THE OPPORTUNITY

Towson University ("TU"), Maryland’s fastest-growing and largest comprehensive university and a recognized leader in student learning, diversity, research, and community service, seeks a visionary, energetic, and innovative leader to serve as its next Dean for the Jess & Mildred Fisher College of Science and Mathematics ("FCSM"). Reporting to the Provost and Executive Vice President for Academic and Student Affairs, Dr. Melanie Perreault, the Dean serves as the chief academic and administrative officer of the College and will join TU at a pivotal juncture in its history, as it continues the trajectory of excellence and impact in teaching and scholarship to become a Carnegie R2 institution.

The FCSM has led TU’s trajectory towards Carnegie R2 Classification and is a prime mover and key conduit for University-wide generative collaborations and strategic initiatives. Its culture of innovation and commitment to diversity and justice in education and research is essential to the cultural, scientific, educational, and economic vitality of the region. Faculty members in each of the five departments within the FCSM—Biological Sciences, Chemistry, Computer and Information Sciences, Mathematics, and Physics—Astronomy & Geosciences—are actively engaged in research activities with both undergraduate and/or graduate students. Within the FCSM, 1,200 undergraduate students participate in research each year. TU is investing more than $16.3M in Academic Affairs to further expand the resources available for research and scholarly and creative work to support the achievement of Carnegie R2 Classification and advance TU’s position as a top-100 national public institution.

TU’s recent and transformative capital investments of over $550 million will expand the FCSM’s opportunities for collaboration and interdisciplinary research, education, and entrepreneurial pursuits. These capital investments include the FCSM’s own 320,000 square foot Science Complex, completed in 2021 to support the College’s rapid growth with 50 teaching laboratories, 30 research laboratories, 50 classrooms, 10 collaborative student spaces, 8 lecture halls, and 1 outdoor classroom. The College is home to more than 3,700 undergraduate students, 530 graduate students, 200 faculty, and roughly 50 staff members. It supports eight centers and programs that further the mission of promoting advanced study in the sciences and mathematics and to support preschool through grade 12 (P-12) Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) education. Currently, the extramural funding through grants and contracts totals $5 million annually, while the academic core budget is $33.2 million. The FCSM's endowment is $10.2 million and has historically been used to support students and to recruit top faculty into endowed chair positions, of whom seven are currently extant; the endowment provides a strong resource base for investing in academic excellence into the future.

Working in collaboration with FCSM’s department chairs, center directors, and faculty in keeping with TU’s traditions of shared governance, the Dean will advance a bold vision for FCSM’s future that also respects the College’s deeply held traditions and core values. They will develop a long-term strategy to guide the FCSM’s growth and development, leveraging entrepreneurial opportunities available within its dynamic ecosystem. Success in the role will require an individual who can inspire and unity the community around shared priorities; continue to attract, retain, and cultivate talented and diverse faculty, staff, and students; and empower all within FCSM to be at the forefront of elevating the university to Carnegie R2 Classification. As a passionate, energetic champion for the educational mission and student success, the incoming Dean must be an exceptional communicator who is skilled at building relationships with internal and external partners, represent the College compellingly to stakeholders and donors, and demonstrate an uncompromising commitment to advancing diversity, equity, inclusion, accessibility, and justice.

Towson University has retained Isaacson, Miller, a national executive search firm, to assist a university search committee in this recruitment. All applications, inquiries, and nominations, which will remain confidential, should be directed to the firm as indicated at the end of this document.
THE ROLE OF THE DEAN OF THE JESS & MILDRED FISHER COLLEGE OF SCIENCE AND MATHEMATICS

The Dean reports to the Provost and Executive Vice President for Academic and Student Affairs and serves as the chief academic and administrative officer of the FCSM. The Dean provides strategic leadership as well as operational direction to staff and faculty and is ultimately responsible for the educational journey of its talented and diverse students. The Dean is charged with fostering a culture of innovation while sustaining and enhancing the College’s administrative capacities through strategic decision-making regarding personnel, general administration and management, budget, academic programs, deft stewardship of FCSM’s considerable endowment, and development and advancement activities. The Dean also serves as an essential institutional leader, a member of the provost’s cabinet, and a key catalyst for major, cross-disciplinary efforts that span Towson University, the greater Baltimore region, and the state of Maryland.
LEADERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES
FOR THE NEXT DEAN

