

SOUTHERN CONNECTICUT STATE UNIVERSITY



Dean of the School of Graduate & Professional Studies



DEAN OF THE SCHOOL OF GRADUATE & PROFESSIONAL STUDIES

Southern Connecticut State University announces an international search for the Dean of the School of Graduate and Professional Studies position and invites applications, nominations, and expressions of interest.



THE OPPORTUNITY

[Southern Connecticut State University](#) offers an opportunity for aspiring candidates to be considered for the Dean of the School of Graduate and Professional Studies. Our university's powerful positive trajectory, coupled with its ongoing growth, provides the unique opportunity for the right candidate to showcase their ability and effectiveness by working with faculty to create impactful pathways and innovative curricula and by growing our program offerings and enrollment.

The Southern Connecticut State University School of Graduate and Professional Studies embodies programs of study increasingly including nontraditional opportunities, such as professional designations and certificates, allowing for programs in continuing education and micro-credentials. Having an umbrella graduate unit within the University allows the Dean of the School of Graduate and Professional Studies to work and collaborate from a unique position. The Dean will reach across disciplines and stakeholders, both internal and external, maximizing the School's effectiveness. The Dean will work with other academic deans and faculty at the University to plan and execute the School's vision and strategic plans.

Accordingly, the new dean will need strong collaborative skills and must work collegially with various people and offices at Southern and in the New Haven region. Southern seeks an outstanding teacher and scholar with relevant administrative experience to fill the position. An entrepreneurial spirit and experience developing graduate programs in partnership with the community are essential candidate qualities. The successful candidate must be creative, flexible, comfortable with ambiguity, able to work in a shared governance environment, and open to new possibilities as they emerge. They will be a part of a significant center of graduate education in the Northeast, with the opportunity to showcase their skill sets by meeting new challenges and developing innovative programs.





SOUTHERN CONNECTICUT STATE UNIVERSITY HISTORY

Southern was [founded in 1893](#) as the New Haven State Normal School and was designed to deliver strong teacher preparation — a hallmark of the University throughout its history. In 1937, it became a four-year college — New Haven State Teachers College — with degree-granting powers. Ten years later, it joined Yale University's Department of Education to offer a graduate program leading to a Master of Science degree and assumed full responsibility for the program in 1954. In 1959, six years after the institution had moved to its present location, state legislation expanded the institution's offerings to include liberal arts curricula, leading to bachelor's degrees in the arts and sciences and subsequently renamed it Southern Connecticut State College. A board of trustees overseeing Connecticut's four state colleges was established in 1965. In 1983, Southern Connecticut State College became Southern Connecticut State University and part of the Connecticut State University System.

Through the years, Southern has continued to grow as a modern, urban, and diversified center of higher learning by expanding its undergraduate and graduate programs, through the doctorate, and exploring entirely new fields of study and research. In recent years Southern's grant portfolio has grown substantially and outreach to community and industry has become a norm. We have indeed established a strong sense of our role to serve our community and to meet the educational needs of our region and beyond.

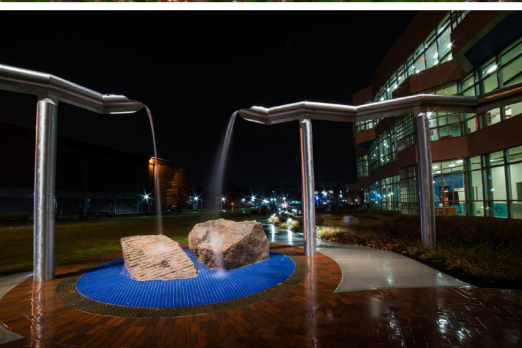


CONNECTICUT STATE COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES (CSCU)

The Connecticut public higher education system, CSCU, is governed by the [Board of Regents \(BoR\)](#), a 22-person body with fifteen voting and seven non-voting members. Amongst other things, the BoR accredits academic programs, sets statewide tuition and fees, and creates policies for our public higher education institutions.

Within our System, there are six institutions: Southern Connecticut State University (SCSU), Central Connecticut State University (CCSU), Eastern Connecticut State University (ECSU), Western Connecticut State University (WCSU), CT State Community College (CT State), and Charter Oak State College—an online institution.

The CSCU System is steady in honoring its [mission](#) to provide quality education at an affordable and reasonable price. Our public higher education institutions are strategically located throughout our State, and they all enjoy regional accreditation through the [New England Commission on Higher Education \(NECHE\)](#), demonstrating the [exemplary quality](#) of public higher education in Connecticut. Southern fosters and maintains collegial relationships with the BoR, Systems administration, and the other education institutions in the System through collaboration and shared governance.





