Sonoma State University (SSU or Sonoma State), a comprehensive residential public institution in Sonoma County, California, seeks a visionary and collaborative leader to serve as Dean of the School of Business and Economics (SBE or the School). This is a distinctive opportunity to provide essential leadership at one of California’s most sought after institutions, unique in its liberal arts and sciences mission and located in the economically booming San Francisco North Bay Area amidst the natural beauty of Sonoma County. The Dean, working with various stakeholders and constituents, will have the opportunity to shape and execute the vision for SBE’s next chapter of growth aligned with a new University strategic plan, Strategic Plan 2025, with four priorities at its core: student success; academic excellence and innovation; leadership cultivation; and transformative impact. The Dean will join a new and pioneering leadership team that is working to build the future of Sonoma State and deliver on its vision to embrace innovation in the institution’s quest to be a national model for public higher education by 2025.

Sonoma State has approximately 9,400 students (92 percent undergraduate). U.S. News and World Report consistently names SSU among “America’s Best Colleges”. Founded as a liberal arts college in 1961, Sonoma State has evolved into a diversified university with six schools—Arts and Humanities, Business and Economics, Education, Extended & International Education, Science and Technology, and Social Sciences—that provide students with the intellectual framework and hands-on skills to thrive in a variety of professional careers. A major contributor to the North Bay workforce, Sonoma State offers degrees in 46 majors and 49 minors at the bachelor’s level and 15 at the master's level, as well as nine credential programs and eight undergraduate and graduate certificate programs. The University operates as part of the 23-campus California State University (CSU) system, the largest four-year system of higher education in the United States.

Sonoma State has a long tradition of promoting intellectual and personal growth and contributing significantly to the region’s economy and workforce preparation. With the arrival of President Judy Sakaki in 2016 and Provost Lisa Vollendorf in 2017, there is tremendous excitement and energy on campus as they work with campus leadership and stakeholders to build upon this tradition and refocus attention on student success and the academic mission of the University.

The next Dean of SBE will take the reins after several years of rapid growth and following the recent opening of the Wine Spectator Learning Center in May 2018, as well as a successful Association for Advancing Collegiate Schools of Business (AASCB) accreditation visit, granting the School reaccreditation through 2022. The next Dean, working closely with various stakeholders, will set new directions based on SBE’s many strengths, and will inspire action from the School and University, as well as among alumni, the business community, and other constituencies. This is an opportunity to lead a niche AACSB accredited business school, one with a deep commitment to the region; in doing so, the Dean will have the chance to make a social impact locally, nationally, and globally.
In support of the enduring legacy and mission of Sonoma State and the School of Business and Economics, the Dean will address a set of key opportunities and challenges, which are detailed further in this profile:

- Develop and articulate a compelling vision for the School that aligns with the new University strategic plan.
- Recruit, retain, and empower faculty and staff to provide an excellent student experience.
- Manage and diversify revenue streams and grow resources.
- Continue to prioritize, embrace, and promote diversity and inclusion.
- Be the connector within the University and externally.

A list of the desired qualifications and characteristics of the Dean can be found at the conclusion of this document, which was prepared by the search committee with the assistance of Isaacson, Miller, a national executive search firm, to provide background information and detail the key opportunities and challenges related to the position. All confidential applications, inquiries, and nominations should be directed to the parties listed at the conclusion of this document.

About California State University

The California State University system spans the entire state of California and has an annual budget of more than $5 billion; it is not only the largest four-year university system, but it is also one of the most diverse and affordable university systems in the nation. With 23 campuses\(^1\), 460,000 students, and 47,000 faculty and staff, CSU is a leader in high-quality, accessible, student-focused higher education, and prepares the majority of California’s leaders and policymakers: approximately 64 percent of Californians with master’s degrees in public administration studied at the CSU, as well as 35 percent of those with bachelor’s degrees. In addition, 49 percent of Californians with bachelor’s degrees in city, urban, community, and regional planning studied at the CSU. The CSU System has produced tens of thousands of graduates who have had an immeasurable impact in fields such as education, health care, agriculture, government, arts and entertainment, medicine, and non-profit leadership. To learn more about the California State University system, see [www.calstate.edu](http://www.calstate.edu).

