



FORT VALLEY STATE UNIVERSITY

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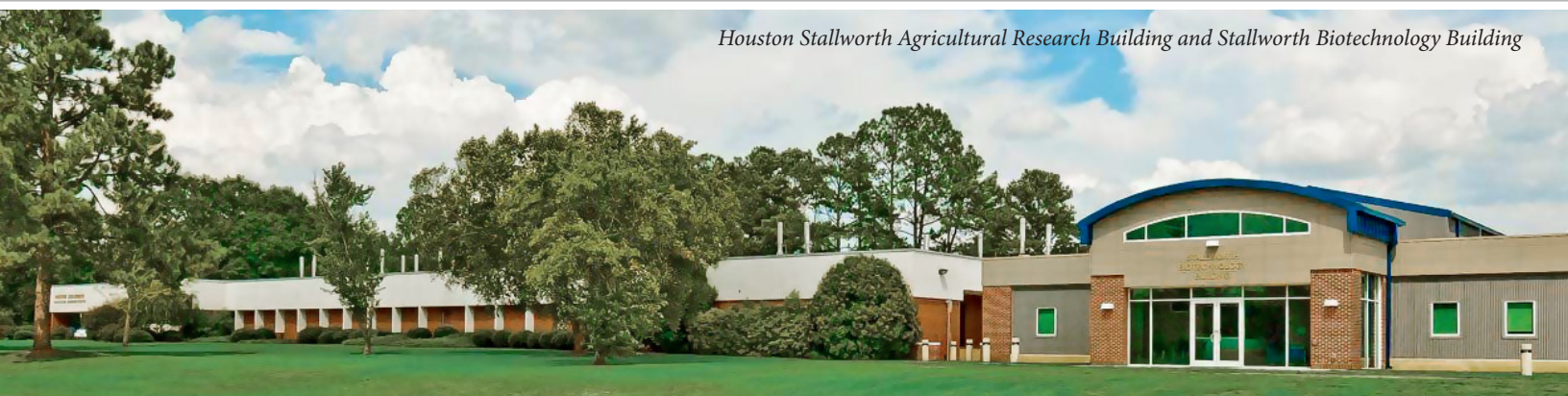
Inviting Applications and Nominations for

Dean of the College of Agriculture, Family Sciences, and Technology



Named as one of the Best Historically Black Colleges and Universities for 2021 by College Consensus, **Fort Valley State University** invites applications and nominations for the position of **Dean of the College of Agriculture, Family Sciences, and Technology**. The University seeks a leader with demonstrated experience in successfully leading a college of agriculture in a land grant university; an innovative and engaged strategic thinker with proven experience in strategic planning and implementation and a commitment to student success, faculty development, program innovation, and interdisciplinary collaboration. Reporting to the Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs and working in collaboration with faculty, students, and staff, the Dean will provide dynamic, visionary leadership to build upon the College's strengths and develop new opportunities to fulfill the role of the College as a model of intellectual and community engagement. The expected start date is January 3, 2023. **Take a virtual tour of the University at fvsu.vrtoursrvr.com.**

Houston Stallworth Agricultural Research Building and Stallworth Biotechnology Building



ABOUT THE UNIVERSITY

Located in Central Georgia, Fort Valley State University is a comprehensive institution offering 37 undergraduate and graduate degree programs. One of the University System of Georgia's three public historically black universities, FVSU is the state's only 1890 Land-Grant Institution. Dr. Paul A. Jones has served as President since 2015.

Founded in 1895, FVSU combines the personal attention and family feel of a small, private college with the level of research funding found at large public universities. The University's 1,365-acre main campus in Fort Valley has the second largest acreage of any Georgia university.

FVSU advances its mission and educational goals through three academic colleges: Agriculture, Family Sciences, and Technology; Arts and Sciences; and Education and Professional Studies. In fall 2020, the University enrolled 2,827 undergraduate and graduate students.

The diverse faculty provide a supportive, yet challenging learning environment that encourages innovation and inspires lifelong learning and the realization of aspirations. Students benefit from strong mentoring by accessible professors. The close-knit campus community encourages personal and academic

growth and establishes lifelong ties that extend well beyond graduation.

Ninety-two percent of the student body is from Georgia, and nearly 64 percent of the students are female. More than 83 percent of the students attend the University full-time.

FVSU has been recognized four consecutive years as the top public historically black college in Georgia. This #1 ranking includes *U.S. News & World Report*, 2019 and 2020 Best Colleges rankings, and the *Washington Monthly*, 2019. In 2018, *Diverse Issues in Higher Education* listed FVSU as a top 10 producer of African Americans with bachelor's degrees in mathematics, engineering technology, family and consumer sciences, computer and information systems, psychology, and history in the state of Georgia.