SOUTHERN CONNECTICUT STATE UNIVERSITY TODAY

As evidenced by external accreditations like NECHE, AACSB, ABET, and CAEP, Southern continues to deliver high quality academic programs as expected from these prestigious accrediting agencies. As a partially residential university, Southern currently enrolls 8,820 students, over 2,000 of whom are graduate students. Most Southern students come from Connecticut and remain in Connecticut, providing us with heightened opportunities to partner with the community.

Southern faculty members, over 400 full-time members strong, actively participate in scholarship, creative activity, and the supervision of undergraduate and graduate research. Faculty members oversee internships, graduate and undergraduate theses and dissertations, special projects, and independent studies. Most also serve as academic advisors. Our faculty are international in interest and scope.

The Faculty, administration, and staff are represented by [various collective bargaining unions](#) including AAUP and SUOAF. There are also faculty bodies that govern internal policy and decision-making like our [Faculty Senate](#). The [Administrative Faculty Senate \(AFS\)](#) facilitates the engagement of administrative faculty and management confidential employees in policy and decision-making at the University.



There are four colleges and two schools at Southern. The [College of Arts and Sciences](#) is home to 20 academic departments, interdisciplinary programs, and more. The [College of Education](#) offers over 30 degree programs including our two Ed.D programs, and has over 650 graduate students. The [College of Health and Human Services](#) offers programs that span across 26 disciplines, and their programs are accredited by over eleven national and international accrediting bodies like CCNE and CoARC, and is home to our Doctoral degrees in Nursing and Social Work. Our AACSB Accredited [School of Business](#) includes six academic departments, offers an MBA program, and continues to grow its academic programs with innovative and practice aligned curricula. The [School of Graduate and Professional Studies](#) is the umbrella School to all graduate education at Southern providing critical support to faculty and graduate programs.



Southern remains very intentional about enhancing student success in all dimensions with specific attention to creating lifelong learners. Southern is equally intentional in its commitment to the success and retention of its transfer students. We are a social justice institution with a commitment to equality, access, and anti-racism.





SOUTHERN'S EVER-IMPROVING INFRASTRUCTURE

Southern continues to develop and renovate its 172-acre campus. Most recently, in September of 2023, we cut the ribbon for our new 60,000-square-foot [School of Business building](#). The building is Net Zero Energy (NZE) in reference to its carbon footprint—the only such state facility in Connecticut to claim that title. A stock market ticker adorns the exterior, reflecting the School's commitment to practice and global markets.

In the Fall of 2022, the ribbon on our newly constructed [Health and Human Services Building](#) was cut. This facility houses most of our health-related programs and contains modern equipment, laboratories, and classrooms to offer state-of-the-art teaching and learning opportunities for our students and community.

In 2015, Southern opened the doors to the [Academic Science and Laboratory Building](#), which has acted as a hub for Southern's STEM-based education and projects. With an innovative and sustainable design, the building is home to nanotechnology, physics and optics, cancer research, marine and coastal studies, astronomy, and other sciences.

Also, in 2015, the [Buley Library](#) received a complete renovation and a 135,000-square-foot addition, doubling its size. The library houses the School of Graduate and Professional Studies, classroom space, student community space, information technology operations offices, the academic success center, a cyber cafe, an art gallery, and storage for the University's art collection, displayed throughout the building. The building is also recognized for our stunning and masterful Tiffany stained glass windows that contribute to making our library space unique.

To meet Connecticut's stringent environmental standards for state funding eligibility, all construction or renovation projects totaling five million dollars or more must minimally meet a LEED Silver rating. Our most recent infrastructure projects have, at minimum, adhered to these standards.



BEAUTIFUL NEW ENGLAND AND URBAN NEW HAVEN

New England is home to some of the most beautiful landscapes in the U.S. with the Berkshires and part of the Appalachians in our region, just to name a few. We are lucky to have close access to breathtaking scenery, hiking, camping, and outdoor space. New England enjoys four seasons, with Fall foliage being notably stunning and an attraction for many to hike and camp. [Connecticut](#) is home to beautiful coastlines and plenty of beaches throughout the state. Here, you will find a wide range of activities available to you.



As host to six colleges and universities, [New Haven](#) is a center for the arts. Music, theatre, museums, excellent restaurants, sports, parks, the nearby beach, and other recreational opportunities are in ample supply. Southern, in fact, serves as the home base for the New Haven Symphony, the Long Wharf Theater, and the Elm Shakespeare Company, alongside our own productions in our Lyman Theater. Amtrak and Metro North provide easy access to New York City and Boston. New Haven is 42 miles from Hartford, easily reached by interstate.



Southern lives and breathes its mission by being heavily involved with the local community. Through our [Early College Program](#), we have been working with public high schools across our State to create productive pathways for students from high school into our programs at Southern. Students can earn college credits in high school and have them meaningfully count towards their Southern course of study. These programs act to make education more accessible and affordable for our community.