PROVIDE BOLD, VISIONARY, AND FORWARD-THINKING
STRATEGIC AND OPERATIONAL LEADERSHIP

The Dean will engage the College community to advance a strategic vision that sustains FCSM’s momentum at the forefront of research, education, and impact across Towson University, leading the way to R2 status. In alignment with the **TU 2020-2030 Strategic Plan: Leadership for the Public Good**, the Dean will demonstrate a commitment to academic excellence and student access and success, and in keeping with the College’s deep and historic institutional dedication to STEM teaching and pedagogy. Concurrently, the Dean will expand the College’s research excellence through advocacy, strategic communications, and championing the College’s achievements to outside funding entities and partners in both the public and private spheres. Shared governance is a core value of the College, and the Dean’s collaborative vision will expand research activity, drawing on support from the newly created Office of the Associate Provost for Research while ensuring that research is integrated and aligned with the College’s orientation towards student access and success. Wielding the College’s considerable endowment to great effect, the Dean will be responsive to the multidimensional needs of FCSM faculty, staff, and students while enhancing research development and prioritizing inclusivity, integrity, and communication. The Dean will promote a wide range of opportunities for authentic research experiences in both fundamental and applied research, as well as in advancing the frontiers of STEM pedagogy, for the benefit of College and University community. While creating a distinctive plan, the Dean will harness the remarkable energy of the Greater Baltimore community and leverage the advantages of being situated in a hub of innovation and entrepreneurial activity.

RECRUIT AND RETAIN TALENTED FACULTY AND STAFF;
EMPOWER THE COLLEGE COMMUNITY TO WORK AT THE APEX OF THEIR ABILITIES THROUGH THOUGHTFUL DELEGATION,
ACTIVE MENTORSHIP, AND COLLABORATIVE ENGAGEMENT

Working with departmental leadership, the Dean will identify, attract, and retain diverse and talented faculty and staff who will increase the stature and profile of departments and the College overall. The Dean will recruit leading scholars, enable joint appointments, and facilitate opportunities for interdisciplinary collaboration, such as the FCSM’s proposed doctoral program in sustainability and climate science. The Dean will promote a culture in which all faculty and staff members can thrive in their own, diverse pathways of excellence and impact: as educators, scholars, and mentors. The Dean will recognize and celebrate achievements in service, in research impact, and in teaching, in keeping with FCSM’s deep commitments to STEM education.

Administratively, the Dean oversees a large and complex operation, which depends on the contributions of a skilled staff. The Dean will support staff retention and advocate for University leadership to invest in key staff functions, training, and professional development pathways to ensure a cohesive, efficient, and high-performing unit that remains dedicated to the College. The Dean will be an effective, thoughtful, and transparent manager of the FCSM’s talented staff and will encourage their growth and development. A continued emphasis on communication will be a key component of motivating the entire College community.
LEADERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE NEXT DEAN

ENHANCE THE ADMINISTRATIVE, PEDAGOGICAL, AND RESEARCH INFRASTRUCTURE OF THE COLLEGE, ORIENTING THE ENTERPRISE TOWARDS FUTURE GROWTH AND TRANSFORMATION

The Dean will leverage existing resources creatively and thoughtfully, while at the same time expanding the College’s administrative capacities through advocacy and advancement. They will identify new resources for future infrastructure needs and evaluate, plan, and expand the necessary equipment, organizational structures, and staff to achieve goals for the growth of teaching and educational scholarship, sponsored research, cultivation of new faculty, and the support of new graduate students. The Dean will collaborate with the Associate Provost for Research and Dean of Graduate Studies to promote the understanding of and drive for new research opportunities and support innovative graduate programs and scholarly activity. At the same time, the Dean will further the College’s deep and longstanding commitments to education and pedagogy, both in advancing the science of teaching, as well as in its deeply held commitment to student success.