About Sonoma State University

Founded in 1960 as a teacher education center for the North Bay, Sonoma State College was approved by the state legislature in 1960; it opened in the fall of 1961 with 274 students. Five years later, the nascent college moved to its current, 269-acre campus, which at the time had two buildings. In its first years, Sonoma State was a small, liberal arts college in a rural area, and earned a reputation as “Granola U” and “Frisbee U.” SSU was relatively isolated from the local community, and served primarily as a commuter and re-entry student campus. The institution grew steadily, however, and in 1978, Sonoma State officially moved from “college” to “university” status. SSU currently has 9,400 students, 600 faculty, 900 staff, an endowment of $44 million, and an operating budget of over $100 million.

Sonoma State University is composed of six schools—Arts and Humanities, Business and Economics, Education, Extended & International Education, Science and Technology, and Social Sciences—that

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\(^1\) CSU Bakersfield, CSU Channel Islands, CSU Chico, CSU Dominguez Hills, CSU East Bay, CSU Fresno, CSU Fullerton, Humboldt State University, CSU Long Beach, CSU Los Angeles, CSU Maritime Academy, CSU Monterey Bay, CSU Northridge, California State Polytechnic University, Pomona, CSU Sacramento, CSU San Bernardino, San Diego State University, San Francisco State University, San José State University, California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo, CSU San Marcos, Sonoma State University, and CSU Stanislaus.
provide students with a high-quality education that features close interactions with faculty, research, and internship opportunities. A major contributor to the North Bay workforce, Sonoma State offers degrees in 46 majors and 49 minors at the bachelor's level and 15 at the master's level, as well as nine credential programs and eight undergraduate and graduate certificate programs. The University also offers a joint master’s degree in mathematics with San Francisco State University. The University operates as part of the 23-campus California State University (CSU) system, the largest four-year system of higher education in the United States. Sonoma State is one of the smaller CSU institutions and approximately 34 percent of students live on campus—one of the highest percentages in the CSU System—and roughly 80 percent of first year students come from outside the North Bay region. Many classes have fewer than 40 students, enabling close interaction between students and faculty. SSU has been recognized nationally as a “Best Value,” “Most Connected,” and “Most Green” college by the Princeton Review.

Leadership at Sonoma State University

Dr. Judy Sakaki joined Sonoma State University as its seventh president in July 2016 and is the first Japanese-American woman to lead a four year university in the U.S. Dr. Sakaki previously served a nine-year tenure as Vice President of Student Affairs for the University of California system. There she was responsible for policies, services and initiatives relating to student access, affordability and success for all 238,000 UC students on ten campuses. Previously, Dr. Sakaki served as Vice Chancellor of Student Affairs at UC Davis, and Vice President and Dean of Student Affairs at Fresno State.

Dr. Sakaki has devoted her career to issues of student inclusion, educational opportunities and achievement. She has a strong commitment to undocumented students, veterans, and LGBTQ+ students, faculty, and staff communities. In 2009, Dr. Sakaki co-chaired a task force to award honorary degrees to approximately 700 Japanese American University of California students who were unable to complete their degree due to their internment during World War II. This marked the first time UC campuses awarded honorary degrees in nearly 40 years.

Dr. Sakaki is a former American Council on Education Fellow, an Executive Fellow of the California State University, and a senior Fellow of the American Leadership Forum. She has attended Harvard Management Institutes and was a member of the 2010 Japanese-American Leadership Delegation to Japan. Sakaki earned an M.A. in Educational Psychology and B.A. in Human Development from California State University, East Bay and a Ph.D. in Education from UC Berkeley.