The National Science Foundation provides more funding for science, technology, engineering, and math research at FVSU than at any other public teaching college in Georgia, putting it in the top 10 for NSF-funded STEM research among all colleges in the state.

Fort Valley State University has produced graduates who have literally changed the world, serving as pioneers and trailblazers in civil rights, education, law and government, human rights, and public policy.

College of Agriculture, Family Sciences, and Technology

The College of Agriculture, Family Sciences, and Technology (CAFST) serves 618 undergraduate and graduate students across four departments: Agricultural Sciences; Engineering Technology; Family and Consumer Sciences; and Veterinary Science and Public Health. The College also provides career enhancement through graduate programs in Animal Science, Biotechnology, and Public Health.

The College has 33 faculty members and 216 staff, which includes 21 academic staff; 29 research staff; 54 extension staff; and 112 Head Start/Early Head Start staff.

Fort Valley State University is the only public institution in Georgia that offers a Master of Science degree in Biotechnology, the development of products from living organisms, their components, or systems. While biotechnology often is applied to develop agricultural advancements, food, and medicine, FVSU master's degree candidates can specialize in plant biotechnology, animal biotechnology, and applied biotechnology.

Widely recognized for the quality of its undergraduate education, research, and outreach programs, the College is ranked sixth nationally in graduating African American students in agriculture

disciplines. It also has been a leader in placing first-time applicants into medical, dental, veterinary, and pharmacy schools and colleges since 2001.

Utilizing state-of-the-art laboratories, the faculty are securing external grant funds and conducting innovative research. Faculty conduct research in five primary areas: Agricultural Economics, Bioenergy and Climate Change, Food Safety, Small Ruminants, and Specialty Plant Biotechnology. Students work with the scientists in these laboratories, which contributes to their success in being accepted to professional and graduate schools. The College is also home to the Georgia Small Ruminant Research and Extension Center (GSRREC), the largest and most comprehensive facility of its kind east of the Mississippi River.

Several programs in the College hold national accreditation: the **Electronic Engineering Technology Program**: ABET (Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology); the **Family and Consumer Sciences Program**: AAFCS (American Association of Family and Consumer Sciences); the **Veterinary Technology Program**: AVMA (American Veterinary Medical Association); the **Agricultural Education Program**: NCATE (National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education); and the **Master of Public Health**: EHAC (National Environmental Health Science & Protection Accreditation Council).

FVSU MISSION

Fort Valley State University, founded in 1895, is an HBCU and 1890 Land-Grant institution providing excellent academic programs that integrate quality instruction, research, extension, and student learning experiences responsive to the needs of a culturally and economically diverse student population equipped to excel in the 21st-century global community.

FVSU VISION

Fort Valley State University aspires to be the University of choice for students, faculty, staff, and future employers, recognized nationally and internationally for its excellence in teaching, research, service, exemplary academic programs, and globally competitive students.





THE OPPORTUNITY

Fort Valley State University is a comprehensive institution and an internationally recognized leader in agricultural research. Beyond the classroom, the College provides valuable extension services and programs to citizens and businesses throughout the state.

The Dean of the College of Agriculture, Family Sciences & Technology (Dean) is part of the academic team dedicated to supporting FVSU's mission of meeting the higher education needs of the state, region, and nation through innovative teaching, and applied research. Reporting to the Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs (Provost), the Dean collaborates closely with the Deans' Council and the President's Cabinet in the management of the College of Agriculture, Family Sciences & Technology.

The Dean guides the direction of the College through strategic planning and leadership.

Primary Responsibilities

- Serves as a liaison between the College and the Office of Academic Affairs.
- Works closely with the other college deans and the Provost to formulate and implement the academic objectives of the College within the context of the mission and objectives of the University.
- Leads the administration, development, and direction of the academic programs, strategic planning, fundraising, facility development, as well as the Research Program budget inclusive of the Research Station and Farms and the Cooperative Extension Program.

- Evaluates the work of faculty members within the College.
- Provides written recommendations concerning the retention, promotion, and tenure of faculty members to the Provost.
- Prepares an annual report on the progress toward the objectives of the College and the University, including recommendations related to funding and future needs.
- Serves as an influential voice and presence locally and regionally on public policy issues related to water, nutrition, food, and agricultural and natural resources.

Qualifications

Candidate must have an earned doctorate from a regionally accredited university with a degree in a discipline represented within the College of Agriculture, Family Sciences & Technology. Distinguished scholarly credentials and stature appropriate for the rank of Professor in a department in the College are required.

