College of Nursing
UNIVERSITY OF CENTRAL FLORIDA

Inviting Applications and Nominations for

Professor and Department Chair
Founded in 1963 to fuel the region’s talent pipeline and support the growing U.S. space program, the University of Central Florida was built to provide a better future for students and residents of Central Florida. In 2023, UCF was ranked by *U.S. News & World Report* as one of the nation’s top 20 most innovative colleges. In addition, Forbes, Kiplinger, and The Princeton Review have ranked UCF as a Best-Value university. The University of Central Florida is also one of 14 universities nationwide designated as both a Hispanic-Serving Institution and a Research 1 university.

With 13 colleges, including a fully accredited College of Medicine, UCF offers more than 240-degree programs between its main campus, downtown campus, hospitality campus, academic health sciences campus, and 11 UCF Connect centers located throughout the region. In addition, UCF extends its reach to communities in and beyond Central Florida by offering complete online programs leading to bachelor’s degrees, master’s degrees, Ph.D.’s., certificates, and more.

As a next-generation public research institution, UCF offers an inclusive community of thinkers, doers, creators, innovators, healers, and leaders striving to shape the future and solve the world’s most challenging problems. Those who join the Knight Nation become an integral part of the mission to become a university for the future. The College of Nursing provides opportunities to connect and collaborate with uniquely talented faculty, staff, and students across 13 colleges and multiple campuses and regional locations.

**The UCF College of Nursing**

Since 1979, the UCF College of Nursing has been leading the charge in educating the next generation of nurses. The college is consistently ranked by *U.S. News and World Report* as one of the best and most innovative schools of nursing in the nation. The College of Nursing is fully accredited by the Commission of Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE) and offers online and on-campus degree programs at the bachelor’s, master’s, and doctoral levels.
With 14,000 Knight nurses and more than 70 nationally recognized faculty experts, the College of Nursing is ensuring a healthy future for all by providing excellence in patient care, making decisions to improve health care quality and access, and innovating nursing education and practice with ground-breaking discoveries. Through nationally recognized faculty, innovative research, evidence-based practice and community service, the UCF College of Nursing prepares nurse leaders to meet the world’s ever-changing health care needs.

The UCF College of Nursing is in pursuit of excellence in education, research, and practice. In its four-decade long history, the College of Nursing has remained committed to developing future nurse leaders and innovative programs for an ever-evolving health care industry.

The University of Central Florida is proud to be a smoke-free campus and an E-Verify employer. Unless explicitly stated on the job posting, it is UCF’s expectation that an employee of UCF will reside in Florida as of the date the employment begins.

The Opportunity

The College of Nursing at the University of Central Florida invites applications for a 12-month, tenured professor position to serve as Chair for the Department of Nursing Practice. The selected candidate will provide academic and administrative leadership and bring experiential, academic and research expertise commensurate with the position. This position will be located on the UCF main campus and is expected to begin in Summer 2024.

The ideal candidate will demonstrate some or more of the preferred qualifications: a proven leader with experience in management of human resources, budget, academic and clinical programming, and accreditation standards; sustained record of research and extramural funding; national reputation in area of expertise; experience in teaching at the undergraduate and/or graduate level; experience in interprofessional education.

The University of Central Florida is proud to be a smoke-free campus and an E-Verify employer. Unless explicitly stated on the job posting, it is UCF’s expectation that an employee of UCF will reside in Florida as of the date the employment begins.
Minimum Qualifications
- A Ph.D. in nursing from an accredited institution, or a doctorate in a related discipline from an accredited institution with an earned master’s degree in nursing from an accredited institution
- Eligible for appointment at the rank of professor with tenure
- Successful leadership and/or administrative experience in a university setting
- A focused program of research and scholarly activity
- Unencumbered RN license. Florida licensure expected by date of hire, with upgrade to multi-status within the first semester of contract
- To be eligible for appointment as a tenured professor upon hire, the selected candidate must have a demonstrated record teaching, research, and service, commensurate with rank

Preferred Qualifications
- A proven leader with experience in management of human resources, budget, academic and clinical programming, and accreditation standards
- Sustained record of research and extramural funding
- National reputation in area of expertise
- Experience in teaching at the undergraduate and/or graduate level
- Experience in interprofessional education

Are Benefits Important to You?
In addition to helping drive change and having a positive impact by supporting our students, staff, and faculty, UCF offers:
- Benefit packages including medical, dental, vision, life insurance, health care flexible spending accounts, and an Employee Assistance Program
- Paid time off, including annual and sick leave and paid holidays
- Retirement savings options
- Employee discounts, including tickets to many Orlando area attractions
- Education assistance
- Flexible work environment

For more benefits information, go to ‘Prospective Employees’ on the UCF Human Resources website (https://hr.ucf.edu/).

