



ANNOUNCES A NATIONAL SEARCH FOR THE

Dean of the College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences

Savannah State University, a unit of the University System of Georgia, seeks an experienced academic administrator to serve as **Dean of the College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences** and invites applications and nominations. The Dean reports to the Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs and is the advocate of all of the College's programs, initiatives, and faculty. In coordination with the Provost and VPAA and the faculty, the Dean defines the academic vision, provides leadership and direction for all aspects of the College's academic programs, and oversees related academic activities.



Home of the College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences

The College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences

The College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences is the largest college of the University and is housed in a new state-of-the-art facility. With a diverse offering of programs, the College provides the largest number of core courses for undergraduates across the University.

The College has six departments:

- English, Languages, and Cultures
- Fine Arts, Humanities, and Wellness
- Journalism and Mass Communications
- Political Science and Public Affairs
- Social and Behavioral Sciences
- Social Work

Leading to a Bachelor of Arts, Bachelor of Science, Bachelor of Fine Arts, or Bachelor of Social Work degree, the College offers majors in **Africana Studies, English Language and Literature, History, Homeland Security and Emergency**

Management, Mass Communications (with concentrations in Print Journalism, Public Relations and Advertising, Audio and Video Production), **Sociology, Visual and Performing Arts** (with concentrations in Art, Music, and Theatre and Dance), **Behavior Analysis, Criminal Justice, Political Science** (with concentrations in Pre-Law, Public Administration, and International and Comparative Politics), and **Social Work**.

Additionally, the College has three graduate programs: **Master of Public Administration, Master of Social Work, and Master of Science in Urban Studies and Planning**.

The programs in Social Work, Journalism and Mass Communications, and Public Administration are professionally accredited.

The Opportunity

The Dean is appointed by the President with the advice of the Provost and VPAA and the approval of the Board of Regents of the University System of

Mission Statement

Savannah State University, the oldest public historically black university in the State of Georgia, develops productive members of a global society through high quality instruction, scholarship, research, service and community involvement. The University fosters engaged learning and personal growth in a student-centered environment that celebrates the African American legacy while nurturing a diverse student body. Savannah State University offers graduate and undergraduate studies including nationally accredited programs in the liberal arts, the sciences and the professions.

Georgia. This administrator shall hold faculty rank as Professor and may be tenured in accordance with policies of the Board of Regents and the University.

Directing the work of the faculty in the College of Liberal Arts & Social Sciences (CLASS), the Dean is responsible for all functions and matters relating to academic programs and their support services within the College. The Dean presides over all regular and called meetings of the faculty of the CLASS.

Principal functions include:

Quick Facts about Savannah State University

Established: 1890

Enrollment: Approximately 3,900 students

Degrees: 30 baccalaureate majors and degrees;
6 graduate programs

Number of Faculty: 145

Student/Faculty Ratio: 19:1

Colleges and Schools:

- College of Business Administration
- College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences
- College of Sciences and Technology
- College of Education

Athletics: National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) Division II



- Recommend the appointment, salary, annual performance evaluations, promotion, tenure, and dismissal of faculty members.
- Supervise the curricula, courses, and methods of instruction and work with faculty to improve them.
- Present to the Deans and Provost Council, those actions of the faculty that require consultation or approval.
- Serve as the medium of communication for all official business of the College with University officers, students, and the community.
- Implement the purposes of the College consistent with those of the University and policies of the Board of Regents.
- Lead the process of developing and implementing the strategic plan for the College.
- Lead the process of continuous improvement of all activities and programs to ensure successful maintenance of accreditation.

- Lead the process to grow and develop new academic programs in the College.
- Exercise general supervision over the work and conduct of faculty, staff, and the students of the College.
- Exercise oversight of graduate programs within the College.
- Nominate candidates for academic degrees and certificates.
- Administer the program of academic advisement and annual schedule of course offerings.
- Prepare for the Provost and VPAA an annual report describing the work of the College of Liberal Arts & Social Sciences.
- Develop, in consultation with the Provost and VPAA, an annual budget for the College of Liberal Arts & Social Sciences.
- Serve as a liaison to the other administrative units of the University to promote University-wide endeavors.

