



## **Dean, Jordan College of Agricultural Sciences and Technology Position Description**

### **Overview**

California State University, Fresno is seeking a creative, energetic, innovative, articulate and dynamic leader for the deanship of the Jordan College of Agricultural Sciences and Technology. The Dean is expected to articulate a bold vision for the college and will be a scholar, entrepreneurial leader, and team player with strong interpersonal skills and a demonstrated track record of success in leading agricultural initiatives. The University is located in the heart of the San Joaquin Valley, one of the world's most productive agricultural regions. The University seeks to continue to expand its national recognition for education that transforms students and improves the quality of life in the region and beyond; for leadership that drives economic, infrastructure, and human development; and for institutional responsiveness that fosters creativity, generates opportunity for all, and thrives on change. The College provides outstanding academic programs of instruction, demonstration, applied research, and technology transfer in pursuit of the University mission.

### **The University**

California State University, Fresno, one of the 23 campuses of the California State University System, is the premier regional university serving Central California's diverse, growing population. The University serves the San Joaquin Valley while interacting with the state, nation and world. Service to our region is an important part of our mission. The prestigious Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching awarded Fresno State its Community Engagement Classification, acknowledging the university's extensive partnership with Central California. Fresno State, with a current enrollment of more than 23,000 students, is a minority serving institution and a federally designated Hispanic-Serving Institution, and Asian American, Native American, and Pacific Islander-Serving Institution, reflecting the rich diversity of Central California. The Smittcamp Family Honors College admits 50 of California's top high school graduates each year with full scholarships.

Accredited by the California Board of Education and the Western Association of Schools and Colleges, the university offers 61 undergraduate degree programs and 47 masters degree programs in the liberal arts and sciences and in a variety of professional disciplines emphasizing agriculture, business, engineering and technology, health and human services, and education, as well as Doctoral programs in Educational

Leadership, Physical Therapy and Nursing. Through transformational applied research, technical assistance, training and other related public service activities, the university builds partnerships and linkages with business, education, industry and government.

With over 4,000 trees, the campus gained official arboretum status in the spring of 1979, and sits against a backdrop of the beautiful Sierra Nevada mountain range. Fresno is the fifth largest city in California and the surrounding San Joaquin Valley is one of the richest agricultural areas in the world. The university is within two hours of three national parks – Yosemite, Sequoia and Kings Canyon. Fresno is within easy driving distance of San Francisco, Los Angeles, the Monterey Peninsula, and Lake Tahoe. Beaches, sailing, lakes, camping, fishing, hiking and ski resorts are nearby, and Fresno itself offers a wealth of cultural arts events; unique shopping and restaurant destinations; parks and bike/running trails that promote a healthy lifestyle; and affordable housing.

Fresno State's 383-acre main campus is complemented by a directly adjacent 1,011-acre University Farm, providing students with direct learning opportunities. A new Student Recreation Center and a new Library join in the blend of traditional and modern buildings. Fresno State student-athletes are top competitors in Division I sports and the University is a member of the Mountain West conference.

In Spring 2014, Fresno State broke ground on the Jordan Research Center, a \$24-million state-of-the-art research facility that will enable researchers from three colleges (Jordan College of Agricultural Sciences and Technology, College of Science and Mathematics, and the Lyles College of Engineering) to work side-by-side and create a new atmosphere of interconnectivity. When completed in the fall of 2015, the 30,000 square-foot facility will feature wet and dry labs, lab support space and meeting areas in which students can study as well as collaborate on research projects.

### **The Position**

As chief executive of the College, the Dean is responsible for budgetary oversight and planning, academic and curricular issues, constituent engagement, fundraising, facilities development, and strategic planning. The Dean provides leadership for building and enhancing key partnerships and collaborations with units across campus; with state, federal and county agencies; various commodity groups within the agricultural industry; business leaders, community groups, and other regional organizations. The Dean will work effectively with regional, national and international leaders in water, agribusiness, farming, ranching, food production and processing.