BOLSTER THE COLLEGE’S INSTITUTIONAL COMMITMENT TO DIVERSITY, EQUITY, INCLUSION, AND JUSTICE

Towson University and the FCSM recognize that a more diverse and inclusive campus is achieved through an institutional commitment coupled with senior-level strategic direction for the design, promotion, and delivery of best practice diversity and inclusion efforts. The next Dean will be an experienced and successful leader in these regards, particularly in relation to the recruitment and retention of faculty and staff reflective of a diverse student body. Keys to this commitment will be the Dean’s emphasis on the FCSM’s distinctive, student-oriented teaching and learning environment to provide students with the theoretical foundations and advanced competencies employers, professional schools, and graduate programs demand. The next Dean will continue to champion FCSM’s unique programming to include the Towson UTeach program that attracts the region’s students to STEM majors and prepares STEM educators to teach in area schools, and the Bridges Program that aims to promote the participation of underrepresented and underserved populations in biomedical research with the goal of changing the face of the STEM workforce. They will be ready to partner with the Office of Inclusion and Institutional Equity and other stakeholders to advance diversity and inclusion initiatives on a campus committed to continual growth in this critical area. The new Dean will sustain and accelerate TU’s efforts to create a more diverse and inclusive campus and generate a strategic plan for the College in alignment with the university’s inaugural diversity strategic plan, A More Inclusive TU: Advancing Equity and Diversity (2020–25).

ELEVATE THE VISIBILITY OF THE FCSM; FORGE STRONG RELATIONSHIPS WITH ALUMNI, DONORS, GOVERNMENT STAKEHOLDERS, AND INDUSTRY; AND ENSURE THE FINANCIAL SUCCESS OF THE COLLEGE THROUGH ACTIVELY ENGAGING IN FUNDRAISING EFFORTS

The Dean will expand the College’s efforts at external engagement to secure additional resources to meet its most ambitious aspirations. In addition to building program-associated revenue and supporting faculty as they seek to increase grant and contract funding, the successful Dean will have a passion for engaging potential donors and communicating persuasively the vision and capabilities of the College. They will play a key role in connecting with the local community, alumni, and others to “friendraise” and fundraise, nurturing meaningful partnerships with the College’s key external constituencies and supporters. The Dean will work creatively and collaboratively with the university’s development staff and other senior administrators to raise funds and build long-lasting, generative partnerships.

TU is just one of 21 universities nationwide designated as a National Center of Academic Excellence in Cyber Operations. In 2021, TU secured a $2 million grant from the NSA to boost cybersecurity education.
PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATIONS AND PERSONAL CHARACTERISTICS

While no single candidate will have all the ideal qualifications, the successful candidate will have many of the following professional qualifications and personal characteristics:

- An earned doctorate and a distinguished record of academic excellence; credentials that qualify for appointment at the full professor level;

- An intellectual leader; a distinguished teacher, scholar, entrepreneur, and innovator; able to set metric-driven decisions in pursuit of an institutional mission, engaging in a continual process of assessment and improvement, and communicating with constituents through a communicative and accountable style of decision-making;

- A personal and professional history of impactful research and scholarship, with a record of success in grant writing and the ability to encourage and support others in their own scholarly achievement;

- A personal understanding of the supports and resourcing needed at a high-performing, multimodal university dedicated to excellence in research, teaching, and service at the R2 level and beyond;

- A demonstrated track record of enhancing diversity, equity, inclusion, and justice and improving the culture and climate for students, staff, and faculty; respect for individuality and a commitment to promoting diversity as a critical component of academic excellence;

- Leadership experience as a successful academic administrator, such as service as a department chair or center director level or above;

- Experience with faculty recruitment and retention; facilitating promotion and tenure processes; proven ability to cultivate and develop staff and an aptitude to form an effective leadership team;

- An astute understanding of academic finances and experience establishing budget priorities and serving as a responsible steward of resources; ability to make difficult decisions and prioritize;

- A demonstrated passion for students, research, and service and a keen sense of the trends and developments at top science and mathematics programs; experience growing and promoting research within a traditionally teaching-focused institution;

- An excellent collaborator who can partner with other deans and administrators, department chairs, faculty, staff, and students;

- Demonstrated willingness and ability to fundraise, generating and achieving philanthropic goals and securing major gifts from individuals, corporations, and/or foundations;

- Established connections to industry, government, and educational organizations and the ability to create opportunities for faculty and students; an exceptional communicator who can inspire internal and external constituencies to attract partners to support new initiatives;

