

SEARCH PROFILE:

DEAN, MEINDERS SCHOOL OF BUSINESS



Oklahoma City
UNIVERSITY

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THE OPPORTUNITY

Oklahoma City University (OCU)—a private, non-profit university established in 1904 and affiliated with the United Methodist Church—invites inquiries, nominations, and applications in the search for its next Dean of the Meinders School of Business (hereafter abbreviated as “Dean”). The University seeks an experienced leader with a proven record in both academia and business, an innovative and strategic visionary who is open to fresh perspectives and can collaborate with faculty and industry partners to plan and fully implement those innovative ideas.

Reporting to the next Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs, who will be named by December 2025 after a national search, the next Dean will provide academic and administrative leadership for the Meinders School of Business. The Dean is responsible for advancing the School’s mission through strategic planning, budget oversight, and program development, ensuring excellence in curriculum design, scholarly activity, instructional delivery, assessment, and outcomes. The Dean will cultivate faculty development and student success, promote interdisciplinary collaboration, and ensure compliance with AACSB accreditation standards. In partnership with University leadership and external stakeholders, the Dean fosters

innovation in programming, leads fundraising efforts, and builds the reputation of the Meinders School of Business and OCU through connections with business and industry.

The University thus seeks a collaborative and inclusive team-builder who values a student-focused business education and fosters a culture of trust, transparency, and mutual respect.

This is a remarkable opportunity for an experienced leader to take the helm of a well-established AACSB-accredited School of Business and bring it to the next level through ensuring that academic programs are relevant and market-responsive, supporting faculty development, and connecting with regional and global business communities. As the face and voice of the Meinders School of Business to internal and external constituencies, the Dean will be a strong fundraiser for the School—an enthusiastic advocate for generating and stewarding resources that support faculty and students in those programs.

The next Dean is expected to begin in 2026. Further details about [Oklahoma City University](https://www.okc.edu/), the position requirements, the leadership agenda for the next Dean, and the application process are provided in this profile.



OKLAHOMA CITY UNIVERSITY

As the OCU website explains about its [founding and history](#), the institution known since 1924 as Oklahoma City University “had several names and locations in its early years. One thing has remained constant; the university has remained firmly attached to its Methodist roots.” The connection to the Oklahoma City region and its people through more than a century is also a constant—even as the population and educational needs have changed since 1904.

Every era since its founding has kept the values of the institution at the core of its education for each generation of students. The OCU website notes that the Great Plan developed in the early 1950s emphasized the importance of broad learning for everyone, instead of technical training: that Plan was “designed to elevate the academic discourse and thereby deepen the quality of education offered to all students.” In the decades that followed, with enrollment increasing, this approach was successful not only in offering a distinctive education but in promoting the value of liberal education: the Great Plan “inspired positive changes across campus and a move toward interdisciplinary approaches at all levels. Departments worked together to create courses that approached lofty topics from a variety of perspectives and taught students to look at life in a new way.”

As a result of the commitments of leaders, students, faculty, staff, and donors, this private, non-profit university located on 104 park-like acres in the heart of the historic Uptown 23rd District of Oklahoma City, is now a diverse community of academic achievers, big thinkers, independent spirits, and dedicated artists. At OCU, students from across the globe follow their passions and excel in the liberal arts, fine and performing arts, sciences, law, health professions, and business.

The University continues to build on its reputation for academic success: OCU achieved its first institutional accreditation in 1951, with the most recent reaffirmation from the Higher Learning Commission in 2022. Specialized [accreditation](#) for many programs attests to the strengths and reputation of the distinctive academic programs. OCU now offers more than 70 undergraduate majors and 20 graduate degrees, including the Juris Doctor, Master of Business Administration, Master of Fine Arts, Master of Music, Master of Science, and Doctor of Nursing Practice.

