Leadership Statement
Dean, Herron School of Art and Design

OVERVIEW

IUPUI seeks a visionary leader to serve as the dean of the university’s Herron School of Art and Design, Indiana’s premier professional art and design school, accredited by the National Association of Schools of Art and Design (NASAD). Graduates receive an Indiana University degree.

Located in the heart of the culturally vibrant city of Indianapolis, IUPUI embraces its identity as an urban, public, research university, with a student body of approximately 30,000 students and a growing residential campus. Herron, one of 18 schools on campus, is fully invested in IUPUI’s research, creative activity, teaching, and civic engagement missions. IUPUI celebrates its 50th anniversary during the 2018-2019 academic year, while Herron marks its 117th year. Founded in 1902 as a private art school first affiliated with the Indianapolis Museum of Art, Herron joined Indiana University in 1967 and IUPUI when it was formed in 1969. The school has a rich legacy, with the footprints of faculty, alumni, and students all over Indiana and across the nation and world.

Founded on the principle that creative research and teaching are indispensable to one another, Herron is committed to hiring faculty who are both professionally active and dedicated to building a tightknit learning environment that celebrates diversity, creativity, individuality, and collaboration. With 14 major, four minor, and two certificate options, Herron’s programs focus on intensive experiential learning. While retaining the individuality of an independent, urban art school, Herron collaborates with literally every school on the IUPUI campus to pursue research and innovations such as art therapy services, mobile apps, service design interventions, and public art. Because integrative, experiential learning is built into the curriculum, students and faculty alike collaborate with organizations and businesses throughout Indianapolis and beyond. Herron’s robust study abroad programs to multiple international destinations complement the rich campus experience.

Herron enrolls more than 800 undergraduate and graduate students in studio art, visual communication design, art history, art education, and art
therapy, and employs more than 50 full-time faculty and more than 20 full-time staff. The school’s operating budget is approximately $13 million. Herron spans two state-of-the-art buildings on the IUPUI campus, designed to meet the needs of an art and design school in the 21st century, comprising more than 200,000-square-feet of studios, galleries, and other inspirational spaces. The main building is adjacent to the museums of White River State Park and the Indianapolis Cultural Trail. The school has over 70 studio spaces and more than 10,000 square feet of dedicated exhibition space. Other facilities include the Basile Center for Art, Design and Public Life, serving as a hub for professional practice opportunities, career development, and connecting Herron talent with community partners, as well as the Think It Make It Lab, enabling the creative use of new technologies and providing a collaborative environment for research, experimentation, and innovation.

Herron’s position of dean provides a transformational opportunity for growth and innovation for the right candidate. With Herron’s expanding facilities, programs, and galleries, the dean will be joining a team of faculty and staff poised to assert Herron as the leader and innovator in the arts and design for the state and region. In addition, the dean will mentor faculty hired to begin in Fall 2018 as new endowed chairs and professors in art history/international studies, art therapy, painting, and furniture design. Moreover, the dean will oversee the future hiring of a faculty member for an endowed chair in printmaking.

Collaborations and civic and corporate partnerships are sought, fostered, and supported throughout the school, campus, and community, positioning Herron at the forefront of providing career paths for our students that allow for real world experience while broadening faculty research. For example, significant multidisciplinary collaborations are currently underway with the Indiana University School of Medicine on the Indianapolis campus, recognized as a national leader in health care and research. The dean will have the opportunity to extend campus and community collaborations even further.

IUPUI’s Arts and Humanities Institute, along with Indianapolis’ many cultural and funding opportunities and agencies, and growing metropolitan area extend the dean’s ability to steer profound growth in the school well into the future. Our future graduates will join the ranks of our existing alumni making their mark at tech giants, start-ups, global retailers, media and publishing companies, health care institutions, museums, non-profits, and universities, as well as working independently and in collaboration with distinguished artists and designers. (Additional information about the school can be found online at www.herron.iupui.edu.)

