DEAN – COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING
Search Statement

The University of California, Davis seeks a visionary and dynamic leader to serve as the next Dean of the College of Engineering. Building upon UC Davis’ global reputation and upward trajectory, this leader will help craft the vision for the University of the 21st Century and guide the College of Engineering toward a bold vision of excellence. The University seeks candidates for the position of the Dean who are inspirational, creative, and accomplished leaders in their fields, with a strong commitment to innovation.

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I. Position Summary

The Dean is responsible for the development and implementation of the UC Davis College of Engineering vision and mission, serving as the chief academic and administrative officer. The Dean is responsible for the academic and outreach leadership of the College and the management of its resources, including faculty, staff, and physical facilities. The Dean participates in campuswide policy development through membership on the Council of Deans and Vice Chancellors as well as the Council of Deans. The Dean oversees cutting-edge research and top-ranked education programs addressing critical issues related to advancing engineering knowledge. To succeed in fulfilling these responsibilities, the new Dean must be strongly committed to serving all of the College’s students, staff, and faculty, and also have exceptional ability to Inspire, motivate, and lead the College toward higher excellence and stronger community.
The Dean proactively represents and advocates on behalf of the College internally and externally in the region, the state, the nation, and the world. This function entails serving on various for-profit and nonprofit boards, fundraising, presiding over the Dean's Executive Committee, and other activities that develop beneficial opportunities between the College and related organizations and businesses.

The Dean creates opportunities for the College to serve broad societal goals consistent with the University’s academic mission, such as economic growth that relies on engineering innovation and improvements in education for the next generation of engineers. The Dean also engages with organizations and individuals from beyond the campus who might contribute to the mission and vision of the College, including national laboratories, corporations, potential donors, and alumni.

The Dean obtains information necessary to carry out the functions of the position through regular meetings with department chairs, the Faculty Executive Committee, the Dean’s Executive Committee, and the Dean’s Administrative Council. The Dean also serves on campus committees to facilitate interactions of common interest among the other UC Davis colleges and schools, and on campus and systemwide committees to coordinate research and service activities among the campuses.

II. Opportunities to Make an Impact

The next Dean of the College of Engineering will have the opportunity to make an impact by:

- Expanding the current faculty to meet growth projected under the campus’ 2020 Initiative.
- Advancing the reputation and prominence of an outstanding set of faculty and students poised for growth and higher achievement.
- Positioning the College to take fuller advantage of the opportunities presented by its belonging to one of the few campuses with a veterinary school, medical school, and nursing school, as well as a leading agricultural and environmental sciences college, all operating within a highly interdisciplinary culture.
- Tapping into a strong and growing alumni body with unrealized potential as donors.
- Leveraging the proximity of the state Capital in Sacramento to help faculty inform and educate policymakers.
- Participating in the Grand Challenges Initiative currently under way in food, energy, and health.

III. Position Responsibilities

The Dean is responsible for leadership, strategic planning, and financial and resource management to promote academic excellence for the College of Engineering. The Dean serves as a member of the Chancellor’s Senior Management Team and represents the College at meetings of the Council of Vice Chancellors and Deans, and the Council of Deans. In addition, the Dean will:
• Provide leadership in developing the vision and strategic planning activities associated with the growth and development of the College of Engineering in an inclusive, dynamic manner.

• Provide stewardship of resources of the College, including faculty, staff, physical facilities, and budget.

• Provide leadership in recruiting, engaging, and retaining a diverse faculty and identifying the best allocation of resources to successfully recruit and retain the most-highly qualified faculty.

• Garner support from faculty members to be successful in the shared-governance system that exists at UC Davis.

• Provide leadership in sustaining and obtaining additional resources from donors and corporate partners, as well as from revenue-generating programs. In coordination with the College of Engineering development staff, lead the development of fundraising strategy for cultivation, solicitation, and stewardship of donors. Lead College advancement efforts in communications, relations, and fundraising with external stakeholders.

• Inspire enthusiasm and dialogue for Engineering’s role in addressing grand challenges as a way to expand diversity and retention.

• Provide leadership to the faculty through the department chairs and College committees in developing and improving high-quality programs of instruction, research, outreach, and public service.

• Advocate on behalf of faculty for national and international recognition.

• Represent the College to the campus community and university administration, state agencies, national legislative committees, engineering organizations, alumni, media, constituent groups, and the general public.

• Build and strengthen relationships with alumni and employers to develop financial support and research collaborations as well as internship and career opportunities.

• Provide leadership and an opportunity to include entrepreneurism in the College’s approach to preparing students.

• Draw on a deep understanding of the STEM professions to discern trends that will position UC Davis for short- and long-term success.

• Participate in the development of state and national policy for engineering education.