According to national rankings, Oklahoma City University continues to stake its claim as one of the top private universities in the nation. The college and information

planning site [Niche](#) listed OCU among the top 10% of colleges in these categories: Best Small Colleges in America, Best Christian Colleges in America, Best Colleges for Performing Arts, Best Colleges for Music in America. OCU also ranks among the top 20% nationally in these categories: Top Private Universities, Colleges with the Best Academics, Best Colleges for Nursing, Best Colleges for History, Best Colleges for Kinesiology and Physical Therapy.

Serving as OCU’s 19th President since 2021, [Dr. Kenneth R. Evans](#) leads with a focus on growth and innovation that benefits the University, its faculty, staff, and students, and the regional and global communities it serves. Under his leadership, OCU continues to engage leaders in implementing the six goals of its [Five-Year Strategic Plan](#). In addition to continued emphasis on inclusion, belonging, equity, accessibility, and diversity, this Plan calls for collaboration, partnerships, and attention to critical issues related to enrollment, student success, compensation, and other areas.

MISSION

Inspired by a culture of creativity, Oklahoma City University fosters an immersive, personalized experience that welcomes and prepares students to pursue boundless opportunities.

VALUES

Create: Be innovative and enterprising

Excel: Be extraordinary

Lead: Empower yourself and others

Respect: Value each other

Serve: Pursue generational impact

Collaborate: Cultivate community

VISION

Oklahoma City University will be an innovative academic institution with local impact and global reach and reputation. By providing a student-focused learning environment and an inclusive, values-centered culture that engages the community and the world, Oklahoma City University will be a university of choice for talented and high-potential students, faculty, and staff.

OCU FAST FACTS (FALL 2024)

Total enrollment:

2,966 (1,514 undergraduate; 1,025 graduate; 427 law)

Full-time undergraduate enrollment:

1,432

Known race/ethnicity of student body:

55% White; 13% Hispanic; 10% International; 8% Multiple Race; 6% Black or African American; 4% Asian; 3% American Indian or Alaska Native; <1% Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander.

Gender of undergraduate student population:

66% female, 34% male

Pell-eligible students:

14%

Origin of student population:

55% from Oklahoma, 34% from other U.S. states, 11% from more than 40 other countries

Undergraduate admissions acceptance rate:

~70% (ACT range 21-25)

Student-faculty ratio:

11:1

Average class size:

17 (first-year students); 13 (upper-division students)

Number of faculty:

328 (88 full-time, tenure-track; 96 full-time, non-tenure-track; 144 adjunct)

Number of athletic teams:

19 (Sooner Athletic Conference, NAIA)

Nickname:

Stars

Mascot:

Starsky the Ram

Colors:

Blue and white





OCU POINTS OF PRIDE

- Student enrollment in the fall 2024 increased for the second straight term to the highest level in eight years.
- Connections with local, state, and federal government and issues are strong, as [David Holt](#), Dean of the OCU School of Law, has been serving as the Mayor of Oklahoma City since 2018.
- Seventy-eight percent of faculty members hold the highest degrees in their fields. Professors, not graduate assistants, teach all classes.
- As this news release notes, the [Tribal Sovereignty Institute](#) was established in 2024 to build on the long-standing relationships of OCU School of Law with tribal and Nation leaders and OCU's scholarship on sovereignty and American Indian law. Now under development as one of the specialized centers of the School of Law, this Institute seeks to pursue sovereignty initiatives beyond the legal realm through cultural preservation, language revitalization, and economic development.
- Overseen by the [Division of Student Affairs](#), more than 60 [student organizations](#) encourage students to connect with others and develop their interests, explore new perspectives, and prepare for their careers. These organizations range from those focused on academic excellence, Greek life, performing arts, student government, multicultural student associations, community service, as well as political and religious interests.
- OCU's [Ann Lacy School of American Dance and Entertainment](#) has been consistently rated one of the top U.S. destinations for dance programs on industry lists such as [Backstage](#), [DanceUSA.org](#), and [College Magazine](#). More than 60 OCU dancers have gone on to become Rockettes or Radio City song and dance ensemble members, and more than 100 OCU graduates have been featured in Broadway musicals.
- The [Wanda L. Bass School of Music](#) boasts a reputation for producing star performers, like Kristin Chenoweth, Leona Mitchell, and Kelli O'Hara. Designated as an [All-Steinway School](#) and a Yamaha Institution of Excellence, the School is a premier destination for aspiring performers, composers, and educators.
- The [OCU Stars](#) have won more than 70 national championships and consistently field top programs in a variety of sports in the Sooner Athletic Conference (NAIA). OCU student-athletes also excel in the classroom, with athletes typically maintaining an overall GPA of 3.0.
- More than \$34 million is awarded annually in academic merit or performance scholarships, with automatic academic scholarships for first-year students reaching as high as \$13,000 a year. Many other scholarship programs—such as the Clara Luper Scholars and the American Indian Scholarship Program—offer additional assistance to students. More than 90% of students receive academic merit, performance, or need-based [financial aid](#).
- Since 1978, part of the OCU campus has been listed as an historic district on the National Register of Historic Places. This district, comprised of the Administration Building, Fine Arts Building, and Goldstar Building, was nominated for its statewide significance in education and in the United Methodist community.
- OCU was designated by Viqtory, an advocacy organization for supporting students in the military, at the Gold level on its [Military Friendly® School](#) List for 2025-26.
- The Meinders School of Business recently [launched the Executives-in-Residence](#) Program to connect students with a select group of top executives, offering invaluable mentoring, one-on-one conversations, and potential career networks.
- The Kramer School of Nursing addressed a critical workforce and health need in 2023 by establishing the first and only 12-month, in-person [Accelerated Bachelor of Science in Nursing \(BSN\)](#) program in Oklahoma; all students in this cohort passed the NCLEX exam.



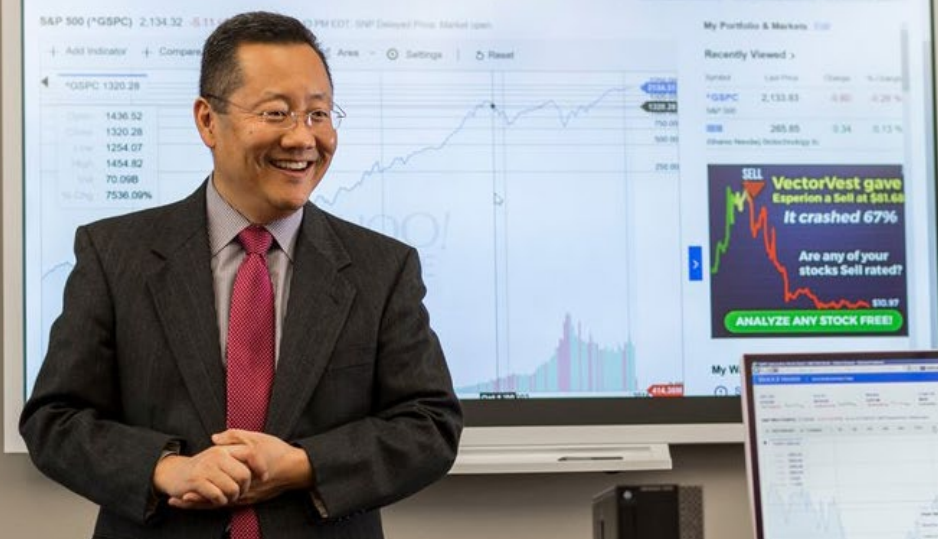
OKLAHOMA CITY AND THE REGION

In conversations about the appeal of working at OCU, faculty, staff, and administrators described their excitement about Oklahoma City itself. Home to more than 1.2 million Oklahomans enjoying an average of 300 days of sunshine per year, [Oklahoma City](#) (OKC) is the capital and most populous city in the state of Oklahoma. With a cost of living significantly lower than the national average, Oklahoma City offers a unique blend of affordability, opportunity, and community that makes it an attractive place to call home. The City also boasts a strong and diverse job market, particularly in sectors like energy, aviation, healthcare, and technology—offering career stability and growth. Beyond economics, Oklahoma City is known for its friendly, welcoming atmosphere and a sense of community that appeals to both residents and visitors.