- A record that demonstrates the highest degree of integrity, transparency, honesty, and fairness.
THE JESS & MILDRED FISHER COLLEGE OF SCIENCE AND MATHEMATICS: AN OVERVIEW

Through rigorous and high-quality undergraduate programs in a wide variety of scientific, computing, and mathematical disciplines and graduate programs in research, applied, and interdisciplinary fields, the FCSM prepares its students to live and work productively in a scientific and technological world and to pursue learning throughout their lives. Faculty members engage both their undergraduate and graduate students through interactive teaching, advising, basic and applied research, and collaborative activities internally and externally. They form partnerships both to serve the Greater Baltimore community as well as to meet regional, national, and international needs. The results are dedicated, innovative, flexible, and highly prepared individuals who excel in graduate school, professional school, and careers in industry, government, and teaching.

The FCSM is recognized as one of the best and most effective learning environments in Maryland for preparing undergraduate and graduate students in the natural, physical, and computing sciences and mathematics to work, live, and lead in a highly complex scientific and technological world. FCSM faculty members are teacher-scholars who commit themselves to a high level of interaction with their students—both undergraduate and graduate—in challenging, innovative, and interdisciplinary programs. This results in graduates who are fully qualified to work in any setting and to lead others with their passion for discovery.

In 2005, the trustees of the Robert M. Fisher Memorial Foundation presented Towson University with a transformational $10.2 million gift to endow scholarships, establish a chair in the biological and physical sciences, and rename the College of Science and Mathematics in recognition of Jess and Mildred Fisher. In the fall of 2016, the college established the Jess and Mildred Fisher Endowed Chair in the Mathematical and Computing Sciences, Jess Fisher, a Baltimore native who attended TU in the 1930s and who later became a real estate developer and philanthropist, established the foundation in memory of his son, Robert. Two endowed scholarships now honor the memory of Robert M. Fisher and his sister, Cecilia Fisher Rudman.

THE JESS & MILDRED FISHER ENDOWMENT

The Dean of FCSM is responsible for stewarding the endowment and identifying its strategic use to best benefit the College. The funds are currently used in several ways:

- Support several Jess & Mildred Fisher Endowed Chairs
- To maintain the Fisher Scholarship Program of four-year full in-state tuition and fees scholarships for incoming freshman
- To enhance the general endowment fund for the Jess & Mildred Fisher College of Science & Mathematics
THE JESS & MILDRED FISHER COLLEGE OF SCIENCE AND MATHEMATICS: AN OVERVIEW

The FCSM is dedicated to providing its highly diverse undergraduates opportunities for mentored research, independent study, and internships and honors programs. Students run experiments in laboratories, engage with the environment through field studies, and conduct research and receive training in state-of-the-art instrumentation. Through internships and research experiences, majors in the college gain practical workplace know-how that often leads directly to employment upon graduation. The FCSM faculty are distinguished teachers, scholars and practicing scientists and mathematicians. They pride themselves on a high level of interaction with students in the classroom, the laboratory, and the field.

RESEARCH FACILITIES
- Towson University Biodiversity Center
- TU Center for STEM Excellence
- Field Station
- Human Remains Identification Laboratory
- Urban Environmental Biogeochemistry Laboratory
- Center for Innovative & Interdisciplinary Cybersecurity

DEPARTMENTS & PROGRAMS
- Department of Biological Sciences
- Department of Chemistry
- Department of Computer and Information Sciences
- Department of Mathematics
- Department of Physics, Astronomy, & Geosciences
- Environmental Science & Studies Program
- Molecular Biology, Biochemistry & Bioinformatics (MB3) Program
- Towson UTeach
- STEM Programs

The FCSM is also the home to the School of Emerging Technologies (SET) at Towson University, which works to advance interdisciplinary and collaborative educational and research programs that address the development, application, implications, and ramifications of emerging technologies.