THE POSITION

Reporting directly to the executive vice chancellor and chief academic officer of IUPUI, the dean is the chief executive officer for Herron School of Art and Design, and is responsible for fulfilling the school’s mission and realizing its vision. In this role, the dean is the public face of the school and oversees strategic advancement in the areas of curriculum, technology, personnel, fundraising and finances, and community relations, while also engaging in student-focused initiatives.

The successful candidate will provide strong and visionary leadership that aligns with the mission of the school and university. The dean will foster
collaboration among faculty and staff, and support a positive academic environment that values and rewards excellence in teaching, research, and service. The successful candidate will advance an inclusive, diverse, and cohesive culture that provides a positive environment for teaching and learning. The Dean will assure fiscal responsibility for the school, oversee the hiring, mentoring, and retaining of high quality faculty and staff, foster recruitment of a quality student body, strengthen existing degree programs, and stimulate development of new programs as warranted.

The dean will take the lead in shaping the future of the school, helping to advance and hone its standards of excellence, directions of growth, and interdisciplinary connections across the university and community, further developing its reputation regionally, nationally, and internationally. The dean will further develop partnerships with creative entrepreneurs, businesses, government agencies and foundations, and cultural institutions. The Dean will provide strong and visionary leadership in developing international, multi-disciplinary, and collaborative ventures to better prepare students for careers as art and design professionals in the 21st century.

**ESSENTIAL QUALIFICATIONS**

- Terminal degree in fine arts, visual communication, art history, art education, visual culture studies, or art therapy from an accredited institution
- Minimum of ten years of experience in teaching, research, and service
- Minimum of five years of administrative experience
- Qualifications for appointment as a tenured professor in Herron School of Art and Design
- Evidence of maintaining own scholarship and standing in the discipline
- Demonstrated evidence of progressive, dynamic leadership, and a style that promotes a respectful, civil, and collaborative environment
- Demonstrated commitment to building an inclusive and diverse culture
- Communication skills that provide effective advocacy for the school within the university and to external constituencies
- Broad knowledge of all areas taught at Herron School of Art and Design
- Evidence of successful fundraising
- Balancing strong fiscal and business management skills while advocating for the School’s research, teaching, and service missions
- Experience with enrollment management
- Experience in conducting quality hiring and implementing a meaningful evaluation system that holds people accountable for performance
PREFERRED QUALIFICATIONS

• Evidence of visionary leadership serving as the primary representative and champion for an academic institution
• Evidence of strong commitment to developing curriculum and pedagogy at a research university that meet the roles of art and design in the 21st century
• Evidence of experience in strategic planning that involves faculty and staff in collaborative decision making
• Demonstrated experience working with high-level donors, alumni, advisory board members, corporate partners, cultural organizations, and other external stakeholders
• National reputation and strong connection to national organizations and associations
• Demonstrated leadership in managing effectively in an academic environment, including working closely and collaboratively with other deans and units to further university goals and objectives

APPLICATION PROCESS

IUPUI has retained R. William Funk & Associates as the consultant to the Herron School of Art and Design dean’s search. Candidate materials and any questions about the search can be directed to the firm.

While applications and nominations will be accepted until a new dean is hired, interested parties are encouraged to submit their materials electronically to our consultant at the address below by February 1, 2018, to assure optimal consideration. Candidate materials should include a current resume and a letter of interest.

IUPUI HERRON SCHOOL OF ART AND DESIGN SEARCH
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COMMITMENT TO DIVERSITY

IUPUI is an equal opportunity and affirmative action employer. All qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, color, ethnicity, religion, age, sex, sexual orientation or identity, national origin, disability status, or protected veteran status. This institution is also a provider of ADA services.

As one of only 18 universities nationwide to be recognized as the recipient of the prestigious Higher Education Excellence in Diversity (HEED) Award from Insight Into Diversity (the nation’s oldest diversity higher education publication) for six consecutive years, IUPUI is an urban-serving institution with a mission and vision that include both diversity and community engagement. Herron School of Art and Design is looking for a new dean who will contribute to IUPUI’s commitment to engage the city, state, nation, and beyond through teaching, research, and service that are inclusive of the rich diversity of our campus and city as we prepare our graduates to enter and lead in an increasingly complex world.