

Faculty Executive Director, St. Louis Confluence Collaborative for Community-engaged Research, Teaching and Practice

Washington University in St. Louis is seeking a senior faculty leader for a newly created St. Louis Confluence Collaborative for Community-engaged Research, Teaching and Practice. The Faculty Executive Director will spend at least 50% effort in this position and will lead a priority initiative of the Washington University strategic plan - *Here and Next* ([Here and Next | Washington University in St. Louis \(wustl.edu\)](https://www.wustl.edu/here-and-next)). Housed within the Office of the Provost, the St. Louis Confluence Collaborative for Community-engaged Research, Teaching and Practice (or St. Louis Confluence Collaborative for short) will reflect the university-wide commitment to sustained community engagement in the St. Louis region through institutional infrastructure and support. The St. Louis Confluence Collaborative will serve as an organizing platform **for community-engaged research, teaching and practice at WashU.**

Washington University in St. Louis has a long-standing commitment to impactful community engagement. During his 2019 inaugural address, Chancellor Andrew Martin conveyed his and the University's commitment to the St. Louis region through his announcement of the Washington University Compact, more commonly known as "In St. Louis, for St. Louis." This commitment, and the designation of the St. Louis Initiative as a key driver of the university's strategic planning process, represent a significant step forward in Washington University's goals around community-engaged research, teaching and practice.

Across WashU, there are numerous assets designed to respond to community needs and priorities at the local, regional, state, national, and international levels, including: the Gephardt Institute for Civic and Community Engagement, the Institute for School Partnership, the Center for Community Health Partnership and Research in the Institute for Public Health, Siteman Cancer Center's Community Outreach and Engagement, and similar units in the Sam Fox School of Design & Visual Arts, the Brown School, the Interdisciplinary Environmental Clinic in the Law School, and others. The commitment to and vibrancy of community engagement at Washington University in St. Louis makes this a high impact opportunity for the right candidate. This opportunity also creates an opportunity for innovation to create a model for organizing new ways to elevate and accelerate community-engaged research, teaching and practice to meet the pressing needs of our regional, national and global communities.

The Inaugural Faculty Executive Director will lead the coordination, expansion and support for values-based involvement and alignment of the University's many community-engaged research, teaching, and practice collaborations. **The St. Louis Confluence Collaborative seeks to ensure that Washington University is a trusted partner in advancing a vibrant St. Louis region where all people thrive.** With St. Louis needs at the forefront, the St. Louis Confluence Collaborative's goal is to serve as a convener and partnership developer for the purpose of organizing and supporting community-engaged research, teaching and practice.

The St. Louis Confluence Collaborative will convene leaders from across the St. Louis region to generate, advance, and coordinate knowledge creation, education and practice initiatives that have the capacity to increase racial equity, economic mobility, well-being of youth, educational opportunity, and public health and other mission-critical priorities in the region. We seek a senior faculty leader who can achieve this mission, while upholding the values of **humility, integrity, partnership, impact, and sustainability.**

Position duties: The Faculty Executive Director of the St. Louis Confluence Collaborative for Community-engaged Research, Teaching and Practice will provide leadership to:

1. Initiate and complete a start-up phase, which includes refinement of a comprehensive strategic plan for the Confluence Collaborative;
2. Create action plans for the early implementation of recommendations from numerous collaborative working groups and action teams, including building out the St. Louis Confluence Collaborative's organizational design meant to accelerate community-engaged research, teaching and practice means across the University;
3. Create plans to recruit an administrative/operational leader and support staff expert in community-engaged research, teaching and practice;
4. Convene, design, and lead various internal, external, and integrated planning committees, groups, and task forces in support of values-based involvement and alignment of the University's many community-engaged research, teaching, and practice collaborations among schools, institutes, departments, programs, faculty and other entities across both University campuses;
5. Coordinate, expand and support a comprehensive University portfolio of engaged research, teaching, and practice that respects Washington University community engagement values and principles;
6. With support from and in collaboration with internal partners, design and maintain context-specific education and training programs to support community and researcher capacity for the values-based engagement and partnership supported by the St. Louis Confluence Collaborative for Research, Teaching and Practice;
7. Oversee the St. Louis Confluence Collaborative's vision, mission, programming, operations and policies; steward the St. Louis Confluence Collaborative's resources and collaborate with University Advancement to develop a robust external grant and funding portfolio to sustain Washington University community commitments.

Position qualifications:

- **PREFERRED QUALIFICATIONS**
 - Tenured Associate or Full Professor with advanced degree (PhD., DrPH, PsyD, MD/DO, or equivalent)
 - Experience leading community-engaged research, teaching, and/or practice
 - Demonstrable commitment to building the capacity of faculty interested in community-engaged research and teaching
 - Evidence of community-engaged scholarship (ex: books, chapters, journal articles, discussing theory methods strategies of community and civic engagement)
 - Leadership in Higher Education
 - Strong communication and relationship building skills
 - Evidence of experience obtaining external funding for research and educationally focused projects

Application process:

Candidates are invited to submit a CV and cover letter that addresses their interest in the position and describes how they meet position qualifications. All materials should be submitted via Interfolio:

<http://apply.interfolio.com/136388>. Successful applicants will address experiences leading separate entities through collaboration toward a shared impact goal. The statement may also include descriptions of the candidate's community engagement philosophy, and ways that they have contributed to a just, diverse, and inclusive workplace environment in current or previous employment. Inquiries may be sent to s.higdon@wustl.edu.

Candidates from WashU are encouraged to explore this opportunity and express interest in the position. If a candidate is to move forward as a finalist, then dean and/or department chair endorsement should be sought.