operations of TCU, will encounter a diverse and stimulating community, profoundly dedicated to civility, respect, gratitude, and inclusiveness.

STUDENTS

TCU continues to attract some of the nation’s most outstanding student talent to Fort Worth. For the 2020 first-year class, the University received 21,145 applications, making TCU one of the most selective schools in the state of Texas. Currently, TCU enrolls approximately 9,700 undergraduates and 1,670 graduate students. The University has benefitted from significant enrollment growth with first-year student enrollment increasing from 1,630 first-year students in 2008 to 2,287 first-year students in 2020 while maintaining a favorable student-faculty ratio. Twenty-eight percent of students self-identify as a member of a minority group, four percent are international students, and forty-three percent are from out of state.

Each year, TCU offers hundreds of needs-based and merit scholarships to ensure that talented and deserving students gain access to a TCU education. TCU continues to grow the financial aid budget, as they also develop the people and programs that TCU offers.

At TCU, students benefit from an average undergraduate class size of 26 and a 13:1 student to faculty ratio. TCU students are supported by more than 2,200 faculty and staff. TCU’s focus on the student is reflected in a number of accolades. *The Princeton Review* ranks TCU as #4 for best student housing, #4 best schools for internships, and #11 for best career services, and the *Wall Street Journal* put TCU at #23 for student engagement.

CHURCH AFFILIATION

TCU is affiliated with the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) and the “C” in TCU is a reflection of this historical relationship. We are not a traditionally “Christian university”; nor are we connected to the Disciples with the same strong institutional ties of the past. Students come from more than 60 religious traditions and can participate in 23 recognized student religious organizations on campus, including groups for Christian, Jewish, and Muslim students, among others. Faculty and staff belong to a wide array of religious affiliations (including no religious affiliation) and there is no religious expectation for employment.

CAMPUS CULTURE

The TCU campus is not only beautiful, with its manicured, tree-lined walkways and welcoming common spaces, but many say that it immediately “feels like home.” TCU offers a seamless blend of the traditional and modern, weaving athletic facilities and stadiums with performing arts venues and modern academic spaces. You’ll walk through stately columned grounds that give way to sleek, modern, technology-first spaces that invite collaboration and interaction.

The sense of community is unparalleled; fifty percent of the undergraduate student body lives on campus—a percentage that has increased each of the past five years as a result of the University’s commitment to residential living. With a robust on-campus life, students have more than [200 organizations](#) to participate in and a thriving community in Fort Worth to engage and serve.

DIVERSITY, EQUITY, AND INCLUSION

At TCU, diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) are an educational imperative directly tied to the University mission, vision, and strategic plan. Fulfilling TCU’s mission to develop ethical leaders and critical thinkers in a global community depends on the University’s ability to attract and retain students, faculty, and staff from diverse backgrounds that thrive in our community. A diverse and inclusive campus leads to innovation, broadened perspective, and understanding—values that are foundational aspects of higher education. For the third consecutive year, TCU has earned the Higher Education Excellence in Diversity Award, which highlights ongoing commitment to build a comprehensive DEI strategy that aligns with core values and creates a campus culture where everyone is respected and feels included. DEI is a foundational theme in TCU’s [Vision in Action: Lead On](#) Strategic Plan.

In 2019, TCU engaged the Center for Strategic Diversity Leadership and Social Innovation to inventory the strategies, structures, programs, and actions that drive inclusive excellence at TCU. [Connecting the Dots: Next Steps on the Journey to Inclusive Excellence](#) is a summary of their findings, which create a future framework to leverage and optimize TCU’s DEI operations to be as evidence-based and effective as possible. In addition, in July 2020, TCU’s Board of Trustees and the office of the Chancellor announced an initiative to study the University’s historical connections to racism, slavery, and the Confederacy, the [Race and Reconciliation Initiative \(RRI\)](#).

The [Office of Diversity and Inclusion](#) is leading the University in making TCU a more inclusive campus. A few milestones in the past two years include an increase in learning and development opportunities, mandatory selection committee training, and the initiative to implement the DEI Essential Competency requirement in TCU’s core curriculum. Please visit here for the 2018-2020 ODI Report: [ODI 2018-2020 Report](#). To learn more about TCU’s commitment to DEI and more on their current DEI Efforts, please visit [here](#).

