

# SEARCH PROFILE:

DEAN OF THE COLLEGE OF NATURAL AND HEALTH SCIENCES



THE UNIVERSITY  
OF TAMPA®

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The University of Tampa (UTampa), a medium-sized private comprehensive university located in downtown Tampa, Florida, is searching for the next dean of the College of Natural and Health Sciences. The dean is responsible for academic and administrative planning; fundraising; faculty development; external relations with alumni, the local community, and external partners in industry and health care; accreditation; and budgeting. UTampa seeks an exceptional and engaged leader who will continue to build upon the college's growth and expand its reach to students, donors, faculty, staff, and Tampa's thriving business, industry, and healthcare communities.



## THE UNIVERSITY OF TAMPA

From the gleaming minarets of Plant Hall – Tampa’s signature [National Historic Landmark](#) – to the \$1.06 billion in new construction completed or underway since 1998, the University of Tampa is a private, comprehensive university located in downtown Tampa, Florida. It is currently ranked highly by *U.S. News & World Report*, *Forbes*, and *The Princeton Review*. The University’s 110-acre residential campus provides an exceptional setting for learning both on and off campus. Valuing the community’s international heritage, the University attracts students, faculty, and staff from around the world to facilitate intercultural learning. Known for its dynamic combination of academic excellence, personal attention, and vibrant urban campus, UTampa offers a globally connected education that prepares students for the challenges and opportunities of a rapidly changing world.

Since 1931, the University of Tampa has provided its students with exceptional learning experiences in a global context. The administration, faculty, and staff are committed to supporting every student’s development and success, recruiting and promoting faculty of the highest credentials and standards of excellence, creating a supportive campus community, and engaging the larger community and world. UTampa has grown roughly tenfold over the past 30 years and currently has over 11,500 students from all 50 states and approximately 130 countries.

UTampa’s academic structure – the four-college model – has helped the University retain its small-school ambience despite rapid growth. Together, the University offers over 200 [academic programs of study](#), including 22 master’s degree programs, three doctorates, and numerous study abroad opportunities. Each college is headed by a dean who reports to the provost and vice president for academic affairs. The four colleges are:

- [College of Arts and Letters](#)
- [College of Natural and Health Sciences](#)
- [College of Social Sciences, Mathematics and Education](#)
- [Sykes College of Business](#)

The four-college model allows each academic area to have a greater sense of identity and gives students and faculty an academic home to support their experience of scholarly community. In addition to the four colleges, UTampa has four major interdisciplinary areas that draw students, faculty, and resources from across the colleges and curriculum:

- [Graduate and Continuing Studies](#) coordinates all-university programs for adult and part-time learners.
- [Spartan Studies](#) supports the general education program that is the liberal arts core required of all undergraduate students not participating in the Honors Program.
- [International Programs](#) oversees study abroad programs, international majors and certificates, and international student services.
- [Honors Program](#) offers an innovative curriculum, a close-knit community, and undergraduate research experiences for high-achieving UTampa students.

### POINTS OF PRIDE

- One of the Best 391 Institutions for Undergraduate Education by *The Princeton Review*
- Named by *U.S. News & World Report* in the top tier of the category Regional Universities (South) and noted as a most innovative school, a top performer on social mobility, and a best college for veterans.
- America’s Top Colleges by *Forbes*
- Circle of Excellence Platinum Chapter Phi Kappa Phi
- Top-producing Fulbright Scholar institution – Three faculty members from UTampa were selected for Fulbright U.S. Scholar Program awards for 2025. UTampa was the only university in Florida with that designation in the master’s institution classification and was tied with four other institutions with the second highest number of scholar grants in the nation.
- 1:17 Full time Faculty to Student ratio
- Average class size of 21



## COLLEGE OF NATURAL AND HEALTH SCIENCES

The University of Tampa's [College of Natural and Health Sciences](#) (CNHS) offers rigorous, high-quality curricula designed to prepare students for the challenges and opportunities that lie ahead in high-demand careers as scientists, practitioners, technicians, sport managers, and caregivers. The college is a diverse group of eight departments and more than 20 majors across clinical and non-clinical fields. CNHS is comprised of the departments of Biology, Chemistry and Biochemistry, Environmental Studies, Health Sciences and Human Performance, Physics and Astronomy, Sport Management, Nursing, and Physician Assistant Medicine. CNHS has over 130 faculty and more than a dozen staff to support the college's growing population of 3,113 undergraduate and 225 graduate students.

