



# UNIVERSITY OF WEST GEORGIA

*Inviting Applications and Nominations*

## Dean of the College of Education

The **DEAN OF THE COLLEGE OF EDUCATION** will build upon the strengths of the College's academic programs, curate robust student-centric experiences, expand research and scholarly achievements, and engage the internal and external University community. Through visionary, inclusive, and entrepreneurial leadership, the Dean will work collaboratively with faculty, staff, and administrators and will report directly to the Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs. The University of West Georgia seeks a leader who will advance and support the University's mission of fulfilling workforce development needs while contributing to the social, cultural, and economic development of the region, state, nation, and world.

[VISIT WESTGA.EDU TO LEARN MORE.](https://www.westga.edu)

*The Education Center on the Carrollton campus.*





The *U.S. News and World Report's* 2021 report on Colleges of Education ranked the University of West Georgia #13 among the largest graduate education programs in the nation. The University is #1 among all Georgia institutions in this category.

## ABOUT UWG

Since 1906, the University of West Georgia has been home to those who seek a transformative college experience. UWG is a leading residential, doctoral comprehensive university that offers a broad undergraduate and graduate curriculum based on a liberal arts foundation.

Nestled on a picturesque 645 acres, the University of West Georgia is just 50 miles west of Atlanta. Serving more than 13,400 students across nine academic units, the University is known for its innovative academic programs and student-centered environment. It is a regional powerhouse with locations in Carrollton, Douglasville, and Newnan, Georgia. With students from 36 states and 69 countries, UWG is locally connected and globally relevant.

Perennially ranked by *U.S. News & World Report*, the *Princeton Review*, and *Colleges of Distinction* as a top national university, UWG currently offers 92 programs of study: 45 bachelor's; 24 master's; six specialist; five doctoral; nine post-baccalaureate; two post-master certificates, and one undergraduate certificate.

The University of West Georgia generates a regional economic impact of more than \$632 million and provides a safe, quality, and affordable educational experience that transforms lives.

UWG has been recognized by the Carnegie Foundation for its institutional commitment to community engagement through teaching, research, and public service with the Community Engagement Classification. The University was one of only 119 U.S. colleges and universities to receive the elective classification in 2020 and joins the ranks of only 359 institutions nationally.

## THE COLLEGE OF EDUCATION

With one of the Southeast's largest and most respected colleges of education, the University of West Georgia (UWG) prepares graduates for meaningful, professional careers in three dynamic areas of focus: (1) Teaching (Elementary, Special, Physical, and Secondary Education and Reading Instruction); (2) Leadership (Sport Management, Educational Leadership, Higher Education Administration, Media, and College Student Affairs); and (3) Wellness (Health and Community Wellness, Speech-Language Pathology, and Professional Counseling).

The College has 110 faculty, 23 staff, and over 25,000 alumni. More than 1,900 undergraduate and 2,900 graduate students are enrolled in classes.

The College of Education offers 6 bachelor's, 4 minors, 17 master's, 8 specialists, 3 doctoral, and a number of certificate, certification, and endorsement programs. It continues to be highly ranked among peer institutions, including its recent ranking as #1 on the Best Value School list, and boasts many accreditations, including ASHA and CACREP.

UWG's College of Education has six departments: (1) Educational Technology and Foundations, (2) Literacy and Special Education, (3) Sport Management, Wellness, and Physical Education, (4) Counseling, Higher Education, and Speech-Language Pathology, (5) Leadership, Research, and School Improvement, and (6) Early Childhood through Secondary Education.

The UWG preschool (Pre-K) program provides a unique opportunity, providing the best possible learning experiences for young children. Teachers and staff work in partnership with the Early Learning Center's research lab toward implementing evidence-informed practices in a laboratory school model.



The College of Education runs a Wellness Lab and a Fusion Center for Innovation and STEM Education. The College's Innovations Lab offers university faculty, students, and local educators emerging technology for use in the classroom and the community. Resources support innovation in robotics and coding, virtual reality/augmented reality, along with software, electronics, and tools for makers.

### **College of Education Mission Statement**

*The College of Education at the University of West Georgia will lead in innovation in Teaching, Leadership, and Wellness, with programs designed to transform lives and contribute to the betterment of society. Locally connected and globally relevant, the Mission of the College of Education is to prepare graduates for professional careers in diverse settings within three dynamic areas of focus: Teaching, Leadership, and Wellness. With programs that range from undergraduate through doctoral study, the College of Education is committed to excellence in pedagogy, professional service, engaged partnerships, and applied research.*

## **THE OPPORTUNITY**

In coordination with the Provost, the Dean provides leadership and direction for the College's programs and activities and will work with faculty, staff, and administration to:

- Promote excellent teaching and student success.
- Supervise and develop innovative academic programming within the College with emphasis on experiential learning.
- Provide creative, collaborative leadership consistent with the mission of the University.

