College of Life Sciences and Agriculture
Dean Position Information
The Position

The University of New Hampshire, the state’s flagship land, sea, and space grant institution and its only public R1-designated research university, seeks a dynamic leader and creative educator to serve as the Dean of the College of Life Sciences and Agriculture (COLSA). The dean is the chief executive and academic officer of the College, and s/he will provide strategic leadership and vision in collaboration with faculty, staff, students, and other key internal and external stakeholders.

Duties and Responsibilities

The new dean will:

› Empower the 130 faculty in four departments to maintain and strengthen academic and research excellence in the life sciences, agriculture and natural resources;

› Promote innovation and partnerships among COLSA research, teaching and Extension faculty, and between COLSA faculty and faculty in other units;

› Actively support the College’s tradition of student-focused teaching and learning, connecting with undergraduates at a deeply engaged one-on-one level throughout their time at COLSA;

› Promote the advancement and growth of vibrant graduate programs in COLSA;

› Work closely with the UNH Foundation to enhance fundraising efforts;

› Build on existing and foster new relationships with state and federal legislators and constituencies and external partners;

› Manage an annual budget of $51M with nearly $17M in annual sponsored research expenditures under a responsibility-centered management budgeting model; and

› Administer COLSA’s academic programs and align them with UNH’s Strategic Plan.
Minimum Qualifications, Knowledge, Skills and Abilities

The dean reports to the provost and vice president for academic affairs and sits on the Deans’ Council, Provost’s Council, and President’s Leadership Council together with the other deans and senior academic leaders of the University.

The ideal candidate:

› Must be strongly committed to fulfilling the academic and research missions of COLSA, be committed to working with relevant stakeholders and be a strong advocate for COLSA within and outside the University;

› Must possess a strong commitment to shared governance and collegial decision-making;

› Must possess the leadership skills and vision to develop and foster programs that enhance the unique combination of disciplines within COLSA;

› Must have a Ph.D., Sc.D., or other appropriate terminal degree; and

› Must have a strong record of achievement and leadership in an academic setting.

The Place

COLSA Points of Pride

The College of Life Sciences and Agriculture is a richly diverse college that supports the University’s mission through a myriad of unique opportunities and resources. While the points of pride are plentiful, of significant note are:

› Experiential learning is embedded throughout the undergraduate experience with more than 80% of COLSA students participating in industry internships or faculty-mentored research. Applied coursework allows students to gain hands-on experience in diverse fields ranging from agriculture to medicine with such examples as the Cooperative Real Education in Agricultural Management (CREAM) course where students manage a herd of UNH’s Holsteins, the Phlebotomy Theory and Internship course series where students practice drawing blood from rubber models then at least 100 human subjects, and the Poultry Experiential Education Program (PEEP) where the classroom raises a broiler poultry flock. Our accredited programs in Medical Laboratory Science and Dietetics are highly successful in preparing graduates for success on national certification exams (>95% pass rates) after gaining rich internship experiences in area hospitals.
The Spaulding Biosciences Initiative will provide a 47,500 square-foot addition by summer 2021 and renovation of the 83,000 square feet of existing space by December 2022. The ongoing project significantly expands COLSA’s capacity to offer high-impact teaching and research in the life sciences and our students’ access to leading-edge technology and meaningful, real-world skill-building. Current renovations in Kendall Hall and the UNH greenhouses will further expand COLSA’s footprint on the Durham campus. Additional significant upgrades to research and teaching facilities are underway in four other buildings and centers.

Dedicated student success resources support the positive transition to COLSA and ensure post-graduate success through a variety of programs including an emerging, reimagined First Year Experience. COLSA’s endowed St. Martin Career Exploration Office provides comprehensive professional development and employer engagement, while the pre-professional health advising office supports the complex application and admission process into the post-graduated allied-health schools.

Initiated by COLSA in 1991, the now University-wide Undergraduate Research Conference celebrates academic excellence with over 2,000 UNH students from all academic disciplines showcasing research and scholarly projects, making it one of the largest and most diverse in the country. In 2021, COLSA will celebrate its 30th anniversary of the signature event.

COLSA-Administered Study Abroad: With over 700 UNH students studying abroad every year, COLSA administers five programs around the globe. Offering exposure to new cultures and ideas, students are able to immerse themselves in Costa Rica’s tropical agriculture, tour working farms in Ireland, explore the Italian food system, or travel to New Zealand to conduct ecological field studies or focus on sustainable agriculture. Building on our growing strengths in coastal resilience, climate studies and engaged scholarship, COLSA faculty are developing opportunities for graduate and undergraduate student exchanges with colleagues in the British Virgin Islands and Puerto Rico that will add to our international profile by summer 2020.

COLSA Faculty: With over 40 new faculty hires in five years and 10 more searches underway, COLSA employs a targeted hiring model whereby teaching and research excellence is organized around purposeful and cross-department and cross-college collaboration. New faculty are supported with the resources, mentorship, and training opportunities needed to tackle the most pressing challenges facing our communities while also developing effective pedagogy and classroom experiences to meet student needs.

The Dean’s Development Board consists of Engaged Alumni passionate about the University’s land-grant mission and the success of COLSA’s students. As an important advocate for the college,
the Board works with COLSA’s director of development to cultivate relationships and seek funding for the dean’s priorities.