The City has invested heavily in revitalization efforts, which have led to a vibrant downtown area filled with restaurants, entertainment venues, galleries, museums, and cultural attractions such as the [Oklahoma City Museum of Art](#) and the [Civic Center Music Hall](#). The [Paycom Center](#) is a downtown venue for concerts, as well as the home of the OKC Thunder, which dazzled professional basketball by winning the 2025 NBA Championship. Outdoor enthusiasts enjoy easy access to [gardens and parks](#), lakes, and the extensive Oklahoma

River [trail system](#). The City also embraces its diversity and heritage: “Oklahoma City has the 4th highest Native American population of any city in the United States. Home to 38 federally recognized tribes, Oklahoma is in the heart of Indian Country” ([Oklahoma City University Law website](#)). There are opportunities to learn about Native American heritage, art, and traditions through the [First Americans Museum](#) and many festivals and events.

Positioned near the geographic center of the United States, Oklahoma City serves as a major transportation and logistics hub, with easy access to major highways, like I-35, I-40, and I-44, making it ideal for businesses and convenient for travel. As the [VisitOKC website](#) states, “Oklahoma City offers all of the culture, cuisine, attractions, and amenities you’d expect in a modern metropolis. . . [offering] plenty of hustle without all the hassle.” And [TravelOK.com](#) describes Oklahoma City as “. . . Western charm goes metropolitan in Oklahoma’s capital city. . . also known as the Modern Frontier.”



THE MEINDERS SCHOOL OF BUSINESS

The [Meinders School of Business](#) at Oklahoma City University is known for its commitment to academic excellence, innovative programs, and a supportive learning environment. Accredited by the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business (AACSB), it ranks among the top 4.5% of business schools globally, ensuring students receive a high-quality education recognized worldwide. As the School's webpage explains, its mission is centered in the balance of theoretical foundations and practical applications: "The Meinders School of Business prepares graduate and undergraduate students to be socially responsible leaders in a global economy through teaching excellence and faculty scholarship in business practice and disciplines. Faculty and students engage with the business community, local government, and regulatory agencies as part of the teaching-learning process."

The School of Business was named in 2004 for Herman Meinders (1937-2025), who attended OCU in the 1950s well before he established his reputation and entrepreneurial success with a groundbreaking business, American Floral Services. That company grew to be one of the largest floral wire services in the world and in 2000 merged with Teleflora.

As his recent [obituary](#) in *The Oklahoman* notes, Herman Meinders "... lived a life defined by vision, generosity, and an unwavering belief in the power of hard work and giving back," and OCU "... remained central to his personal story and philanthropic legacy. His enduring commitment to the university and the transformative power of education led him to fund the Oklahoma City University Meinders School of Business." With his wife, LaDonna Kramer Meinders, he provided significant financial support and guidance for OCU, higher education, and the Oklahoma City community and far beyond.

This [Thank You to Herman Meinders](#) video from several years ago celebrated his philanthropy and vision in establishing the School that now bears his name, and it reveals much of the character and dedication of this successful entrepreneur, with his commitment to giving back in ways that provide opportunities for others. The [OCU webpage](#) that announced his passing in March 2025 and celebrates his legacy notes that during his lifetime, Meinders gave more than \$50 million to OCU, including the \$18 million gift that funded construction of the Meinders School of Business building. As President Kenneth Evans said in that tribute, "No person can equal the impact and influence that Herman Meinders has bestowed on

the Oklahoma City University campus and community. . . . He will forever be remembered for his generosity, kindness and spirit. We mourn his passing, but at the same time celebrate his legacy and the thousands of lives he has impacted through his support."

[Faculty](#) in the School of Business bring professional and industry credentials to undergraduate and graduate student learning. Ninety percent hold doctorate degrees and regularly publish articles in professional journals. The average class has fewer than 20 students, so that each student receives individualized instruction, encouragement, and assistance from faculty and staff. School of Business faculty develop and refine program curricula to offer students a broad-based view of management—a view that emphasizes ethics, entrepreneurship, and social responsibility in the workplace and prepares students to work and lead effectively in the challenging and changing global business environment. Recognized for its support of women in business, the Meinders School of Business was ranked fourth nationally on the 2025 College Consensus list of [Best Business Schools for Women](#), highlighting its inclusive and empowering environment.