- Expand research, scholarship, and external funding.
- Implement effective and efficient policy related to personnel, accreditation, continuous improvement, fiscal and strategic processes, and leadership.
- Serve as an advocate for students, faculty, and staff.
- Represent the College to a variety of external constituents.

## **QUALIFICATIONS**

**The Dean must have successful administrative experience in supervision of tenure-track and tenured faculty and an earned doctorate.**

The Dean must possess a progressive record of increasing academic leadership and a distinguished record of teaching, scholarly achievement, and professional accomplishments sufficient to qualify for appointment at the rank of professor in one of the College's academic programs.

Within the context of the opportunities and challenges of 21st century higher education, the Dean will demonstrate:

- The ability to foster academic excellence.
- Strong written and interpersonal skills.
- An ability to successfully cultivate an environment of teamwork through integrity and build trust through shared governance.
- A commitment to promoting diversity, equity, and inclusion.
- Experience in working with external partners, including local schools and school administrators.





## HIGHLY PREFERRED EXPERIENCES

- Experience in delivering career-focused professional programs in higher education
- Successful history of strategic planning, resource stewardship, and assessment
- Experience with program accreditation
- Technology integration into the educational experience and online learning

- Demonstrated commitment of supporting cultural and gender equity
- Successfully serving traditional and nontraditional students
- Enrollment management, retention, and growth
- Record of success in generating grant and contract funding

*View the 2021-2026 strategic plan “Becoming UWG” at [www.westga.edu/becominguwg/](http://www.westga.edu/becominguwg/)*



**Jon Preston, Ph.D.**  
**Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs**

Dr. Jon Preston has served within the University System of Georgia for 26 years. Prior to joining UWG in 2020, he was the Dean of the College of Computing and Software Engineering at Kennesaw State University.

As Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs, Dr. Preston is responsible for the formulation and implementation of all academic plans, policies, priorities, and innovations to ensure the university’s curriculum remains vibrant, relevant, rigorous, and meets the highest levels of academic attainment. Dr. Preston leads the University’s team of collaborative deans and administrative leaders, building upon the strengths of the institution’s academic programs and promoting UWG’s high-quality, transformative student-learning experience to meet the challenges and opportunities of the 21st century.

Dr. Preston earned his bachelor’s and master’s degrees in computer science from Georgia Tech and his doctorate in computer science from Georgia State University.



*The University of West Georgia is an Affirmative Action, Equal Opportunity Employer, and strongly encourages the applications and nominations of women and minorities. University System of Georgia Board of Regents policy requires the completion of a background check as a prior condition of employment. The University of West Georgia does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, sexual orientation, age, marital or veteran status, political affiliation, or the presence of a non-job related condition or handicap under Federal or State law.*



**Living in Carrollton, “The City of Dreams,”** offers the advantages of city life with a small-town vibe. This progressive community with Southern flair offers plenty of shopping, restaurants, nightlife opportunities, and cultural events. Named a City of Excellence in Georgia and listed as one of the 50 Best Small Southern Towns, Carrollton is the cultural, educational, health care, and commercial center for the west Georgia region.

At the heart of Carrollton is its historic downtown and Adamson Square lined with shops, galleries, and restaurants. Each season offers unique local events and opportunities for year-round recreation. Outdoor activities abound through award-winning spaces, including an 18-mile paved walking and biking Greenbelt trail that encircles the city and passes through the UWG campus.

The city embraces the University’s students, faculty, and staff, and welcomes the diversity UWG brings to the community.

Invested in education with highly rated city and county K-12 systems, both city and county public school graduation rates are 90% and above and rank among the top in the nation by *U.S. News & World Report*.



LAURA BARNES



## APPLICATION & NOMINATION PROCESS

*Confidential inquiries are welcomed, and nominations are invited.*

### Applications

- 1) Application packet must include:
  - a) A letter of application that addresses the responsibilities and qualifications of the position
  - b) Current 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:  
**UWG-Edu@myersmcrae.com**

*Additional information will be requested upon receipt of application.*

Review of applications begins **January 31, 2022**.  
Applications will be accepted until the position is filled.

### Nominations

Submit nominations to:  
**UWG-Edu-nominate@myersmcrae.com**  
with complete contact and e-mail information for the individual being nominated.

**Kenny Daugherty**, President, and  
**Emily Parker Myers**, CEO, of **Myers McRae Executive Search and Consulting** are assisting the University of West Georgia with this search.



**(478) 330-6222 MyersMcRae.com**