In 2017, President Sakaki announced that Lisa Vollendorf, Dean of San José State University's College of Humanities and the Arts, would join SSU as the next Provost and Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs. Prior to arriving at San José State, Dr. Vollendorf was a professor of Spanish at California State University, Long Beach from 2005 to 2012, where she also was chair of the Department of Romance, German, Russian Languages and Literatures for four years. She is a strong proponent of shared governance and was elected to three terms as Academic Senate chair.

Dr. Vollendorf’s research has centered on women's cultural history in Iberia and Latin America, with a focus on the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries. She has received grants from such institutions as the National Endowment for the Humanities, the Mellon Foundation, the Newberry Library, the Huntington Library, and the William Andrews Clark Memorial Library. Dr. Vollendorf has also published two monographs, six edited books, and 35 chapters and articles.

She earned her Ph.D. in Romance Languages at the University of Pennsylvania and a B.A. in English and Spanish at Colorado State University.
Mission and Academic Programs

The academic mission of Sonoma State University is to prepare students to be learned people who have a foundation for life-long learning; have a broad cultural perspective; have a keen appreciation of intellectual and aesthetic achievements; will be active citizens and leaders in society; are capable of pursuing fulfilling careers in a changing world; and are concerned with contributing to the health and well-being of the world at large. To achieve its mission, Sonoma State recognizes that its first obligation is to develop and maintain excellent programs of undergraduate instruction grounded in the liberal arts and sciences. Instructional programs are designed to challenge students not only to acquire knowledge but also to develop the skills of critical analysis, careful reasoning, creativity, and self-expression. Excellence in undergraduate education requires that students participate in a well-planned program that provides both a liberal education and opportunities for specific career preparation. For additional information, please see: https://www.sonoma.edu/about/mission

Since 1963, SSU has been fully accredited by the Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC), and the University received a seven-year accreditation in 2010; many SSU schools and programs are individually accredited. Sonoma State is a member of the prestigious Council of Public Liberal Arts Colleges (COPLAC), whose primary mission is to ensure that a fine undergraduate liberal arts and sciences education is available to students in the public system of higher education.

Student and Campus Life

The Sonoma State campus community is ethnically diverse, and 64 percent of SSU students receive some type of financial aid; SSU awards approximately $1.1 million in scholarships per year (academic scholarships, athletics, and performing arts). The University has a 60 to 40 female-to-male ratio. The majority of SSU students come from California (99 percent), although countries all over the world are represented within the student body. As of fall 2013, 29 percent of first-time freshmen come from Southern California counties, and 21 percent of all of SSU’s students are from Southern California counties. About 20 percent of first-year students and 37 percent of all students come from Sonoma’s service area (Lake, Marin, Mendocino, Napa, Solano, and Sonoma Counties). The University is also proud to have received its designation as a Hispanic-Serving Institution (HSI) in 2017 as 33 percent of the university’s 8,600 undergraduates are Hispanic.

Strategic Plan

In 2017-2018, Sonoma State University engaged in a comprehensive process to share, shape, and unite around one strategic plan that will set the direction for the University for years to come. With the participation of nearly 4,000 individuals, including faculty, staff, students, alumni, and community members, there is a proposed plan in place that will help Sonoma State achieve its vision of becoming a national model for higher education by 2025. The strategic planning process has been guided by Sonoma

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2 Individual accreditation has been granted by California Commission on Teacher Credentialing (CCTC), National Association of Schools and Music (NASM), Accrediting Commission for Education in Nursing (ACEN), National Association for Schools of Art and Design (NASAD), and the Council for Accreditation of Counseling and Related Educational (CACREP). SSU’s School of Business and Economics received initial accreditation status from the highly regarded Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business (AACSB) in 2006, joining an elite group of less than 15% of all business schools in the world that meet the standards for accreditation.

