



Presidential Search

THE SEARCH FOR CULVER-STOCKTON COLLEGE'S NEXT PRESIDENT

The Presidential Search Committee of Culver-Stockton College is conducting a national search for an outstanding leader who fits well with the college's mission and culture and who has the skills required to address the College's priorities. The college's "Mission Statement" notes: *The mission of Culver-Stockton College is to provide students of promise a superb education within an active learning community founded upon integrity and the best values of faith and the human spirit.*

Our new president will be a person who embraces the college's mission with enthusiasm. He or she will assume office on or before July 1, 2009, or as soon after as possible. This prospectus is designed to provide nominators and prospective candidates with helpful information about the College and the position.

CULVER-STOCKTON COLLEGE – ITS FOUNDING

Culver-Stockton College was chartered by leaders of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) as Christian University in 1853. Classes began in 1855. During the Civil War, classes were suspended while federal troops occupied the school's only building. Mr. Robert Stockton and Mrs. Mary Culver of St. Louis played vital roles in the school's history and in 1919 the trustees directed that the name of the college be changed to Culver-Stockton College. Although the College is governed by an independent Board of Trustees, it continues to value its relationship with its founding denomination and the Canton community.



THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

The Board of Trustees is comprised of no fewer than 27 members and no more than 36 members. Members are elected by the Board in classes each serving for three-year terms. Six members, by virtue of their special position and relationship to the College, serve as designated trustees and include representatives of the supporting denomination, alumni council, faculty and students. These designated trustees are elected annually. Trustees can be re-elected to serve three successive terms if mutually desired by both the Board and the individual member.

The Board meets three times each year in either January or February and in June and October. Standing committees of the board are the Executive Committee, Academic Affairs Committee, Committee on Trusteeship, Finance Committee and Audit Committee. The board may establish additional committees as needed. These currently include the Advancement Committee, Facilities Committee, Investment Committee, Marketing Committee and Student Life Committee.

The Board is committed to serving the college not only by meeting its legal responsibilities for oversight but also by assisting the administration in developing the strategic plans for the college. Indeed, the Board desires to develop an effective, symbiotic partnership with the president and his or her administration.

THE STUDENTS

The College serves 810 students, without regard to race or creed, nearly all of whom are traditional-age students in residence on the highly attractive campus overlooking the town of Canton, Missouri, and the mighty Mississippi River. Most of the students come from the tri-state area, though students at Culver-Stockton include representatives of 22 states and 10 international locations.

THE FACULTY AND ACADEMIC PROGRAMS OFFERED

The well-qualified and deeply committed faculty includes 52 full-time members augmented by adjunct faculty. Students speak enthusiastically about the ability and devotion of the faculty. The College offers 27 majors and 28 minors, as well as nine pre-professional programs. The five largest majors are nursing, business, elementary education, biology, and criminal justice. The College awards the Bachelor of Arts, Bachelor of Science, Bachelor of Fine Arts, Bachelor of Music Education, and Bachelor of Science in Nursing degrees.

Culver-Stockton recently revolutionized its entire college curriculum with the creation and implementation of **EXP@CSC**, a program where students immerse themselves in two sessions each semester. The first consists of classes over a 12-week period. The second is exclusively a single course for a three-week period and provides opportunity to build real-world practical experience into every major. Many of the three-week courses are created to deliver hands-on life experience through travel, collaborative study, internships, special projects, and other opportunities. **EXP@CSC** gives the College something truly distinctive to share in every possible way—recruiting students, hiring faculty, seeking or soliciting gift support, and further building alumni pride and regional reputation.



THE PHYSICAL FACILITIES

A beautiful vista that overlooks the Mississippi River and changes with the seasons is a highly attractive feature of the 140-acre campus that includes six residence halls, seven College-owned Greek living units, and extensive instructional space featuring a facility for the natural sciences. Moreover, excellent performance spaces for theatre and music and quality athletic facilities, including an impressive new track and field facility, are provided to enhance the co-curricular and extra-curricular programs. The College's physical facilities are well maintained. The campus could readily accommodate a student body of 1,000 without significant additions.

THE CITY OF CANTON, MISSOURI AND SURROUNDING AREA

The city of Canton, Missouri is a small rural community with good public schools and a well-deserved pride in the quality of life afforded its approximately 2,500 residents. Professional services available within the community include medical, dental and legal, all of which are provided by residents of the community. Nearby are the larger communities of Quincy, Illinois and Keokuk, Iowa. St. Louis is approximately 2½ hours away over four-lane highways. The college is the focus of most of the cultural life of the community and speakers of national prominence and artistic groups of similar stature are regular features of life in the community. The relationships between the city and its college are strong and mutually supportive. Indeed, there is a special charm attendant to life in this small, rural community where respect for each individual runs deeply through the fabric of the place.