Long-standing partnership with **UNH Cooperative Extension** allows for sustained outreach collaborations throughout New Hampshire. The relationship enhances COLSA’s ability to engage and strengthen the people and communities in New Hampshire by providing trusted knowledge, practical education and cooperative solutions.

### More about the College

COLSA is one of the University’s seven colleges with 130 faculty, including tenured and tenure-track, lecturer, clinical, research and extension faculty, and approximately 2,400 undergraduate majors and graduate students. COLSA’s renowned faculty combine teaching with a passion for research and public service. Their work to understand the nature of biological systems, manage and conserve natural resources, improve agricultural profitability and sustainability, enhance health and nutrition, and foster economic development has earned UNH nationwide recognition as a top-tier land-, sea-, and space-grant institution.

COLSA is home to four dynamic and intellectually diverse departments: 1) Agriculture, Nutrition, and Food Systems; 2) Biological Sciences; 3) Molecular, Cellular, and Biomedical Sciences; and 4) Natural Resources and the Environment; and is steward to the New Hampshire Agricultural Experiment Station which includes three research farms, two dairies and greenhouses all located on campus or within 15 minutes, underpinning a growing and vibrant research and outreach program. The College offers a wide spectrum of life science, agricultural, biomedical and terrestrial and marine natural resources majors in associate, bachelor’s, master’s and doctoral degrees. In addition, COLSA is affiliated with several on-campus interdisciplinary research centers including the Center for Biomedical and Bioengineering Research, Hubbard Center for Genome Studies, and the New Hampshire Water Resource Research Center. In addition, UNH also boasts three active marine laboratories including Jackson Estuarine Laboratory, Judd Gregg Marine Science Complex, and Shoals Marine Laboratory plus two state-of-the-art aquaculture facilities collectively providing unprecedented research, education, and outreach opportunities for our students and the broader N.H. Seacoast community. The new dean will have the opportunity to develop programs that exploit the unique combination of disciplines within COLSA.
About the University

The University of New Hampshire is the state’s public R1 research university, providing comprehensive, high-quality undergraduate programs and graduate programs of distinction. The University’s 200-acre main residential campus is located in Durham, 60 miles north of Boston, 8 miles from the Atlantic coast, and is convenient to New Hampshire’s lakes and mountains. The student enrollment is 13,000, with a full-time faculty of over 600, offering 90 undergraduate and more than 70 graduate programs.

UNH’s primary purpose is learning and to accomplish this, students collaborate with faculty in teaching, research, creative expression, and service. UNH has a national and international agenda and holds land-grant, sea-grant, and space-grant charters. From its main campus in Durham, its college in Manchester and the UNH School of Law in Concord, the University serves New Hampshire and the region through continuing education, cooperative extension, cultural outreach, economic development activities and applied research.

UNH is distinguished by its commitment to high quality undergraduate instruction, excellence in graduate education, prominence as a national leader in sustainability (ranked number two in the nation), relatively small size, a location in a beautiful and culturally rich part of the seacoast of New England and a strong sense of responsibility for this special place, a commitment to serving the public good, and our emergence over the past decade as a significant research institution. The dedication of our faculty to the highest academic standards infuses all that we do with the excitement of discovery.
Strategic Plan

In January 2019, President James W. Dean, Jr. announced four strategic priorities that guide UNH’s success and help UNH achieve a bold, overarching aspiration – to be among the top 25 public universities in the country in the most important measures of academic performance.

- Enhance Student Success and Well-Being
- Expand Academic Excellence
- Embrace New Hampshire
- Build Financial Strength

For full details on UNH’s strategic plan, please visit: https://www.unh.edu/main/future-of-unh.

Accreditation

The University of New Hampshire is accredited by the New England Commission of Higher Education. There are seven academic programs within COLSA that host accredited degree programs and some 30 academic majors spanning such areas of study as cellular and molecular biology, marine and estuarine biology, and sustainable agriculture and food systems.

About Durham, New Hampshire

Durham, N.H., home to our main residential campus, is a classic New England college town. We have one of the safest and greenest campuses in the country, surrounded by incredible scenery. The town and campus are walkable and bicycle accessible; you can experience the beauty of all four seasons while walking to class, downtown, or through the trails of the 250-acre College Woods. On weekends, you can hop a UNH bus to the artistic community of Portsmouth or the Atlantic coast, carpool with friends to the iconic White Mountains, or take the train (the station’s right on campus) to Boston or Portland, Maine.

For more information on Durham, please visit: https://www.ci.durham.nh.us/
Nomination & Application Process

Salary

The salary is competitive and commensurate with qualifications and experience.

How to Apply

Greenwood/Asher & Associates Inc. is assisting UNH in this search. Inquiries, nominations and application materials should be directed to Lauren McCaghren at laurenmccaghren@greenwoodsearch.com.

Application materials should include CV, cover letter, and list of five references. Submission of application materials as PDF attachments is strongly encouraged. Initial screening of applications will begin immediately, and applications and nominations will be accepted until an appointment is made.

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For more information about The University of New Hampshire please visit: https://www.unh.edu/

The University of New Hampshire seeks excellence through diversity among its administrators, faculty, staff and students. We do not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, age, national origin, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, disability, genetic information, veteran status, or marital status.

The University of New Hampshire is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action employer.