• Serve on state and national policy boards and participate in state and national studies.

• Make academic personnel decisions re-delegated to the college level, and make recommendations on actions under the authority of the Chancellor and Vice Provost.

IV. Qualities and Characteristics of the New Dean

The next Dean of the College of Engineering will play a pivotal role in the future growth of the College and its work in furthering UC Davis’ continued success and excellence. The successful candidate will possess a distinguished record of leadership, organizational management, and
academic service; a dynamic vision for the future of the College; and a demonstrated passion for the College and University’s commitment to their land-grant mission. In addition, successful candidates will possess:

- An earned doctorate in a relevant field from an accredited university and/or distinguished executive-level experience overseeing engineering-related strategies and operations.
- Knowledge of disciplines relating to engineering as well as an appreciation for the diverse opportunities and challenges in the multidisciplinary fields of engineering.
- A demonstrated ability for charismatic and decisive leadership and management, with a history of collaboration and the ability to forge and implement a compelling and robust organizational vision for the future in an environment of shared governance.
- A track record of building consensus, maintaining a high level of organizational integrity, and inspiring and motivating a diverse faculty with diverse interests.
- The ability to function well as part of the UC Davis leadership team and serve as an advocate on behalf of the College’s and University's interests.
- The ability to communicate and motivate effectively, in writing and speech, to build and enhance relationships with staff, community, and various constituent groups; the ability to listen, and implement strategies responsive to input and feedback.
- Demonstrated ability and experience in outreach to corporate and other external stakeholders/potential donors to enhance and develop long-term relationships for the benefit of the College.
- Demonstrated excellence in financial and administrative skills.
- Experience working in a university environment.
- An appreciation for and commitment to the value of diversity in the ranks of faculty, staff, and students and experience in developing diversity programs.
- Quantifiable success in fundraising and generating financial support within a large, complex organization.
- An ability to work collaboratively with others, combined with a commitment to fostering a collaborative and inclusive work environment.

V. Application and Nomination Process

The Search Committee will begin to screen candidates immediately, though it will continue to accept applications and nominations until the position is filled. Applications should include a letter specifically describing the applicant’s experience and qualifications as they relate to the position and her/his current curriculum vitae. Submission of materials electronically is strongly preferred. Nomination letters should include the name and contact information 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
1111 Corporate Center Drive, Suite 106
Monterey Park, CA 91754
Email: apsearch@storbeckpimentel.com

Please refer to the code “UCD-Engineering” in the subject line.

The University of California is an affirmative action/equal opportunity employer. The university undertakes affirmative action to assure equal employment opportunity for minorities and women, for persons with disabilities, and for special disabled veterans, Vietnam-era veterans, and any other veterans who served on active duty during a war or in a campaign or expedition for which a campaign badge has been authorized.

VI. Supplementary Information

A. The College of Engineering

In keeping with UC Davis’ land-grant mission, the College of Engineering proactively focuses on finding technical solutions to some of the country’s and worlds’ most-challenging problems, while also preparing thousands of highly skilled engineers to participate in addressing these challenges. Since its founding in 1962, the College has grown significantly in both size and national prominence. The volume of applications demonstrates its strong reputation: more than 13,000 students applied for the 1,000 undergraduate positions available for 2014–15.

1. Facts and Achievements

- More than 200 faculty, 350 staff, 1,160 graduate students, and 4,500 undergraduates.
- A budget for operations and research of approximately $140 million.
- $87.4 million in research expenditures for 2013–14.
- 471,000 assignable square feet, mainly in four primary buildings.
- Ranked 17th among the Top 20 U.S. public universities, Best Undergraduate Engineering Programs; ranked in the Top 10 for several programs, including Biological and Agricultural Engineering, and Civil and Environmental Engineering, (U.S. News & World Report, 2014).
- Ranked 18th among the Top 20 public engineering graduate schools (U.S. News & World Report, 2015)
- 21 current and former faculty elected to national academies.
- 50 NSF Faculty Early Career Development Awards (CAREER/PECASE), representing approximately a quarter of College faculty.
2. Disciplinary Breadth

The College includes seven academic departments offering undergraduate and graduate education in the fundamentals of their disciplines:

- Biological and Agricultural Engineering
- Biomedical Engineering
- Chemical Engineering and Materials Science
- Civil and Environmental Engineering
- Computer Science
- Electrical and Computer Engineering
- Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering

3. Research Strengths in Areas of National Need

The College of Engineering's researchers and educators focus on specific areas of concern that include: energy and the environment; food and agricultural production; health and biology; information systems and technology; new manufacturing; and resilient infrastructure, natural resources, and sustainability. Faculty include recognized leaders in energy efficiency, biomass, wind, alternative fuels and transportation, data visualization, optical communications, network security, and biomedical imaging, among other areas of expertise. In manufacturing, the Engineering faculty are recognized leaders in precision machine tooling, micro- and nanofabrication, robotics, advanced materials, physical electronics, micro-mechanical (MEMS) devices, and high-powered batteries and energy efficiency.