All of the college's faculty members are experts in their fields, but what brought each to the University of Tampa is a dedication to teaching. CNHS faculty and staff are committed to providing students with a transformative educational experience that emphasizes creativity, problem-solving, and engaging with a broad spectrum of ideas. The college's faculty and staff foster a student-centered environment and work with students on an individual basis. CNHS emphasizes hands-on experience to prepare students to apply their knowledge to address real-world issues. The faculty and staff provide a transformative education embedded in a culture of respect and positivity, which prepares students for the challenges and opportunities they will encounter in their careers.

Recently, UTampa has invested heavily in the development of the college's teaching and research facilities and laboratories. The 90,000 sq ft., six-story Jenkins Health and Technology Building is one of the newest additions to the campus and houses the departments of Physician Assistant Medicine and Nursing with clinical skills and health assessment labs, and ICU and patient care simulation rooms. The campus is also preparing to break ground on a new 150,000 sq. ft. science building to house all of biology and chemistry/biochemistry, which will expand the college's teaching and research laboratory space significantly.

The college continually fosters relationships with organizations in the greater Tampa Bay area and elsewhere to provide students with the opportunity to pursue an internship, volunteer, or interact with professionals working in their

chosen field. Through such partnerships, collaborations and connections, CNHS faculty, staff, and students engage in research, clinical practice and scholarship, interactive and experiential inquiry, and internship learning opportunities that cultivate success. Each department also offers study abroad courses that students can take for credit toward their degree.

### VISION

The college aspires to cultivate a community of well-educated students in the concentrations of science, health, and sport and to prepare them for complex challenges through inquiry, knowledge sharing, and collaboration, as well as the ability to work independently, all while encouraging personal growth and mutual respect.

### MISSION

The college's mission is to educate a richly varied student body through a high-quality curriculum focused on community engagement, critical thinking, experiential learning, and comprehensive research, which equip students to navigate the rapid advancements in science, health, sport, and environmental issues.

### MOTTO

Connect – Transform – Succeed

### VALUES STATEMENT

Connections occur through partnerships, collaborations, and internships that facilitate research, clinical practice, and scholarship fostering creativity, and developing effective scientific and communication skills to address and solve local to global problems. The college community values an in-person education with small student to instructor ratios that involve faculty-student collaboration and mentoring through experiential learning.

Transformations occur through a liberal arts education focused on the sciences, health, and sport. Faculty and staff provide a transformative education rooted in a culture of respect and well-being, preparing students for future challenges and opportunities. The college community values fostering academic success through critical thinking, effective communication, creativity, and service, which provides students with the tools needed to succeed.

# COLLEGE OF NATURAL AND HEALTH SCIENCES (CONT.)

Success is achieved by providing an accessible, healthy environment that emphasizes the well-being of our students, faculty, and staff. Success relies on the continual evaluation and strategic planning pursuant to the growth of the college and its departments. Effective academic advising as it pertains to students' course work and professional ambitions fosters success through retention, persistence, and a timely graduation. Student success is reflected with the attainment of critical thinking skills, their applications to life experiences and contributions to society.