The Meinders School of Business offers 22 in-demand degree programs (8 undergraduate, 14 graduate), as well as professional education and certificates for lifelong learners. The School also offers minors for students who pair their majors with expertise in areas of management. The School is known for STEM-designated graduate programs offered to address demand for data-driven professionals; the fully online accelerated MBA program allows students and working professionals to complete the program in as little as 12 months. Other programs are also online, expanding the reach of the School to learners beyond Oklahoma City.

UNDERGRADUATE DEGREES

- [BBA in Accounting](#)
- [BBA in Business Administration](#)
- [BBA in Data Analytics](#)
- [BBA in Economics](#)
- [BBA in Finance](#)
- [BBA in Finance, Banking, and Real Estate](#)
- [BBA in Marketing](#)
- [BBA in Supply Chain Management](#)

THE MEINDERS SCHOOL OF BUSINESS (CONTINUED)

GRADUATE DEGREES

- [MBA \(fully online\)](#) with seven options for a selected concentration
- [MBA in Corporate Accounting](#)
- [MBA in Data Analytics](#)
- [MBA in Energy](#)
- [MBA in Financial Analytics](#)
- [MBA in Healthcare Administration](#)
- [MBA in Leadership](#)
- [MBA in Management Information Systems](#)
- [MS in Accounting](#)
- [MS in Accounting \(STEM\)](#)
- [MS in Applied Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning](#)
- [MS in Data Analytics](#)
- [MS in Financial Analytics](#)
- [MS in Management Information Systems](#)

MINOR AND CERTIFICATE PROGRAMS

- [Economics Minor](#)
- [Citizen Data Science Certificate](#)
- [Government Contract Management Certificate](#)
- [Master Certificate in Financial Fraud and Forensic Accounting](#)
- [Master Certificate in Healthcare Practice Management](#)
- [Certificate in Negotiations and Conflict](#)
- [Certificate in Petroleum Land Management](#)
- [Certificate in Project Management](#)
- [Certificate in Tribal Law I](#)
- [Certificate in Tribal Law II](#)

The Meinders School of Business is highly visible on the OCU campus, with an impressive, three-story [state-of-the-art home](#) for business students made possible through the \$18 million gift from Herman Meinders. The building includes cutting-edge technology in more than 12 teaching rooms, four executive classrooms, large and small conference rooms, four computer labs, a student/faculty lounge to facilitate collaboration and mentoring, breakout rooms for small-group meetings, and the 264-seat, theater-style Kerr-McGee Auditorium. In an on-site learning center, students can record video and review mock interviews and presentations, and in the career center, they can take online self-assessments and obtain career-planning resources and assistance.

The Meinders School of Business also emphasizes distinctive experiential learning facilities and connections to business communities:

Faculty and staff stay informed of the latest and best practices in modern business through regular meetings with the [MSB Advisory Board](#), comprised of working professionals from a broad spectrum of industries.

The Bloomberg Finance Lab—funded in part through gifts from the Chickasaw Nation and Sue Ann Arnall—has been transformational in financial education, offering 12 licensed Bloomberg Terminals and two oversized monitors.



The [Steven C. Agee Economic Research and Policy Institute](#) contributes intellectual assets to the local community through economic impact studies, economic forecasting, custom policy modeling and analysis, and statewide consumer sentiment and energy industry indices. As [this video](#) explains, more than 500 OCU students become involved in this diverse consulting and research service, resulting in 100% placement of students who work with faculty in this Institute as part of their education.

The [Ronnie K. Irani Center for Data Analytics and Artificial Intelligence](#), established in 2017 following a gift by OCU alumnus and benefactor Ronnie K. Irani, provides clients with insights through customized analytic solutions adapted to their unique needs. Areas of focus in the Center include forecasting, spatial modeling, Monte Carlo analysis, optimization, and machine learning.