Among the advancements in which UC Davis researchers provide particular leadership and expertise are: electronic voting security, low-carbon fuel standards, plug-in hybrid vehicles, anaerobic digesters that convert organic waste into useable energy, imaging technologies that allow researchers to study biological processes at the cellular and molecular levels, regeneration and repair of cartilage and other tissues, nanomedicine and nanotherapeutics, and drug delivery systems that precisely target diseased cells.

Interdisciplinary research is a priority at UC Davis, and many College of Engineering faculty are engaged in interdisciplinary projects. Faculty take leadership roles in many of UC Davis’ innovative and interdisciplinary institutes and programs that have already achieved national impact and prominence and foster collaboration with, and outreach to, industry. These include the Institute for Innovation and Entrepreneurship, the Institute of Transportation Studies, the UC Davis Energy Efficiency Center, and the Western Cooling Efficiency Center. The College of Engineering has been steadily building the capabilities for the Center for Nano and Micro Manufacturing (CNM2) over the past three years, with an investment of more than $6 million dollars and a number of new faculty members researching the high-throughput nano- and micro-manufacturing of devices and systems.
4. Undergraduate Education

With a long-standing commitment to undergraduate students, the College provides strong engineering programs that balance scientific principles with practical applications in engineering design. The College offers 11 ABET-accredited undergraduate majors (making it the broadest engineering program within the University of California system), including both an ABET-accredited Computer Science Engineering major and a Computer Science major through the College of Letters and Science. These programs prepare students for entry into engineering practice, graduate-level research, and professional schools.

The College is committed to the diversity and retention of our student population. In collaboration with corporate partners, the College opened the Leadership in Engineering Advancement, Diversity and Retention (LEADR) Student Center in fall 2012. The LEADR Center is devoted to student retention, increasing the diversity pool, and filling entry-level jobs with our graduates.

The excellence of our students is reflected in their successes in recent national and international competitions. Examples include College students receiving the grand prize at the International Genetically Engineering Machines (iGEM) competition; being named top U.S. team in the Formula SAE Electric Competition; winning the national ASCE Steel Bridge Competition; and earning two top awards at the SAE Aero Design West competition. Our undergraduate students actively participate in research opportunities with our faculty. Through the campus’ Internship and Career Center, a large number of students participate in internships and co-op opportunities, both on campus and in industry locally, nationally, and internationally. Our program emphasizes collaboration and communication.

5. Graduate Education

The UC Davis College of Engineering offers nine graduate programs and interdisciplinary graduate groups. The College is committed to educating graduate students to address global challenges and places a high priority on increasing the diversity of the graduate student population. With its strong foundation in interdisciplinary training, Engineering serves as a vital bridge that connects many areas of study to complex societal problems.

Graduate students partner with award-winning, highly productive faculty researchers in programs of rigorous scholarship. State-of-the-art research facilities, an innovative and entrepreneurial spirit, and record research funding enable the College, its faculty, and its graduate students to make important contributions to scientific understanding while benefiting global society.

Robust relationships with industry and collaborations with national laboratories allow researchers to transfer knowledge to the marketplace. Recent College investments in entrepreneurship training have increased the engagement of students in research commercialization and have led to the development of companies with a wide array of
impacts on medicine, energy efficiency, and education. The College strives to be one of
the world’s foremost research institutions while developing technological leaders to
serve California, the nation, and the world.
For more information about the UC Davis College of Engineering, please visit

6. Breadth, Innovation, and Focus

The College of Engineering benefits in many ways, directly and indirectly, from the
overall excellence and extraordinary breadth of the university’s teaching and research
programs.

Founded in 1905, UC Davis is a land-grant public research university with approximately
35,000 undergraduate, graduate, and professional students. The university offers
extensive opportunities for interdisciplinary graduate study and more than 100
undergraduate majors in four colleges—Agricultural and Environmental Sciences,
Biological Sciences, Engineering, and Letters and Science—and professional degrees in
six schools—Education, Law, Management, Medicine, Nursing, and Veterinary
Medicine.

Researchers in the College of Engineering have many opportunities to collaborate with
colleagues in other world-class programs at UC Davis. The university is home to one of
the largest life sciences research communities in the world. From work at the molecular
level (pursued at the Genome Center and world-leading programs in Plant and Animal
Sciences and Evolution and Ecology) to applications to entire ecosystems and
industries, UC Davis is renowned for breadth, innovation, and a focus on real-world
solutions. It is at the center of UC systemwide initiatives in Global Food Sustainability
and Carbon Neutrality.

