



## Dean for the School of Arts & Letters

**Truman State University**—Missouri’s highly selective public liberal arts and sciences university—is accepting applications in the search for a strategic and innovative professional as its next **Dean for the School of Arts and Letters**. The University seeks a leader who can combine a sense of humor, passion, global perspective, communication, and collaboration to lead the School.

**The Institution:** A vibrant community of teacher-scholars working closely with an academically-talented student body, Truman is a residential university providing its approximately 6,000 students with broad liberal arts experiences and in-depth study in 49 undergraduate majors and nine graduate programs. Truman is nationally recognized for the quality of educational opportunities that it offers and for its leadership in the assessment of student learning. The University is a proud member of the Council of Public Liberal Arts Colleges (COPLAC)—an organization of publicly funded colleges with a strong dedication to the liberal arts—and is focused on sustaining high-quality relationships between students and faculty, selective admissions, recognition of cultural and intellectual diversity, and a commitment to high-quality liberal arts education for those who may not achieve it otherwise. Truman State University opens opportunity, promotes access and social mobility, fosters excellence, recognizes merit, and does all things that urge students to make themselves productive, free, and equal. Truman commits itself to delivering high-impact learning experiences, and nearly half of Truman’s undergraduates go on to pursue graduate education. Truman is consistently ranked among the nation’s best colleges. For 22 consecutive years, U.S. News and World Report has recognized Truman as the No. 1 public university in the Midwest Regional Category. Other accolades include being recognized by Washington Monthly, which listed Truman as the No. 7 master’s university in the nation and Kiplinger’s Personal Finance magazine, which ranked Truman as No. 19 among the 100 best college values in the nation. More information about Truman and what others have to say about the University can be found at [www.truman.edu](http://www.truman.edu) and [www.truman.edu/about/facts-about-truman/points-of-pride/](http://www.truman.edu/about/facts-about-truman/points-of-pride/).

**The Position:** The Dean for the School of Arts and Letters provides leadership for the School and works with department chairs, faculty, and staff to achieve the goals of the School and the University. The Dean is committed to helping students achieve essential learning outcomes in all aspects of their education at the University and, in particular, is passionate about the humanities and committed to the value that a liberal arts and sciences education contributes to student development. The Dean must be an individual with a high standard of personal and professional ethics and integrity who will work collaboratively with department chairs and faculty to articulate a vision for the School that is consistent with the mission of Truman State University, including goals for inclusivity and diversity. The Dean will supervise and evaluate the performance of department chairs and faculty within the School. The Dean will promote teamwork and continuous improvement among students, faculty, and staff as well as provide intellectual leadership for the School. The Dean will promote assessment as a means of measuring progress toward School and University goals as well as develop strategies to secure external resources to support both School and University programs. The Dean is committed to faculty and staff development and adopts strategies to support faculty teaching, scholarship, and service consistent with the Teacher-Scholar model. The Dean reports to the Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs, serves on Truman’s Deans’ Council, and performs other duties as assigned by the Vice President and President of the University.

**About the School:** The School of Arts and Letters is committed to preparing students to effectively serve as professionals and leaders by providing an exceptional education grounded in the liberal arts and sciences, fostering interdisciplinary collaboration, promoting diverse, rich academic and artistic experiences, and inspiring students to lead meaningful, productive, and interconnected lives. The School also aims to operate as a cultural resource for the community, region, and beyond. About 100 faculty members serve in the five academic departments: Art, Classical & Modern Languages, English & Linguistics, Music, and Theatre. In addition to undergraduate programming, the School offers Master of Arts programs in English, French, Spanish, English Education, Music, and Music Education.

**Qualifications:** The successful candidate will have significant academic and/or administrative experience, be committed to the liberal arts and sciences and public higher education, and have the capacity to develop and lead a strategic vision for the School. S/he should demonstrate an ability to provide management, organizational efficiency, and program administration through experiences including external accreditation processes. Success securing external grants, especially for programs involving multiple constituencies or academic units, and experience working with external university constituencies including alumni, donors, and private foundations will be important. The Dean will have a strong sense of financial accountability and manage resources with discretion and efficiency. The ability to write and speak clearly and effectively, the ability to build relationships and rapport with a wide range of individuals, and a record of promoting diversity are crucial. S/he must hold a terminal degree in one of the disciplines of the School or a related field and possess a record of successful teaching, scholarship, and service sufficient for eligibility for tenure at the full professor level.

**Location:** Located in Kirksville, Missouri, Truman plays a vital role in the thriving regional center of northeast Missouri. The city enjoys excellent schools, low cost of living, and a low crime rate. Within a few minutes’ drive, a broad range of outdoor recreational opportunities is easily accessible. Kirksville is connected to St. Louis (STL) by Cape Air ([www.capeair.com](http://www.capeair.com)). Amtrak operates the Southwest Chief on daily schedules from La Plata (13 miles from Kirksville) to Chicago, Kansas City, and points southwest to Los Angeles. A. T. Still University maintains dental and medical schools in Kirksville. More information about Kirksville can be found at [www.visitkirksville.com](http://www.visitkirksville.com).

**Application:** Interested candidates should submit only a cover letter and resume to RPA Inc. at [TrumanDeanArts@rpainc.org](mailto:TrumanDeanArts@rpainc.org). For a confidential discussion about this opportunity or to make a nomination, please contact Kendra Mozug, Search Consultant, at 570-321-6111 or at the above email address. The review of candidates will begin on September 5, 2019.

*Truman State University is an equal employment opportunity, affirmative action employer committed to cultural diversity and compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act.*



[www.rpainc.org](http://www.rpainc.org)