Students, faculty, and leaders in the community benefit from professional gatherings and podcasts hosted by the Meinders School of Business. These include the monthly luncheon of the [Oklahoma City Economics Roundtable](#), annual [Women in Leadership](#) conference, and the [Business Stars Podcast](#) series.

Enrichment opportunities for students include study abroad programs, internships, and a vibrant roster of extracurricular organizations, such as the Meinders Investment Club, Student Accounting Society, and Business Ethics Consortium.

Financial support for students is robust, including the Meinders Business Fellows, the Business Excellence Award, and the Meinders Business Transfer Scholarship.

The [Executives-in-Residence Program](#) connects students with a select group of top executives, offering invaluable mentoring, one-on-one conversations, and potential career networks.

The [Summer Business Academy](#) is a 3-day camp experience for high school sophomores, juniors, and seniors to learn about careers in business, sample accounting, finance, and marketing classes from Meinders School of Business professors, and tour some of Oklahoma City's corporate facilities, such as the 2025 NBA Champion [OKC Thunder](#), [OKC Riversport](#) facility, [Paycom Arena](#), and business consulting firm [LYT Group](#).

Thus, the Meinders School of Business has a well-established foundation—with impressive facilities, and academic programs. The next Dean will have opportunities to build, connect with business professionals, inspire and support faculty, and lead a cohesive team to develop and implement innovative approaches with impact in Oklahoma City and beyond.



RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE DEAN

One of six deans who report to the Provost (as shown on this [organizational chart](#)) the Dean of the Meinders School of Business is the chief academic and administrative leader of this School, fostering a culture of innovation, collaboration, and academic rigor. The Dean advances the School's mission through strategic planning, budget oversight, program development, and consistent fundraising. Working closely with and directing the Associate Dean in ensuring excellence in curriculum design, scholarly activity, instructional delivery, assessment, accreditation, and outcomes, the Dean cultivates faculty development and student success, promotes interdisciplinary collaboration, fosters innovation in business education, and partners with University leadership and external stakeholders in fundraising and community engagement efforts. The Dean maintains a visible presence at campus and community events.

These are the key responsibilities the Dean is expected to perform or oversee:

- Manage the overall operations of the Meinders School of Business in accordance with the University's mission, core values, policies, and procedures.
- Actively participate in fundraising and development activities for the School in coordination with the Office of Advancement, cultivating donor and alumni engagement and major gift solicitations.
- Provide strategic leadership to increase student enrollment and support appropriate student retention efforts in the Meinders School of Business.
- Develop, oversee, and execute budgets for the Meinders School of Business, ensuring all necessary programs are appropriately funded and that operations remain within budgetary allocations.
- Lead continuous improvement of academic programs through the assessment, planning, implementation, and evaluation of curricula and co-curricular offerings.
- Collaborate with faculty and University leadership to maintain AACSB accreditation and compliance with relevant academic and professional standards.
- Play a key role in the strategic planning processes of the School and the broader University, aligning School of Business priorities with institutional goals.
- Ensure that students in business programs receive high-quality academic advising and support services to foster their academic and professional development.
- Recruit and retain well-qualified faculty whose credentials support accreditation standards and who contribute positively to the cultures of the School of Business and the University.
- Oversee faculty workload and performance; work with the Provost on matters such as promotion and tenure, faculty development and evaluation, and adherence to faculty policies.
- Ensure that the Meinders School of Business is structured effectively to support academic programming, governance, and administrative functions.
- Promote the integration of emerging technologies in data science, information science, and instruction to advance academic innovation.
- Use assessment data and institutional research to inform strategic decisions, enhance program quality, and improve student outcomes.
- Maintain collaborative relationships and represent the School of Business in interactions with other academic and administrative offices on campus.
- Promote interdisciplinary programming and creative collaborations across academic units to enrich student learning and artistic innovation.
- Represent the University and the School of Business locally, regionally, nationally, and internationally—including participation in public speaking, conferences, and business communities.
- Engage in campus-wide initiatives and activities as appropriate and as directed by senior University leadership.

RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE DEAN (CONTINUED)

- Promote responsiveness to the needs of students, faculty, and University administration through transparent and effective academic and operational leadership.
- Serve as a visible and active liaison between the University and the broader business communities.
- Lead and advance diversity, equity, and inclusion initiatives to enrich the academic environment and faculty profile of the Meinders School of Business.

The Dean reports to the Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs and receives broad direction with a high degree of autonomy in managing the academic and operational functions of the Meinders School of Business. The Dean is expected to align initiatives of the School of Business with institutional goals and to consult with the Provost on strategic priorities, major decisions, and policy implementation.

The Dean provides direct supervision to academic faculty and operational staff, setting clear expectations for performance, teaching excellence, and professional conduct. This includes oversight of workload assignments, annual evaluations, professional development, and adherence to university policies, while fostering a collaborative, inclusive, and student-centered work environment.

The Dean regularly collaborates with the Provost, academic leaders, senior leadership, and other deans on strategic planning, budgeting, and policy matters. They work closely with faculty, department chairs, and staff within the Meinders School of Business to support academic programs, operations, and student success. Additionally, the Dean engages with students and campus committees to promote interdisciplinary initiatives and foster a vibrant, innovative community.

The Dean engages with external stakeholders such as alumni, donors, community organizations, and business professionals to build partnerships, secure funding, and further enhance OCU and the School's reputation and impact. The Dean also collaborates with accrediting bodies, professional associations, and other educational institutions to ensure program quality and stay current with industry standards. These contacts are strategic and relationship-driven, supporting growth and community engagement for the Meinders School of Business.





LEADERSHIP AGENDA FOR THE NEXT DEAN

The next Dean will lead the Meinders School of Business to its next level of excellence, through strategic approaches to enrollment, engaging faculty in innovative approaches to business education, and partnership with business communities. The Dean will bring energy and visibility to the distinctive programs of the School and seek fresh approaches to preparing students for successful careers.

In addition to collaborating with the Provost and other deans on achieving the six shared goals of the OCU [Five-Year Strategic Plan](#), these are the other priorities for the next Dean of the Meinders School of Business:

- Lead successful fundraising and external engagement to generate human, financial, physical, and technological resources that support the work of the Meinders School of Business.
- Provide steady, strategic leadership for the programs and people in the Meinders School of Business by engaging faculty in developing a shared vision for creative approaches to innovative academic programs and working together to implement these approaches.
- Model ways to ensure that the School's business programs are current, relevant, and offered in the locations, times, and modalities sought by students and professionals.
- Oversee recruitment and retention of faculty, and work with the University to address issues related to faculty compensation.
- Expand, engage, and strengthen the network of alumni who are now working in a variety of industries.

QUALITIES EXPECTED IN THE NEXT DEAN

Based on pre-search listening sessions, surveys, and conversations about the desired characteristics for the next Dean of the Meinders School of Business, the following are the personal and professional qualities that Oklahoma City University colleagues and stakeholders expect:

- Alignment with OCU's values and student-focused mission.
- An accessible and collegial personal style, engaging with others in ways that build trust and delegating appropriately to include multiple perspectives and develop teams and leaders who can share responsibility.
- Exceptional communication skills: interpersonal, written, speaking, and listening.
- Ability to engage and inspire stakeholders across the University, business community, and beyond.
- Ability to advocate for and steward resources needed for competitive faculty compensation.
- Ability to dwell in the creative tension between academe and industry, balancing the external focus on the business community with the internal relationships and processes for faculty and students.
- Forward-thinking approach to curriculum development, interdisciplinary collaboration, and innovative programming and modalities.
- Ability to nurture strong networks with business and industry communities.
- Someone who values inclusion and thinks of ways to foster global perspectives and learning.
- Ability to honor existing relationships with donors and still be innovative.
- Ability to manage multiple roles, separating public roles in fundraising and industry partnerships and operational roles with the faculty, staff, and students.
- Impeccable character, integrity, and compassion.