## POINTS OF PRIDE

- High numbers of incoming first-year students: Exceptional science programs attract students to the University with majors such as biology, chemistry, biochemistry, physics and astronomy, forensic science, and marine science. A planned building offering exceptional modern teaching and research facilities for biology and chemistry majors and gathering spaces for all students will continue to attract high quality students.
- 100% typical NCLEX first-time pass rate for nursing students and 100% nurse practitioner certification pass rate for MSN graduates: CNHS offers robust, high-quality programs in the health sciences, including a BSN Nursing Program and a high-quality M.S. in Physician Assistant Medicine program that is supported by ultramodern, internationally recognized skills and state-of-the-art simulation labs. CNHS also boasts an innovative Doctor of Medical Science Program, M.S. in Athletic Training Program (with the only 3+2 (BS + MS) program in the state), and a public health program.
- Interdisciplinary Environmental Studies Major: Environmental Studies offers concentrations in the sciences, public policy, communications, humanities, and public health, which include courses from every college at the University. The major is also highly integrated with community stakeholders as part of the culminating experience for students.
- Nationally accredited Sport Management program: Sport Management attracts a large number of students and is experiencing exponential growth. The program offers a highly integrated volunteer program and a required internship program with community partners including the Tampa Bay Lightning, Tampa Bay Rays, PGA, local schools and charities, and many other organizations in the Tampa Bay area.
- Extensive marine science field station: UTampa's waterfront [Marine Science Field Station](#) is a 3,000-square-foot facility that is equipped to serve both students and faculty in marine science, environmental studies, chemistry, and biology programs. The facility includes a wet laboratory as well as a dry lab/classroom, a scuba storage area, lockers, showers, and a boat slip for the 46-foot research vessel *Bios II*. The wet lab has a recirculating/flow-through seawater system with reservoirs at ground level and a full complement of standard aquarium equipment.

## STRATEGIC GOALS

- Increase the depth and breadth of student research experiences by developing endowed summer research grants for students.
- Enhance faculty research through endowed faculty positions.
- Increase support for faculty to pursue external grant opportunities.
- Complete the planning, design, and occupancy of a state-of-the-art science building and begin planning for the expansion of Health Sciences and Human Performance physical space.
- Continue to build community partnerships to enhance student experiences across the college.
- Develop new undergraduate and graduate programs and new partnerships with professional graduate schools to increase opportunities for our graduates.

## DEPARTMENTS

- The [Department of Biology](#) offers students a wide selection of stimulating courses catering to degrees in biology and marine science-biology, including pre-medical, pre-veterinary, pre-dental, and other pre-health programs, marine biology, and marine science.
- The [Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry](#) offers students a solid foundation in the five major areas of chemistry: analytical chemistry, biochemistry, inorganic chemistry, organic chemistry and physical chemistry, and in forensic science.
- The mission of the [Department of Environmental Studies](#) is to help students and the Tampa Bay community understand and make responsible decisions regarding the environment by integrating knowledge from the natural sciences, social sciences, arts, and humanities at scales ranging from local to global.
- The [Department of Health Sciences and Human Performance](#) offers a unique learning environment. The engaged faculty, stimulating coursework, and hands-on learning opportunities enable students to be highly competitive whether they choose to enter the job market or pursue a graduate degree.
- The [Department of Nursing](#)'s baccalaureate and graduate nursing programs prepare students to respond to diverse healthcare needs. Nursing graduates will find opportunities in an array of stimulating and meaningful careers.
- The [Department of Physician Assistant Medicine](#) offers only graduate degrees and is committed to training graduates who improve the well-being of individuals and communities, build value in their practice, advance their careers, and provide quality medical care through collaborative training.
- Students in the [Department of Physics and Astronomy](#) explore the fundamental nature of reality using mathematical models based on experiment, observation, and intuition. They study a broad range of topics ranging from the tiniest of subatomic particles to the largest: the universe itself.
- The [Department of Sport Management](#) provides students with a combination of sport business theory and practical experience to prepare them for successful careers in the sport management industry.



## TAMPA, FLORIDA

Located at the heart of Tampa, UTampa's riverfront campus provides the benefits of city living while working on a 110-acre campus with historic and modern facilities. With 3.4 million people, the Tampa Bay area is West Central Florida's center of government, commerce, communications, business, health care, scientific research, sports, culture, and entertainment. Tampa Bay is also home to several major corporations including Publix, Raymond James Financial, Jabil Circuit, and Bloomin' Brands. Other major corporations with a significant presence in Tampa include Fisher Investments, Cisco, General Dynamics, HDR, IBM, EPAM Systems, Novetta, Procore Technologies, Gartner, JPMorgan Chase, Progressive Insurance, and USAA. A [nationally](#)

[recognized, comprehensive healthcare system](#) also services the Tampa Bay region. This system includes Tampa General Hospital, which is nationally ranked among the top 50 hospitals in the nation in six specialties; AdventHealth; USF Health; BayCare; and 20 VA Health Care sites.