Other requirements include:

- Knowledge and experience of the roles and responsibilities of a dean at an 1890 Land Grant institution
- Participatory management and leadership style that encourages and values input from others
- Knowledgeable, or the ability to become knowledgeable, of the requirements of academic programs beyond those in the College
- Proven academic leadership, administrative ability, and experience

- Experience in budget, planning, personnel, and student matters
- Ability to lead teams to achieve established goals
- Commitment to exacting standards in education, research, and outreach
- Ability to develop and maintain productive relationships with on- and off-campus constituencies
- Experience in program reviews, assessment, and specialized accreditation
- An established record demonstrating the recruitment and retention of high-quality faculty and staff
- Excellent oral and written communication skills with a high level of competency related to various technologies (i.e., Outlook, Word, Excel, PowerPoint, BANNER, etc.) utilized in an academic setting



Olufunke Fontenot, Ed.D. **Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs**

Dr. Olufunke (Funke) Fontenot has served as the Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs at Fort Valley State University since November 1, 2021. She joined FVSU in 2019 first serving as the interim Chief of Staff for the University, providing advice and counsel to the President, serving as a liaison between the President and other officials and critical constituencies, and managing the Office of the President. Dr. Fontenot also ensured that projects and presidential strategic initiatives moved forward.

Dr. Fontenot brings a wealth of experience into this academic leadership position, with nearly 40 years in higher education. She previously served as the interim Regional Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs at the University of South Florida—St. Petersburg (USF-SP). In that position, she managed an academic affairs budget of over \$36 million and had direct oversight responsibility for academic programs, faculty hiring, development, and tenure and promotion. Prior to USF-SP, Dr. Fontenot served as Associate Provost and Associate Vice President for

Academic Affairs, and interim Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs at Albany State University. At Georgia College and State University, where she worked for 14 years, Dr. Fontenot served in multiple roles, including, Associate Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, interim Dean of the College of Education, interim Chair of the Department of Government & Sociology, and interim Chair of the Department of Modern Languages & Cultures. Dr. Fontenot was a tenured full professor of criminal justice at Georgia College and State University and Albany State University. She also served in numerous leadership positions at Savannah State University and Claflin College.

Fontenot received a bachelor's degree in law from the University of Ife (now Obafemi Awolowo University), Ile-Ife, a licensure to practice law from the Nigerian Law School, a Master of Letters in Law degree from Cambridge University (Cambridge, England), a Master of Law degree from Yale Law School (international law), and a Doctor of Education degree in higher education management from the University of Pennsylvania.

Dr. Fontenot has served on the boards of several nonprofit and educational organizations, including the Savannah Chapter of American Red Cross.



Metropolitan Central Georgia

Fort Valley State University is in the Central Georgia metropolitan area, which encompasses the state's fourth largest city, Macon, as well as several growing cities and progressive small towns. Other features of the area include Robins Air Force Base, one of the state's largest employers; the #11 rated public school in Georgia, the Academy of Classical Education, and the nationally recognized Houston County School System; and outstanding healthcare along with the second largest hospital in Georgia.

Central Georgia offers endless activity opportunities for families and individuals alike. A wide range of fine and casual dining, live music venues, festivals, water parks, golf courses, museums, historical sites, farmer's markets, touring Broadway shows, kayaking, indoor rock climbing, and more provide an appealing quality of life.

The City of Fort Valley has been honored as one of 10 Georgia "Cities of Excellence," and it is considered one of the state's "best managed and most livable cities." It offers tree-lined streets and beautiful historic homes and boasts a cost of living below the state and national average.

Beyond the Metro Central Georgia area, Atlanta, one of the nation's largest cities, and Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport are easily accessible by I-75. If looking for time at the beach or enjoying the cool mountain air, the Georgia coastline or Blue Ridge Mountains are only a three-hour drive away.



Application & Nomination Process

Confidential inquiries are welcomed, and nominations are invited.



Applications

1. Application packet must include:
 - a) A letter of interest that addresses the responsibilities and qualifications of the position
 - b) Curriculum vitae
 - c) At least four references with full contact information including e-mails (*References will not be contacted without consent from applicant.*)
2. Submit application packet (preferably as PDFs) to: **FVSU-CAFST@myersmcræ.com** by **October 1, 2022**, for best consideration. Applications will be accepted until the position is filled. Expected start date is January 3, 2023. *Additional information will be requested upon receipt of application.*

Nominations

Submit nominations to **FVSU-CAFST-nominate@myersmcræ.com** with complete contact and e-mail information for the individual being nominated.

Jennifer Barfield, Senior Vice President of **Myers McRae Executive Search and Consulting**, is assisting Fort Valley State University with this search. Request a conversation regarding this search at **JenniferBarfield@myersmcræ.com**.



Fort Valley State University is an affirmative action, equal opportunity institution and does not discriminate against applicants, students, or employees on the basis of race, gender, ethnicity, national origin, sexual orientation, religion, age, disability, or marital or veteran status.