THE FCSM BY THE NUMBERS

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Located on a 330-acre campus in Towson, Maryland, just ten miles from Baltimore’s Inner Harbor and a short drive or train ride to Washington, D.C., Philadelphia, or New York City, Towson offers an environment for living and learning, close to many educational, cultural and community resources. Forbes ranked TU as a top-100 national public university in its 2022 top colleges list. TU is recognized for its quality and value with a growing research and innovation enterprise deeply connected to people and place. TU is also among the most diverse institutions of higher education in the nation and is staunchly committed to building an inclusive and equitable campus community. It is well-known for its leadership in rigorous undergraduate and graduate education, relevant research, and service to the state of Maryland as the largest producer of K-12 educators in the state, among many other accolades. Its 20,000 students—26% of whom identify as Black or African American, and 9% of whom identify as Hispanic or Latino—are enrolled in 66 undergraduate majors, 47 master’s programs, and 6 doctoral degree programs spanning the liberal arts, fine arts, health professions, education, business, and natural and physical sciences. TU’s incoming class has 57.4% of first-year students identifying as an under-represented racial or ethnic minority.

The FCSM sits on TU’s beautiful, walkable campus, housing state-of-the-art facilities, labs, and equipment befitting a university of its size and scope. While small classes and faculty committed to mentorship and student success ensure that TU’s diverse undergraduates have an exceptional educational journey, the FCSM has also led the University in supporting high quality faculty research engaged with some of the most important grand challenges of our time. Towson University’s locational advantages in the Baltimore/Washington corridor, a region rich in high-tech companies and government research facilities, serve both its educational and research missions well. The College emphasizes undergraduate instruction in the sciences and mathematics, graduate student support at a high level, scholarship, and service to the community. The FCSM recognizes its obligation as a major public university to contribute to the cultural, scientific, and economic well-being of the greater Baltimore region, the state of Maryland, and the world.

**STUDENTS**

Towson University’s top priority is academic excellence and student success, and it is committed to preparing ethically and globally minded professionals who become leaders within their communities and fields of study. Notably, TU is among a small handful of universities nationwide with zero achievement gap: underrepresented student populations achieve the same academic success as the entirety of TU’s student population. FCSM’s well-established and longstanding Diversity Action Committee and concurrent Diversity Action Plan have led the field in addressing structural and resourcing needs—internal and external—to ensure students strive and thrive. The College serves both full and part-time students with diverse social, geographic, economic, and educational backgrounds who are pursuing their career and educational goals. To develop scientific literacy in all students, the FCSM provides a wide variety of general education courses, firmly rooted in the liberal arts. The FCSM has a unique commitment to preparing future secondary school teachers, providing students the opportunity to explore teaching secondary mathematics, computer science, biology, chemistry, earth-space science, and physics at the middle school and high school levels.

**FACULTY**

The FCSM supports over 200 full-time, highly qualified faculty that balance the responsibilities of teaching and advising, scholarly activity, and service. The FCSM recognizes that faculty practice four kinds of scholarship: the scholarship of discovery, of integration, of application, and of teaching. The faculty’s core values include an ongoing commitment to provide outstanding instruction and classroom experiences to their students as scholars who put teaching first and emphasize learning—both inside and outside the classroom—that helps students connect their education to the real world. The FCSM takes great pride in its faculty’s historic dedication to the craft of education, pushing forth the frontiers of knowledge not only in basic and applied sciences, but in STEM teaching and student success.

**IN 2021, THE FCSM AWARDED:**

- 3,700+ undergraduate majors
- 836 Bachelor’s Degrees
- 187 Master’s Degrees
- 11 Doctoral Degrees
- 77 Graduate Certificates
TOWSON UNIVERSITY CAPITAL INVESTMENTS

TU has invested in the following exciting projects to enhance the student experience:

■ **New Science Complex**: Opened in fall 2021, the new facilities provides new academic and research space for TU’s expanding Fisher College of Science and Mathematics. The heart of the five-story, 320,000 square-foot complex is a multistory atrium located at its center. In addition to the classrooms and labs inside the building, the complex contains an outdoor classroom overlooking the Glen Arboretum, a 10-acre wooded area adjacent to the academic core. The complex was intentionally designed to connect to the forest, making the Glen an educational extension of the building and a hub of scientific exploration.

■ **StarTUp**: Opened in summer 2021, the StarTUp at the Armory serves as TU’s front door for start-ups, small businesses, as well as our region’s largest corporations. This public-facing vibrant space reflects the university-wide effort to place entrepreneurship and leadership as a university priority.