REQUIRED AND PREFERRED QUALIFICATIONS

REQUIRED QUALIFICATIONS

To be effective in academic leadership, administrative management, and partnerships with the business community, the successful candidate for Dean of the Meinders School of Business **shall demonstrate all these required qualifications:**

- **Degree:** An earned doctorate from an accredited institution in a discipline associated with the university.
- **Academic Accomplishment:** A record of teaching, scholarship, and service appropriate for a faculty appointment with tenure.
- **Administrative Experience:** A successful record of academic administrative experience (managing budgets, personnel, curriculum, hiring and evaluation of faculty).
- **Inclusive Excellence:** A demonstrated commitment to diversity, equity, inclusion, and belonging.
- **Fundraising/Partnership Experience:** A successful record of work with individual donors, partner organizations, and business/industries to secure and steward support for initiatives in the Meinders School of Business.
- **Accreditation and Assessment:** Demonstrated understanding of standards, assessments, and processes for accreditation.

PREFERRED QUALIFICATIONS

The successful candidate for Dean of the Meinders School of Business **may also demonstrate some of these preferred qualifications:**

- Understanding of and experience with AACSB accreditation.
- Experience in graduate, undergraduate, executive, and certificate programs.
- Industry experience outside of higher education.
- A record of success in leading change.
- Significant experience in assessing current program offerings and designing new programs that are consistent with the mission of the School.



NOMINATIONS, APPLICATIONS, AND TIMELINE

Academic Search Senior Consultants Dr. Ginny Horvath and Dr. Dan DiBiasio are assisting Oklahoma City University in this search. All inquiries, nominations, and applications will be held in strict confidence. To learn more about this opportunity, discuss your qualifications and interest, or schedule a call with either Senior Consultant, potential applicants are welcome to email OCUDeanMSB@academicsearch.org.

APPLICATIONS

Applicants should send these documents (three separate PDFs) and only these documents to OCUDeanMSB@academicsearch.org:

- A detailed **cover letter**, addressed to the search committee, expressing your interest in this position and addressing how you meet the specific qualifications and expectations outlined in this profile.
- A current **curriculum vitae** that includes relevant responsibilities and accomplishments.
- A **list of five professional references**, including their names, titles, organizations, phone numbers, email addresses; indicate the perspective on your work that each reference could provide.

References will not be contacted until later in the search process and only with the candidate's permission. A full background check (including verification of identity, degrees, and employers; criminal background check; and sexual misconduct check) must be completed satisfactorily before any candidate can be offered this position.

NOMINATIONS

Although nominations are not required to be considered for this position, leaders who know of outstanding candidates are welcome to submit confidential nominations in an email to OCUDeanMSB@academicsearch.org. Be sure to include the nominee's full name and contact information. Academic Search will notify people of their nomination, provide details about the position, and encourage them to apply.

SEARCH TIMELINE

Although the position remains open until filled, for full consideration by the Search Committee, candidates should submit their applications materials by **September 23, 2025**. Finalists for the position are expected to participate in campus interviews that will include a public presentation.

The search timeline includes plans for screening and interviews in late Fall 2025, with an expected start date for the new Dean of the Meinders School of Business in early 2026.

Oklahoma City University is committed to diversity and equal opportunity in education and employment. We do not discriminate based on sex, race, age, ancestry, color, disability, genetic history, national origin, marital or medical status, religion, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, pregnancy, parenting, veteran status, or perceived characteristics.

ABOUT ACADEMIC SEARCH

Academic Search is assisting Oklahoma City University in this work. For more than four decades, Academic Search has offered executive search services to higher education institutions, associations, and related organizations. Academic Search was founded by higher education leaders on the principle that we provide the most value to partner institutions by combining best practices with our deep knowledge and experience. Our mission today is to enhance institutional capacity by providing outstanding executive recruitment services, executive coaching, and transition support, in partnership with our parent organization, the American Academic Leadership Institute.