Southern is also home to the [Barack H. Obama Magnet University School](#), where over 400 local children have received innovative STEM and project-based curriculum since 2021. As a public sector partnership between the City of New Haven and Southern, our teachers in training get special access to experiential learning as they work on their undergraduate and graduate degrees.



DEAN OF THE SCHOOL OF GRADUATE AND PROFESSIONAL STUDIES

The Dean of the School of Graduate and Professional Studies, as a member of the Provosts Council along with the other Academic Deans, reports directly to the Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs. They are responsible for managing activities and programs that lead to the recruitment, application, admission, and success of students in graduate and professional programs. The Dean provides thought leadership, vision, and inspiration to support faculty in developing new and innovative programs to meet the needs of our stakeholders and community. They will work collectively with faculty and the Deans of the four other academic Colleges and Schools along with the Graduate Council in building relevant programs. They will additionally work with the Office of Sponsored Programs and Research in search of new and continued grants and contracts to advance scholarship and student learning experiences.

LEADERSHIP AGENDA

The priorities for the new dean are:

- To establish the vision and overall strategy for the School of Graduate and Professional Studies at Southern
- To continue growing the reputational capital of the School by ensuring ongoing high quality, innovative and competitive graduate programs
- To support and grow graduate enrollment.
- To actively engage in innovative curriculum development including degree-granting programs, certificate programs, and non-credit offerings. This will include working with faculty, department chairs, other academic deans, and external stakeholders.
- To work directly with businesses, corporations, non-profits, etc. to identify education needs and cultivate meaningful and mutually beneficial and sustainable partnerships.
- To manage graduate programs at Southern effectively and efficiently
- To garner greater financial support for graduate students
- To elevate the support for collaborative— student and faculty collaborations, industry-based collaborations, etc.— and interdisciplinary scholarship and creative activities
- To drive fundraising and outreach by developing institutional and strategic partnerships.

POSITION RESPONSIBILITIES

The priorities for the new dean are:

- Manage and provide vision to the School of Graduate and Professional Studies;
- Provide vision and thought leadership to faculty, department chairs, deans and staff regarding innovations in curriculum, technology, emerging disciplines, and program and course modality;
- Coordinate graduate enrollment management— recruitment, retention, persistence, and timely student graduation;
- Provide stakeholders with direction and vision related to the recruitment, admission, and graduation of students in graduate and professional programs;
- Pursue and establish external partnerships and funding opportunities;
- Prepare and collaborate on the preparation of proposals to solicit external funding that provides financial support or research opportunities for graduate and professional students;
- Evaluate staff reporting to the Dean of the School;
- Manage the School's annual budget;
- Support and collaborate with the Graduate Council, a faculty curriculum body;
- Other duties as they arise or as assigned by the Provost within the purview of the role and as needed.

REQUIRED QUALIFICATIONS

An earned doctorate from a regionally accredited university. A minimum of five (5) years of administrative experience at the level of associate or assistant dean or higher, or comparable role within a university. Experience with strategic planning and the execution of vision are essential to the role. The successful candidate will demonstrate evidence of institutional impact and the ability to document said impact. A record of quality scholarship demonstrated through peer-reviewed publications and presentations or equivalent disciplinary based criteria. Experience conducting sponsored research and successful grant writing. Evidence of effective curriculum development and review at the graduate and professional level. University teaching experience and practical knowledge of learning outcomes assessment. Supervisory experience and the ability to work collaboratively and effectively with a diverse workforce. The successful candidate will have superior and effective communication and interpersonal skills. Evidence of the ability to innovate and inspire is critical. The successful candidate shall demonstrate a commitment to social justice and understand current issues in higher education.

PREFERRED QUALIFICATIONS

Demonstrated history of directing a graduate and professional studies unit is preferred. Successful teaching record as a tenured or tenure-track faculty member in a graduate program in an accredited institution of higher education. Experience with the accreditation of graduate programs. Demonstrated success in writing and receiving funding for grants intended to support graduate and professional studies students. Success in private or corporate sector fundraising and partnerships or demonstrated willingness to learn how to be successful in these efforts. Experience developing interdisciplinary, interdepartmental, or inter-institutional programs. Evidence of developing or working within an international collaboration. Experience supervising personnel in different classifications in an environment of collective bargaining is highly desirable.

APPLICATIONS AND NOMINATIONS

To apply, please advance a letter application addressing the leadership priorities and qualifications outlined in this Prospectus, a curriculum vita, and contact information (names, phone numbers, and email addresses) for five references in an MS Word or PDF document to: DeanSPGS@southernct.edu

For priority consideration, applications should be received by December 27, 2023.

Inquiries and nominations should be directed to:

Kauther S. Badr, Esq.
Badrk1@southernct.edu