■ **College of Health Professions**: TU broke ground in the summer of 2021 on a six-story College of Health Professions building in the heart of campus. This building will have world-class resources to support the teaching and research as the largest provider of health professionals in Maryland.

■ **University Union**: A two-phase project has transformed TU’s University Union. The first phase created an $5,000 square-foot-addition offering expanded event and dining space and two main entrances connecting to a spacious plaza. Phase two includes a renovation to the original building to update Paws Cafe and provide new homes for Student Life, Civic Engagement, and more.

ACCREDITATION

Towson University is accredited by the Middle States Commission on Higher Education (MSCHE). MSCHE is an institutional accrediting agency recognized by the U.S. Secretary of Education and the Council for Higher Education Accreditation. Towson University’s accreditation was reaffirmed by MSCHE on March 10, 2022, following an extensive self-study process. Towson University has been accredited by MSCHE since 1949. The FCSM has accreditations in the following programs: Computer Science, Forensic Chemistry & Forensic Science, and Molecular Biology, Biochemistry, and Bioinformatics.

ENROLLMENT

Over 20,000 students were enrolled in the fall of 2021, including nearly 18,000 undergraduates and 3,000 graduate students. This fall, TU will welcome nearly 5,000 new students to campus, including 2,678 first-time students, the largest number since fall 2019. This class represents TU’s continued commitment to diversity, with more than 57.4% of first-year students identifying as under-represented racial or ethnic minority. This class also has a local feel, with 89% of first-time students calling Maryland home. There are 19 countries and 27 other states represented, including large contingents from Pennsylvania, New Jersey, and New York. This year’s first-time students are also among the most accomplished with a weighted grade point average of 3.85.

TU welcomed 1,532 students transferring in—more than 50% that identify as under-represented racial or ethnic minorities. The class of students transferring comes from 17 states and 14 countries.

TU also welcomed 731 graduate students this fall from 28 states and 25 countries.
TOWSON UNIVERSITY — KEY RANKINGS AND AWARDS

- **FORBES**: Ranked TU as a top-100 national public university in its 2022 top colleges list.

- **WASHINGTON MONTHLY**: Named TU the nation’s 15th best “Masters University” and also recognized TU's success in civic engagement and social mobility.

- **WALL STREET JOURNAL/TIMES HIGHER EDUCATION**: The 2022 College Rankings placed TU number 117 among public institutions nationwide. TU was also among the top national institutions for student outcomes, one of four pillars measuring factors like the salaries graduates earn and the debt burden the carry.

- **CENTER FOR WORLD UNIVERSITY RANKINGS (CWUR)**: Placed TU among the top 9% worldwide in its 2022-23 World University Rankings.

- **PRINCETON REVIEW**: Included TU among the best colleges in the northeast in its 2022 Best Colleges: Region by Region list. The northeast list includes 223 universities in 11 states and the District of Columbia.

- **INSIGHT INTO DIVERSITY**: Recognized with a Higher Education Excellence in Diversity (HEED) Award in both 2020 and 2021.

- **CAMPUS PRIDE**: Named TU a top-40 ranking of LGBTQ+ friendly colleges and universities. TU was the only higher education in Maryland and D.C. named to the list.

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PROCEDURE FOR CANDIDACY

Inquiries, nominations, and applications are invited. Candidates should provide, as two separate attachments, a curriculum vitae and letter of application that addresses the leadership opportunities described in this leadership profile. These materials, as well as inquiries and nominations, should be sent to:

[www.imsearch.com/8647](http://www.imsearch.com/8647)

Vijay Saraswat, Partner
Amy Gillespie, Associate
Isaacson, Miller
263 Summer Street, Floor 7
Boston, MA 02210

_Towson University, an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Employer, complies with all applicable federal and state laws and University System of Maryland regulations prohibiting the discrimination on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, physical or mental disability, protected veteran status, age, gender identity or expression, sexual orientation, creed, marital status, political affiliation, personal appearance, or on the basis of rights secured by the First Amendment, in all aspects of employment, educational programs and activities, and admissions._

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TU IS A THRIVING COMMUNITY OF STUDENTS

19
NCAA Division I Sports

300+
Clubs and Organizations

700+
Study Abroad Programs

6,000
Students live on campus

8,100+
Internships each year
Dr. Kim Schatzel began leading Towson University as its 14th president on January 26, 2016. Her eight presidential priorities strategically build on TU’s momentum as Maryland’s second largest and fastest growing university, as well as the largest university—public or private—in Greater Baltimore.