- Coordinate and manage the activities of the Honors Director and the Honors Program Advisory Board, providing and accounting of funds raised to the President and Vice President for University Advancement.
- Perform such other duties as designated by the Provost and VPAA.

Requirements

An earned doctorate in a related field from an accredited institution of higher learning is required. Significant experience with accreditation process and familiarity with regional accreditation processes are preferred.

Other requirements include:

- A minimum of 10 years of full-time college teaching experience with a record of scholarship that would merit appointment to a senior faculty rank
- Academic administration experience of at least five years at the Dean, Associate Dean, Division Head, or Department Chair level and direct-line supervision of personnel, which shows evidence of strong managerial and energetic leadership abilities
- Experience in fundraising and writing grants
- Experience with developing and overseeing online programs and online teaching and learning
- Ability to maintain and develop relationships within the Savannah

Michael J. Laney, Ph.D.

Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs



Michael J. Laney, Ph.D. joined Savannah State University as Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs in January 2018. Previously, he served five years at Our Lady of the Lake University in San Antonio, Texas, as Dean and Professor of the College of Arts and Sciences. During his career in higher education, he also has held academic and administrative positions at Lee University in Cleveland, Tennessee, from 1995 to 2012 and Daystar University in Nairobi, Kenya in 2006-2007 (on sabbatical).

Prior to his distinguished career in higher education, he served 20 years active duty in the United States Army, where he held command and deputy command responsibilities. He retired at the rank of Major in 1995.

Dr. Laney earned his Bachelor of Arts degree in Political Science with honors at the University of Massachusetts, North Dartmouth (formerly Southeastern Massachusetts University), he attended Michigan State University, where he earned his Master of Arts degree in Telecommunications and completed the Army Reserve Officer Training Program. He was awarded his Ph.D. in Communications Broadcasting from the University of Tennessee in 1998.



City of Savannah
Photo courtesy of Visit Savannah

- business community
- Excellent oral and written communication abilities
- A commitment to the needs of a multicultural faculty and student body
- A high degree of collegiality and teamwork

Savannah State University

Founded in 1890, Savannah State University holds the distinction as the oldest public historically black university in Georgia.

The University's mission and educational goals are realized through comprehensive program offerings in the College of Business Administration, the College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences, the College of Sciences and Technology, and the College of Education. The University has several new programs in the high-need professional fields, such as the STEM disciplines (sciences, technology, engineering, and mathematics).

The University aggressively seeks funds from federal sources, including NIH and NSF research and program development grants. During FY 2019 the university has more than 50 active grants with annual funding of approximately \$10 million. These grants support curriculum enhancement, faculty and student research, student scholarships, presentations at conferences, and other scholarly activity.

Savannah State provides a supportive yet challenging learning environment

with opportunities to establish close student-faculty relationships and relevant social and professional networks. In addition to its academic support programs and extracurricular activities, the University has exhibits, performances, sports teams, concerts, and community volunteer service projects geared to improving relationships with neighborhoods in the greater Savannah area.

Applications & Nominations

Confidential inquiries are welcomed; nominations are invited.

1. **Application packet** must include:
 - a) A letter of interest
 - b) Current curriculum vitae
 - c) At least five references with full contact and e-mail information (references will not be contacted without the applicant's consent)
2. **Submit application materials** (preferably as PDFs) to **SSU-CLASS@myersmcræ.com** by **June 17, 2019**, for best consideration. The search is open until the position is filled.

Submit nominations to the **SSU-CLASS-Nominate@myersmcræ.com**.

Nominations should include full contact and e-mail information of the individual being nominated.

Emily Parker Myers, Chief Executive Officer, and **Jennifer Barfield**, Senior Vice President, of **Myers McRae Executive Search and Consulting** are assisting Savannah State University with this search.



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Savannah State University is an Equal Opportunity, Affirmative-Action Institution committed to diversity, equity and inclusion. All qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, color; genetics, religion, sex, national origin, disability, or protected Veteran status. Georgia is an Open Records State.