Additional Requirements related to Research Positions
Pursuant to Florida State Statute 1010.35, prior to offering employment to certain individuals in research-related positions, UCF is required to conduct additional screening. Applicants subject to additional screening include any citizen of a foreign country who is not a permanent resident of the U.S., or who is a citizen or permanent resident but is affiliated with or has had at least one year of higher education, employment, or training in China, Cuba, Iran, Russia, North Korea, Syria, or Venezuela.

The additional screening requirements only apply to employment in research-related positions, including, but not limited to faculty positions (including employed visiting positions), graduate positions, individuals compensated by research grants or contract funds, postdoctoral scholar positions, and undergraduate positions.
Mary Lou Sole, Ph.D.
Dean of College of Nursing, Orlando

A certified critical care clinical nurse specialist, Dr. Mary Lou Sole has focused her research over the past three decades on preventing complications and improving outcomes of critically ill patients who are placed on a ventilator. Her work, which has been awarded more than $4 million in funding to-date, has been published in more than 100 peer-reviewed publications and presented at conferences throughout the world and has influenced the standard of nursing care in the U.S. and in the international critical care community.

As an educator, mentor, and researcher, Dr. Sole, who serves as Dean of the College of Nursing and holds the Orlando Health Endowed Chair in Nursing, is dedicated to developing the next generation of nurse leaders. Using simulation and technology, she has created innovative strategies to improve student learning in the clinical setting as well as the classroom.

In addition to serving on several journal editorial boards, Dr. Sole is the editor of one of the most widely used undergraduate critical care nursing textbooks and author of several of its chapters. She has served on expert panels of the National Institutes of Health and on two National Quality Forum task forces. From 2015 to 2017, she chaired the Nursing and Related Clinical Sciences Study Section of the NIH Center for Scientific Review.

A fellow of both the American Academy of Nursing (FAAN) and the American College of Critical Care Medicine (FCCM), Dr. Sole has been honored with numerous awards, including, in 2008, being named a UCF Pegasus Professor, the university’s highest faculty honor.

Dr. Sole earned a Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree from Ohio University followed by a Master of Science in Nursing and a Doctorate from the University of Texas at Austin.
Orlando, Florida

Known for world-famous theme parks, Orlando is an ideal place for anyone looking for sunshine, abundant entertainment, and amenities. Orlando is ranked by U.S. News and World Report at #52 for best places to live and #31 best places to retire in the United States.

Orlando is filled with ample opportunities for connect with nature and the surrounding wildlife. In addition to the many parks and lakes in the area, residents can tour the University of Central Florida Arboretum, Gatorland, Harry P. Leu Gardens, Tibet Butler Preserve, and the Great Florida Birding and Wildlife Trail.

The Downtown area is the region's largest urban center. Downtown is home to numerous museums, galleries, theatres, sports centers, and iconic skyscrapers.

Orlando hosts numerous festivals annually including the Epcot International Food and Wine Festival, Winter Park Autumn Art Festival, The Orlando Fringe Festival, and the Zora Neale Hurston Festival.

Orlando is rich in educational opportunities for children and adults with 99 top-notch public elementary, middle, and high schools as well as 214 private schools. In addition, there are nine colleges and universities in Orlando including the University of Central Florida, Rollins College, Valencia College, and Advent Health University.

With so many things to see and do, no wonder more than 316,000 people call Orlando home.

Application & Nomination Process

Confidential inquiries are welcomed, and nominations are invited.

Applications

1) All application packets must include the following:
   a. A letter of application that addresses the responsibilities and qualifications of the position
   b. Current curriculum vitae
   c. Statement of teaching philosophy
   d. Statement of scholarship
   f. Unofficial transcripts of all degrees and certificates earned (official transcripts will be required of finalists)
   g. At least four references with full contact information including e-mail (References will not be contacted without consent from applicant.)

2) Submit application packet (preferably as PDFs) to UCFN-DeptChair@myersmcrae.com. Additional information will be requested upon receipt of application. This position is open until filled and may close without prior notice and is subject to funding.

Nominations

Submit nominations to UCFN-DeptChair-nominate@myersmcrae.com with complete contact and e-mail information for the individual being nominated.

Consultant

Jennifer Barfield, Executive Vice President of Myers McRae Executive Search and Consulting, is the lead consultant for this search. Request a conversation regarding this search at JenniferBarfield@myersmcrae.com.