The Dean is a member of the Academic Affairs Leadership Team and reports directly to the Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs. Seven department chairs report to the dean: Agricultural Business; Animal Sciences and Agricultural Education; Child,

Family, and Consumer Sciences; Food Science and Nutrition; Industrial Technology; Plant Science; and Viticulture and Enology. Also reporting to him/her are the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs (administering the College), the Associate Dean for Research & Collaboration (who heads the Institute for Food and Agriculture), and the Farm Manager of the University Agricultural Laboratory. The Dean also works with community members who serve on advisory boards for the departments in the College, the Agricultural Foundation Board, and the AG One Foundation. The Dean will be pivotal in strengthening the College and University's reputation as a regional, national and international leader in areas related to water, food, and agriculture and will provide leadership for building and enhancing strategic partnerships with external stakeholders, such as the President's Commission on the Future of Agriculture.

The university serves approximately 23,000 students and about 10% major in the academic programs offered by the Jordan College. The Jordan College has 55 full-time and 36 part-time faculty. At the system level, faculty have research opportunities through the Agricultural Research Institute. Additional campus and college research opportunities are facilitated through the Office of Research and Sponsored Programs and the California Agricultural Technology Institute (CATI). CATI serves as the administrative center for the Institute for Food and Agriculture, the Center for Irrigation Technology, and the Viticulture and Enology Research Center. College facilities also include the Gibson Farm Market, agricultural and industrial technology laboratories, along with labs for textiles, fashion and clothing, infants and toddlers, and child development laboratories. The research and grant activity of the College is centered in multiple centers and institutes; the 1000-acre farm adjacent to the main campus; and a 4,300-acre experimental range in the nearby Sierra Nevada foothills. Fresno State's close proximity to the USDA Agricultural Research Service Center and the University of California Kearney Agricultural Research and Extension Center provides a unique opportunity for collaboration in pursuit of discovery, economic vitality, and sustainable innovation.

### **Qualifications**

An earned doctorate and qualifications for the rank of full professor in one of the departments (disciplines) of the College is required. The successful candidate will have completed a minimum of five years of effective administrative experience at an institution of higher education at the department chair, associate dean or dean level. The successful candidate should demonstrate a strong commitment to the teaching, research and the community service mission of the College and the ability to serve as a local and state leader in public policy relating to water, food, agricultural and natural resource issues.

The successful candidate will also be able to demonstrate experience in building and enhancing interdisciplinary collaborations; an understanding of agriculture in the Central

Valley, including crops and livestock and the institutional structures of the industries; an understanding of the importance of water including local, state, and federal policy issues; the interconnectedness of surface and groundwater, water quality, environmental uses, and sustainability; an appreciation of and experience in working with other disciplines including business and engineering; knowledge, understanding and ability to advance new and emerging technologies impacting distance education; an ability to communicate, understand, and appreciate the role and concerns of stakeholders around issues of water, food, and agriculture; and an ability to relate to various constituencies-including producers, input providers, processors, manufacturers, and other ancillary industries and establish working relationships with them.

The successful candidate must have a demonstrated record of teaching and research in water, food, or agriculture or in areas that serve to directly enhance agriculture and/or the natural resource base upon which it depends. An interest and passion in serving as a leader for agricultural water-related education issues, including water management, policy, research and technology issues is preferred.

Preference will be given to candidates with a track record of significant accomplishments and a demonstrated entrepreneurial approach to leadership. Experience and knowledge of assessing academic programs utilizing performance measures focused on student learning outcomes are favored. Successful candidates will embrace innovative use of technology in the teaching, applied research and service mission of the Jordan College. Experience in developing alumni and community relations is highly desirable. Effective management and leadership skills in either the public or private sector, and strong interpersonal skills for working effectively with colleagues, mentoring staff, and resolving personnel issues are preferred.

### **Application Process**

The Search Committee will begin reviewing applications immediately and will continue to accept applications and nominations until the position is filled. Applicants must submit a current curriculum vitae and a letter describing relevant experience and interest in the position. Submission of materials via e-mail is strongly encouraged. Nomination letters should include the name, position, address and telephone number of the nominee. All applications and nominations will be handled in confidence.

Applications and letters of nomination should be submitted to:



Alberto Pimentel  
Managing Partner

Storbeck/Pimentel & Associates  
6512 Painter Avenue  
Whittier, CA 90601  
562-360-1353(FAX)

Email: [apsearch@storbeckpimentel.com](mailto:apsearch@storbeckpimentel.com)  
Refer to code "**CSUF-JCAST**" in subject line

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