THE ATTRACTIONS OF CULVER-STOCKTON COLLEGE AND ITS PRESIDENCY

One need not be on the campus for more than a short time to sense the pride in and commitment to this 156-year old institution that its Board, faculty, staff, and students reflect. Some of the attractions they note with little prompting include:

- A College which has done much to position itself to move forward dramatically in the coming years—poised to become a premier liberal arts college
 - ✓ Recent implementation of a truly distinctive new curriculum – **EXP@CSC**
 - ✓ Adoption (2006) of the *Plan for Success*, a 10-year strategic plan
 - ✓ Development (2008) of a comprehensive master facilities plan
- A faculty and staff deeply committed to providing quality educational programs
- A palpably strong sense of community among faculty, staff and students
- A faculty and staff with genuine loyalty to the College and to each other (93% provide financial support to the College)
- The unique beauty of the campus “high on the hill” and overlooking the Mississippi River
- Quality facilities highlighted by the science center
- Outstanding extra- and co-curricular programming including extensive opportunities in the arts (music, theatre, and visual), varsity athletic competition (NAIA) in 15 areas (8 for men and 7 for women), forensics, service learning, and developing study abroad programs
- Students who are active in campus and community leadership, diligent in their work and a joy to teach
- Students have extended opportunities for participation in academic and cultural events led by visiting regional and national artists and speakers
- A strong honors program including membership in ten national honors societies
- Students look to the College as the center of their activities
- Unqualified renewal of accreditation by the regional accreditation body in 2001
- Strong commitment from the Board of Trustees and the College’s alumni/ae
- Rated 36th in the top 50 list of Best Baccalaureate Colleges in the Midwest in the 2009 edition of “America’s Best Colleges” by U.S. News & World Report
- Four years of balanced operating results
- The College has a tradition of good stewardship of its resources



EXPECTATIONS OF THE PRESIDENT OF CULVER-STOCKTON COLLEGE

The Board of Trustees has developed a listing of the expectations of the next president of the college. The list is not intended to be all inclusive. All items noted are important but we emphasize, with purpose, the first three.

- A person with a demonstrated track record of proficiency in fund raising
- A person who understands the admissions and enrollment management functions
- A visionary leader committed to academic excellence
- A person with demonstrated budget and financial management skills
- A leader who will sustain the excellent working relationships with the various constituencies of the College
- A leader of unquestioned integrity who serves as a positive role model within and outside the College and who fosters an environment of teamwork and trust
- A person who possesses strong interpersonal and conflict resolution skills
- A leader who is committed to the personal and professional development of students, faculty and staff
- A person who actively participates in the life of the campus and the community
- A person who will follow College Policies and Procedures
- A person whose faith commitment is an important part of his/her life
- A leader who is a forceful advocate for higher education, open to honest debate and discovery
- A person who will embrace and be an integral part of not only the community of Culver-Stockton College but also the community of Canton, Missouri
- A person who either holds an earned doctorate and has had prior high-level administrative experience in a college or university or has a combination of skills and experiences that are compelling substitutes for degrees and academic experience

INSTITUTIONAL PRIORITIES FOR CULVER-STOCKTON COLLEGE

Like most small, residential liberal arts colleges, Culver-Stockton College must be highly attentive to the need to recruit capable students and to raise the funds required to continue providing a high quality academic program for them. The highest priority will need to be directed toward these goals. It is well recognized that attracting students and dollars is closely correlated with creating an atmosphere of collegiality in which all the constituencies of the College participate and are embraced. Therefore, it will be critically important that the president be able to provide leadership based on integrity and commitment to the College and all its people. Visionary leadership that reflects the history of this fine institution and focuses on developing its future is needed.

Attention will need to be directed to ensuring the successful implementation of the new and distinctive curriculum – EXP@CSC. In addition, the College has completed a comprehensive and compelling Campus Master Plan that it looks forward to implementing with the leadership of its new President. Thorough, well-conceived long range/strategic plans are also in place. These documents will permit the new president, with strong trustee, faculty staff, student and alumni support, to move forward promptly and aggressively to implement programs that will enhance Culver Stockton College, building on its distinguished 156-year history and dramatically enhancing its future. As it moves forward to implement its plans, it will be important for the College to maintain its inviting and supportive environment and to ensure that its co- and extra-curricular offerings continue to present a compellingly attractive opportunity for young men and women.

To summarize, the priorities include:

- Enhancing the College's success in attracting financial support from willing donors and an effective enrollment plan that leads to modest but significant enrollment growth

- Creating an atmosphere that is compellingly attractive to students
- Supporting the faculty and staff in their continuing efforts to provide an excellent academic experience for their students
- Being a respected, visionary leader who earns the respect of all the College's constituents
- Being a person of high integrity in all areas including personal relationships, managerial oversight, and academic leadership
- Developing a positive working relationship with the Board of Trustees

THE PROCESS OF NOMINATION AND APPLICATION

Nominations and expressions of interest in the presidency of Culver-Stockton College should be sent to CulverStockton@academic-search.com. Applications should be sent as Microsoft word attachments, including a letter of interest, C.V., and five professional references. The letter of interest should be addressed to: Mr. Donald K. Gnuse, Chairman; Presidential Search Committee; Culver-Stockton College; One College Hill; Canton, MO 63435.

The Presidential Search Committee will begin to review candidates in January 2009 and continue until an appointment is made. To ensure full consideration, applicants should have all materials on file by March 10, 2009.

The search is being assisted by:

Dr. Harold M. Kolenbrander, Senior Consultant
Academic Search, Inc.
hmk@academic-search.com or 513-233-2676

*Culver-Stockton College is an equal opportunity employer
and strongly encourages applications from women and minorities.*