TCU Colleges and Schools are aligned with the [Inclusive Excellence Academic Affairs](#) strategic priorities.

LOCATION AND LOCAL CULTURE

Like TCU, Fort Worth has the approachable, friendly charm of a smaller town, but offers the amenities, cultural activities, diversity, and unique personality of a much larger city. Fort Worth, Texas, is the 13th largest city in the United States, with an ever-growing population nearing one million. Fort Worth and TCU have grown together in a nearly 150-year relationship. You'll find that many Horned Frogs remain here after graduation, thanks to the region's thriving job market.

Fort Worth is part of the Dallas-Fort Worth (DFW) metropolitan area, the fourth-largest metropolitan area in the United States, and the number one tourist destination in Texas. In 2018, *bizjournals.com* ranked Fort Worth the seventh most affordable city to live and work in the United States, and *U.S. News & World Report* named Fort Worth one of the Best Places to Live. Fort Worth, Dallas, and Arlington all rank among the top 25 most diverse cities in the country. Fort Worth also ranked highly in the Human Rights Campaign's Municipal Equality Index, which measures cities' inclusion of lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender residents.

Fort Worth is known for its vast array of cultural, educational and entertainment opportunities. The city boasts three world-class art museums—the Kimbell Art Museum (architect Louis I. Kahn and architect Renzo Piano), the Modern Art Museum of Fort Worth (architect Tadao Ando), and the Amon Carter Museum of American Art (architect Philip Johnson). The Bass Performance Hall is one of the premier performance venues in the country, home to world-class touring productions; resident dance, music, and opera companies; and performances by TCU students and faculty. Concerts, film festivals, and other events are held regularly at Sundance Square, Panther Island and Near Southside venues.

Outdoor recreation opportunities abound, taking advantage of the nearly year-round good weather. Along the river are over 70 miles of Trinity Trails bike/walk paths and parks. The Fort Worth Zoo and Fort Worth Botanic Gardens offer spectacular park experiences and frequent events. The Fort Worth Nature Center has 20 miles of hiking trails through native habitats. Numerous other parks offer facilities for land and water sports.

There are several public transportation options in Fort Worth. Molly the Trolley provides free rides around downtown. The Trinity Metro bus system provides coverage to much of Tarrant County, and TexRail and the Trinity Railway Express offer service between downtown Fort Worth, Dallas, and the DFW airport. There are also 46 BCycle bike share stations around the city.

DFW offers many educational opportunities. Including TCU, the Metroplex has over a dozen institutions of higher education and award-winning K-12 schools. Seven schools in north Texas earned the U.S. Department of Education's Blue Ribbon award in 2016. In 2018, the National Center for Urban School Transformation awarded four Fort Worth schools the America's Best Urban Schools Award.

The DFW Metroplex was the fastest growing metro area in the U.S. from 2016 to 2017. As of 2017, there were 22 Fortune 500 companies and over 10,000 corporate headquarters in DFW. This vital economic area is adding over 100,000 jobs per year; in April 2018, the metroplex had an unemployment rate of

3.6%, well below the national unemployment rate. More broadly, the North Texas region is one of the most vibrant economic regions within the United States. Alliance Texas in north Fort Worth is the nation's largest inland port with 488 companies utilizing its logistics and distribution center. DFW Airport is a major hub that provides direct connections for easy access to most major cities in the U.S. and many international destinations.

PROCESS OF APPLICATION & NOMINATION

The search committee for the TCU Dean of the School of Interdisciplinary Studies will begin accepting nominations and reviewing applications immediately. Requested application materials include a letter of interest, curriculum vitae, a diversity statement, and list of five professional references. References will not be called until after the first screening of applications and then only after the applicant has given explicit permission. Although applications will be welcomed until the time that a new Dean is selected, for best consideration, candidates should submit materials by August 15, 2021, to the following address: TCUSISDean@storbecksearch.com.

For more information on Texas Christian University, please visit: <https://www.tcu.edu/>

Texas Christian University is being assisted in the search by Storbeck Search. For additional information, please contact:



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Texas Christian University is an Equal Opportunity / Affirmative Action employer with a strong commitment to hiring for our mission and diversifying our workforce. All qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to age, race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender, gender identity, gender expression, national origin, ethnic origin, disability, genetic information, covered veteran status and any other basis protected by law.