UC Davis has one of the nation’s leading medical schools as well as, since 2009, the
Betty Irene Moore School of Nursing, with its innovative, research-oriented program. The
UC Davis Health System in Sacramento serves six million residents in 33 counties,
through several unique and vital facilities. Health sciences faculty are engaged in
research activities across the College of Engineering. UC Davis also has one of the
nation’s best Veterinary Medicine programs and a Veterinary Hospital.

B. The University of California, Davis

Few institutions can match the comprehensive excellence of UC Davis; the campus is
recognized for its superb accomplishments across its entire academic spectrum. Its
distinctive graduate-group structure and exceptionally collegial culture promote strong
interdisciplinary cooperation. An ethos of partnership and service, in addition to its proximity
to California’s state government, have made the university an invaluable resource for policy
makers and state agencies and home to several state and federal research facilities. Its
physical presence extends from main campuses in Davis and Sacramento to centers from
Bodega Bay to Lake Tahoe, through the Central Valley, up and down the California coast,
and on to Washington, D.C. Combining its own advantages with the resources and prestige
of the 10-campus UC system, UC Davis is a community that provides exceptional support
for world-changing research and education.
Over the past decade, UC Davis has experienced extraordinary growth in research activity, admissions selectivity, campus life, and reputation. UC Davis was ranked 9th among public research universities nationwide, according to U.S. News & World Report’s 2015 “Best Colleges” report. UC Davis was ranked 16th in Washington Monthly’s 2014 national rankings based on contribution to the public good in Social Mobility, Research and Service. The National Science Foundation reports that UC Davis ranks 15th in the nation in research funding among public universities, and 22nd among public and private universities. It is one of only 36 public institutions of higher education admitted to the prestigious Association of American Universities. UC Davis has the 5th highest number of international scholars of all U.S. universities, and it is an early member of the Association of Pacific Rim Universities.

Under the leadership of Chancellor Linda P.B. Katehi, a distinguished scholar and member of the National Academy of Engineering, UC Davis continues to experience a collective momentum that energizes students, faculty, and administration. Annual research awards have more than doubled since 2000, reaching $704 million in 2013–14, and the Chancellor has challenged UC Davis to transform its research enterprise and increase total research awards to $1 billion annually. The College of Engineering will play an important and visible role in accelerating UC Davis research, reaching across the campus to expand its research portfolio.

In 2014, the university completed its first-ever comprehensive fundraising campaign. This ambitious campaign not only exceeded its goal of raising $1 billion from 100,000 donors, it did so a full year earlier than planned and provided a foundation for future capital campaigns. UC Davis is the recipient of an NSF Institutional Transformation ADVANCE grant award, with the goal of increasing the participation and advancement of women in academic science and engineering careers. In addition, the CAMPOS initiative advances multicultural perspectives on science, with an emphasis on Latina STEM scholars. Under these two programs, UC Davis is proud to include among our faculty seven new scholars who have arrived in the past year.

With one of the most culturally diverse student populations in the United States, UC Davis strives to be a place where a broad spectrum of students learn from and support one another, guided by our Principles of Community (http://occr.ucdavis.edu/poc/poc-brochure.pdf). In addition to cultural diversity, UC Davis is a socioeconomically diverse campus, with at least 43% of students receiving Pell grants. The campus is committed to providing an affordable, world-class education. Current average loan indebtedness at UC Davis is less than $20,000, nearly $10,000 lower than the national average. A centralized Internship and Career Center provides assistance with career exploration and facilitates employer connections. An Undergraduate Research Center coordinates research opportunities and highlights research achievements.

For more information about UC Davis, please visit http://www.ucdavis.edu/.

C. The City of Davis

UC Davis offers a high-quality environment for faculty and staff members and their families. The general campus is adjacent to the City of Davis, with a population of 65,000. Davis is an environmentally aware and socially innovative community, with excellent public schools,
more than 103 miles of dedicated bike lanes and paths, and nearly 500 acres of parks and greenbelts. The UC Davis Health System campus is located a few miles away in Sacramento, California’s state capital. Sacramento is the core cultural and economic engine of a four-county metropolitan area exceeding 2.1 million residents—the fourth largest metropolitan area in the state—with diverse cultural offerings and popular recreational opportunities around and on the American and Sacramento rivers. The greater Sacramento area, including Davis, has been cited as one of the five most livable regions in America. Located near Lake Tahoe, the Napa and Solano Valleys, and the Mendocino coast, and about an hour away by train from the San Francisco Bay Area, the region offers a dynamic intellectual, family, and recreational lifestyle.