Prominent area attractions, including the [David A. Straz Jr. Center for Performing Arts](#), [Tampa Museum of Art](#), and the [Benchmark International Arena](#), are a five-minute walk from campus. [Busch Gardens](#), [ZooTampa at Lowry Park](#), and the [Florida Aquarium](#) are also popular Tampa attractions. UTampa is a 30-minute drive from the front gates of [Ruth Eckerd Hall](#), the [Mahaffey Theater](#), [Museum of Fine Arts. St. Petersburg](#), and the [Salvador Dali Museum](#).



## DEAN OF THE COLLEGE OF NATURAL AND HEALTH SCIENCES

Reporting to the Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs, the next dean will provide visionary leadership to fulfill the values and goals of the college with an emphasis on teaching excellence, fundraising, dynamic programs, research and scholarship, and partnerships. The dean will build upon the success of high-growth enrollment; expand external relationships to secure partnerships, funding, and student internships and clinical experiences; and prioritize a collaborative environment focused on student success. The selected individual will be a consultative decision maker that values shared governance, faculty and staff input, and will work collaboratively with faculty, staff, students, administrators, and community partners in industry and healthcare.

Key qualifications of the next dean of the College of Natural and Health Sciences will include experience in building external relationships for fundraising, partnerships, and clinical experiences; a demonstrated record of significant and progressively responsible academic leadership appropriate to this role; and a record of instruction, scholarship, and research excellence that merits appointment as a full professor in one of the departments in the College of Natural and Health Sciences.

### LEADERSHIP AGENDA

The ideal candidate will demonstrate the skills and experience to achieve the following:

- **Cultivate external partnerships** to increase collaborations with partners in industry and the healthcare sector to create opportunities for internships, experiential learning, community engagement, and research for CNHS faculty, staff, and students. Building relationships that lead to further opportunities for clinical placements and related experiences for students within the thriving and robust healthcare sector in the Tampa Bay area is of particular importance.
- **Support faculty and staff** to maintain a robust academic environment with a strong focus on teaching effectiveness, student success, research excellence, and positive faculty and staff outcomes. This includes working with faculty to develop their research profiles and increase sponsored research within the college, while also identifying resources and opportunities for further professional development for faculty and staff across the college. It includes encouraging the development of new and innovative academic programs, supporting faculty research and sponsored programs, and recognizing the importance of professional development to effective teaching, all while balancing faculty workloads.
- **Increase fundraising support** to support the further growth and development of the college and the university. The new dean will build upon the success of current centers and institutes, and partner with university administration, corporations, foundations, and private donors to secure new funding to expand resources and programming.
- **Continue enrollment growth** across the undergraduate and graduate divisions. The dean will build upon the momentum of historic growth in the undergraduate division resulting in increased competitiveness of admissions. The dean will identify opportunities for innovative new programs within CNHS or in collaboration with other academic divisions at UTampa, while also seeking additional resources to support faculty and staff during this period of expansion.





## HOW TO APPLY

Applications should consist of a substantial letter of interest, a CV, and a list of five professional references with full contact information and a note indicating the nature of your working relationship with each. No references will be contacted without the explicit permission of the candidate. Applications, nominations, and expressions of interest can be submitted electronically, and in confidence, to:

[UTampaCNHSDean@academicsearch.org](mailto:UTampaCNHSDean@academicsearch.org)

The position is open until filled but only applications received by **Friday, Feb. 6, 2026**, can be assured full consideration. The University is being assisted by Academic Search. Confidential discussions about this opportunity may be arranged by contacting senior consultant Chris Butler at [Chris.Butler@academicsearch.org](mailto:Chris.Butler@academicsearch.org). Further information about the University of Tampa can be found at [www.utampa.edu](http://www.utampa.edu).

*The University of Tampa is committed to equal employment opportunity for all persons regardless of race, color, religion, sex, age, national origin, citizenship status (as defined under the Immigration Reform and Control Act), disability, or marital status, sexual orientation or veteran's status. The University of Tampa is also committed to provide all of its programs and activities to its students and alumni on a nondiscriminatory basis.*

*Equal employment opportunity extends to all aspects of the employment relationship including hiring, recruiting, interviewing, selection, transfer, promotion, training, working conditions, compensation, benefits, and other terms and conditions of employment.*

# ABOUT ACADEMIC SEARCH

Academic Search is assisting University of Tampa 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.

