Department Chair, Human Nutrition

Detailed Position Description

About the University and the Community: Winthrop University is a public, master’s-level university of 5,000 students in Rock Hill, South Carolina. Founded in 1886 to train teachers, the University today offers a wide array of graduate and undergraduate degrees in business, the liberal and performing arts, education, and professions. Winthrop University is known for its quality academic programs; 100% of its eligible programs hold national accreditation. In addition, Winthrop University is committed to diversity; 38 percent of its students are ethnic and racial minorities and international students. Winthrop University is a member of the Big South athletic conference and sponsors 16 Division I teams.

Rock Hill, South Carolina is in the Charlotte, North Carolina metropolitan area, a growing, vibrant New South city. The Charlotte region has many cultural amenities, museums, and entertainment venues. Rock Hill and its environs boast affordable housing, proximity to mountains and the coast, excellent public schools, numerous cultural and recreational opportunities, many green spaces and public parks, and premier athletic facilities and venues. Rock Hill regularly hosts regional, national, and international amateur athletic competitions, among them softball, disk golf, soccer, women’s football, BMX and bicycle racing, swimming, tennis, and more.

About the Department: Winthrop University has offered courses in food science/nutrition for nearly 100 years. It offers ACEND-accredited programs at the BS and MS levels, and an accredited dietetic internship program. Approximately 90 students are enrolled in the Bachelor’s program and over 70 students are enrolled in the graduate MS and internship programs. The graduate program attracts students from across the Southeast and admission is competitive. In 2014, the Master’s program was named a Top Ten Nutrition Graduate Program for Student Experience by Graduateprograms.com (http://www.winthrop.edu/news-events/article.aspx?id=35294).

The department shares Winthrop University’s commitment to hands-on learning. In addition to its popular and competitive dietetic internship, Human Nutrition students regularly participate in a long-term service learning project offered by the Department of Interdisciplinary Studies where Winthrop University students and faculty work in the rural community of Rocha, Nicaragua (http://www.winthrop.edu/cas/interdisciplinary/?id=19972). In addition, Human Nutrition and Social Work students recently engaged in a poverty simulation to better understand the impact of poverty on Americans and difficulties individuals face in accessing public assistance programs.

The department houses Master’s and Ph.D.-level faculty, all of whom hold the Registered Dietitian credential. They boast scholarly interests in food security, sports nutrition, and nutrition; and they have extensive experience as professional dietitians. The department has affiliations with nearly 300 practitioners throughout South Carolina and North Carolina and one member of the faculty was recently appointed by the Governor to the South Carolina Panel for Dietetics.

The department of Human Nutrition is housed in the College of Arts and Sciences. The College of Arts and Sciences is known for its commitment to student intellectual development, including a vibrant undergraduate research program and a diverse array of disciplinary and interdisciplinary programs. The College and the University actively promote collaboration across disciplines and programs.
Expectations: Winthrop University seeks a dynamic department chair to join its diverse community. The successful candidate will be committed to student learning and to the department’s quality academic programs and national programs; oversee the maintenance of the department’s national accreditation; ensure the department conforms with ACEND standards; effectively advocate for the department’s needs; participate in student recruitment and retention efforts; engage in development opportunities; and provide quality educational experiences for the students.

In addition, the department chair is responsible for the effective administration of the department. Specific duties include budget management; faculty and staff mentoring, supervision, and evaluation; course scheduling; overseeing curriculum development and assessment; implementation of department, college, and University policies and procedures; student advising; and conflict management. The chair reports to the Dean of Arts and Sciences and serves as a member of the Dean’s Council. In addition, the chair will teach courses in her/his area of expertise, maintain an active scholarly agenda, and participate actively in faculty governance and campus life.

Specific qualifications:
- Earned doctorate in human nutrition, public health, food systems, nutrition science, or other related discipline required. An area of specialization that complements those of department faculty strongly preferred.
- Evidence of teaching excellence at the college level.
- Evidence of effective scholarship and service consistent with the required senior rank.
- Evidence of significant, successful administrative experience and leadership skills.
- Strong interpersonal and communication skills.
- Demonstrated ability to work effectively with students and colleagues from a variety of backgrounds in the context of a diverse and inclusive campus community.
- Registered Dietitian credential strongly preferred.

Employment conditions: A ten- and one-half month, tenure-track position; senior rank (associate professor or professor). Salary commensurate with qualifications.

Position availability: August 1, 2015

Application procedures: Applications should consist of a letter of application including statements of administrative and teaching philosophies, current curriculum vitae; evidence of teaching excellence, effective scholarship, and successful administrative experience; three letters of recommendation from individuals who can attest to the candidate’s teaching, research, and administrative expertise and official transcripts for all graduate degrees. Applications are due November 3, 2014; materials received after the deadline may be considered if an acceptable candidate has not been selected. Applications may be submitted in electronic or paper formats, and may be addressed to:

Nutrition Chair Search
Dean’s Office, College of Arts and Sciences
107 Kinard Hall
Rock Hill, SC 29733
nutritionsearch@winthrop.edu

The successful candidate must be legally eligible to work in the United States and will be required to undergo a criminal background check.

Winthrop University is an Equal Opportunity / Affirmative Action employer and does not discriminate against any individual or group of individuals on the basis of age, color, disability, gender, national origin, race, religion, sexual orientation or veteran status. Women, minorities and persons with disabilities are encouraged to apply. This contractor and subcontractor shall abide by the requirements of 41 CFR 60-300.5(a) and 60-741.5(a). These regulations prohibit discrimination against qualified individuals on the basis of protected veteran status or disability, and require affirmative action by covered prime contractors and subcontractors to employ and advance in employment qualified protected veterans and individuals with disabilities.