3 American Indian or Alaskan Native: 0.5%; Asian: 4.9%; African American: 2.2%; Hawaiian and Pacific Islander: 0.2%; Hispanic: 27.6%; Two or More Ethnicities: 6.6%; Unknown: 7.3%; Caucasian: 48.6%.
State’s core values, which include: diversity and social justice; sustainability and environmental inquiry; connectivity and community engagement; and adaptability and responsiveness.

Below are four strategic priorities that will provide a road map for Sonoma State’s strategic plan implementation in the coming years:

1. **Student Success**: Sonoma State aspires to be a national model for student success, which includes all aspects of the student experience, from academics to campus life to graduation. All members of our campus community have the responsibility to serve students with integrity and to provide the support services students need to succeed.

2. **Academic Excellence and Innovation**: Sonoma State has high-quality, innovative academic programs that prepare students to flourish in a changing workforce and world. By educating beyond classroom walls and across disciplines, Sonoma State promotes synergy and creativity in a dynamic educational environment that responds to regional workforce and community needs.

3. **Leadership Cultivation**: As the region’s only public four-year university, Sonoma State embraces its leadership role in the North Bay and beyond. We prepare the next generation of leaders by providing students with opportunities to learn the knowledge and skills needed to build a better society both locally and globally.

4. **Transformative Impact**: Sonoma State transforms the lives of students, families, and communities by providing educational access and opportunity to help all students succeed. Our faculty and staff work to transform our region, our communities, and our academic disciplines through service, research, programming, and outreach.

To learn more about Building Our Future: Strategic Plan 2025, please see: [https://www.sonoma.edu/strategicplan](https://www.sonoma.edu/strategicplan)

**About the School of Business and Economics**

Founded in 1986 with the merger of the Department of Economics and the Department of Management, the School of Business and Economics has grown to 2,000 undergraduate and 170 graduate students, with 30 tenure-track faculty and 15 lecturers offering almost 600 courses. Today, the mission of SBE remains the same: to create extraordinary learning experiences for students and to advance best practices in the North Bay and beyond. This is fulfilled by:

- Providing memorable and transformational educational programs for the global business professionals of the future and for the emerging leaders of North Bay enterprises.
- Being an exemplar of best practice by researching, developing and applying the business tools, methods, and strategies that SBE teaches its students.
- Convening and engaging the North Bay business community toward generating regional economic prosperity.

Achieving initial AACSB accreditation in 2007, the Department of Business Administration's Bachelor of Science and MBA programs are one of just 15% of all business schools in the world that meet the standards for accreditation. In 2017, SBE underwent a successful accreditation visit, granting them accreditation through 2022. The School currently has an endowment of approximately $3.2M and a budget of approximately $5M.

**SBE Programs**

The School offers a wide range of degree programs for undergraduate, graduate, and executive students. There are two degrees offered to undergraduates: economics and business administration, the latter which
includes concentrations in finance, marketing, accounting, financial management, and management. Business administration is currently one of the top majors at Sonoma State in terms of number of students, and the School as a whole confers about 22 percent of all undergraduate degrees.

For graduate and executive students, the School offers six in-person, online, and hybrid programs. These include the Sonoma MBA, MBA in Wine Business, Executive MBA (EMBA), EMBA in Wine Business, the hybrid version of EMBA in Wine Business, and an online certificate in Wine Business Management. Finally, geared towards working professionals looking to fill a skill set gap, there are advanced professional programs ranging from online certificates to full-day workshops. These programs are administered through the School of Extended & International Education. To learn more about the School’s program offerings, please see: http://web.sonoma.edu/sbe/programs/.

**Wine Business Institute (WBI)**

California is widely recognized as a leader in education for viticulture and winemaking. Sonoma State is the first school in the United States to offer an undergraduate degree, an MBA, and an Executive MBA all focused on the business of wine. As such, the Wine Business Institute, which is housed in the SBE, is a signature program, not just at Sonoma State but within the larger CSU system. Dedicated to global leadership in wine business education and research, the Institute serves current and future wine leaders in Sonoma, the state, and beyond.