President Schatzel has reinvigorated Towson University’s impact on Greater Baltimore. As an anchor institution, TU provides leadership for the public good as a nationally-recognized leader in inclusive excellence where all students can achieve.

President Schatzel established TU’s first Office of Inclusion and Institutional Equity, which provides support for the institution-wide priority of an inclusive campus community. TU’s profile as a center for inclusive STEM excellence has also grown as evidence in its role as a workforce provider in key areas for the State of Maryland. Those efforts are enhanced by more than $750M in investment in TU’s physical plant, with a new facility for science open in Spring 2021, and TU’s first building dedicated health professions now under construction.

President Schatzel is one of less than two percent of university presidents that have extensive business and private sector experience, spending more than 20 years as a corporate leader and serial entrepreneur in the technology and advanced manufacturing sectors. As part of her new venture experience, Schatzel founded and served as the President, Chief Operating Officer, and later Chief Executive Officer of a multinational advanced manufacturing firm with more than 1,500 employees on four continents.

Schatzel began her academic career as an Assistant Professor of Marketing for the College of Business at the University of Michigan-Dearborn. She served as the College’s Associate Dean starting in 2005 and as its Dean from 2008-2012. Schatzel served from 2012-2016 as the Provost and Executive Vice President of Academic and Student Affairs at Eastern Michigan University. She retained that role while guiding the university as its Interim President for six months.

Schatzel serves on the Board of Directors for the University of Maryland St. Joseph’s Medical Center, the Coalition of Urban and Metropolitan Universities, CollegeBound Foundation, Greater Baltimore Committee, Greater Economic Alliance of Baltimore and the Maryland Business Roundtable for Education. She also serves on the NCAA Division I Presidential Forum.

Her contributions to and leadership in Maryland have been recognized by The Daily Record, which gave her its 2018 Icon Honors; named her one of the 2017 Most Admired CEOs, 2017 Top 100 Women and 2017 Most Influential Marylanders; and included her in its inaugural Power 100 list in 2021.

President Schatzel holds a Ph.D. in Business Administration, with a concentration in Marketing and Technology, from Michigan State University. Her research interests focus on product innovation, new product success, and marketing communications.
Melanie Perreault, Ph.D., is the Provost and Executive Vice President for Academic and Student Affairs at Towson University. As the chief academic officer of the university, she oversees 125 degree programs (undergraduate, master’s and four doctorate), and supports almost 23,000 students, over 1,700 full-time and adjunct faculty, and over 200 staff and administrators. Dr. Perreault provides leadership for six academic colleges, the Honors College, the Office of Graduate Studies, and the Albert S. Cook Library and oversees the Division of Student Affairs. As provost, she facilitates University and Academic Affairs strategic planning, implements budget and resource allocation plans, guides and oversees innovations in academic technology, promotes faculty excellence and student success, and supports curricular and program distinction.

Dr. Perreault was appointed Provost and Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs at TU effective February 18, 2019. Prior to her arrival at TU, Dr. Perreault was the Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs at SUNY Buffalo State, the largest comprehensive university in the SUNY system. At Buffalo State, some of the efforts led by Dr. Perreault included the development of the institution’s strategic plan, creation of the Office of Institutional Effectiveness, establishment of a new program that expanded funding opportunities for students to engage in faculty-led undergraduate research, and creation of the Diversity Faculty Fellows Program to assist in diversifying the professoriate through ABD/post-doctoral fellowship programs.

Dr. Perreault received a B.A. in History from Lawrence University in 1990 and a Ph.D. in Colonial American History from the College of William and Mary in 1997. She was an Assistant Professor of History at the University of Central Arkansas before taking a position at Salisbury University in Maryland. There, she served as department chair and moved through the academic ranks to become a full Professor of History and later the Associate Provost, leading the university’s strategic planning and institutional accreditation efforts.