The Wine Business Institute publishes the *Wine Business Case Research Journal*, which is comprised of decision-focused case studies involving real people and real events in the global wine business context. The goal is to inform global wine researchers and industry practitioners about cutting-edge challenges and possible exemplary solutions. Submissions are reviewed by an editorial board from institutions across the U.S. and around the world, including countries such as France, Italy, South Africa, and Argentina.

The new home of the WBI, the Wine Spectator Learning Center, opened its doors in May of 2018, and is an education and industry hub designed around advanced-technology classrooms, student commons and gardens, and a collaborative space for faculty and business leaders. This state-of-the-art facility is open to all students and departments and will be a venue for public seminars and events. Classrooms and outdoor spaces can accommodate over 300 people and the commons will encompass a student hub, wine entrepreneurship laboratory, and a wine research library.

A collaboration between the SBE and SSU’s Educational Opportunity Program (EOP), the Wine Business Institute founded the Wine Industry Scholars Program (WISP), which is dedicated to supporting the access, retention, and graduation of first-generation students from economically and socially disadvantaged backgrounds. This new scholarship is designed to provide first generation children from families of vineyard and winery workers access and support services though higher education. This past year, 15 students received individual scholarships which include financial assistance, a summer transition program, academic and career advising, and co-curricular activities.

To learn more about the Wine Business Institute, please see: http://web.sonoma.edu/sbe/wine-business-institute/

**Entrepreneurship**

Sonoma State University's Community for Entrepreneurial Leadership and Learning (CELL) is leading a three-prong entrepreneurial movement in education. CELL’s goals are to infuse entrepreneurial thinking into the educational system, launch and support entrepreneurial careers and businesses out of Sonoma State, and accelerate entrepreneurial action in the North Bay. The next Dean will be in integral player in
the transformation of the educational system at SSU and in the North Bay. Leadership and Innovation are central themes in SBE’s graduate and undergraduate academic programs and infused in how faculty train students to become creative problem solvers, change agents, and innovators in the places they work and the communities they are a part of. The Dean will continue to support students in their pursuits to become entrepreneurial thinkers who have launched their own businesses or are job ready as they step out on their career pathway.

Three initiatives are currently in place that foster and promote this entrepreneurial spirit:

*Makerspace and Innovation Lab* is funded by the National Science Foundation and is Sonoma State University’s signature Makerspace and Maker Program. It is a cross-campus academic partnership between the School of Business and Economics, School of Education, School of Science and Technology, and School of Arts and Humanity. The facility will house tools like 3D printers, a computer controlled mill, laser cutters, and micro controllers, as well as materials like electronics, cloth, fabric, leather, and more. The Makerspace and Innovation Lab, opened in Fall 2017, is free to all faculty, staff, and students at Sonoma State University.

*Made by Seawolves* is a retail student storefront made and run by students for students, where students sign-up as vendors to sell their arts, crafts, and products.

*Accelerate Entrepreneurial Action* in the North Bay. SBE is an active member of the North Bay iHub, supporting entrepreneurship as a key ingredient for regional growth and prosperity. To that end, SBE has partnered with and supported entrepreneurial efforts and projects like the North Bay Make-a-thon, SSU’s Makerspace and Innovation Lab, North Bay Investor Summit, and more.

**Role of the Dean**

Reporting to the Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs, the Dean of the School of Business and Economics serves as the chief academic and administrative officer of the School, and provides academic, intellectual, and administrative leadership to the School. The Dean develops and articulates the vision for the School within Sonoma State University’s strategic plan framework, including its mission, vision, core values, and strategic priorities.

The Dean creates new opportunities for the School and the University and directs its growth and development through shared academic governance. The Dean is responsible for promoting and improving the quality and effectiveness of the School’s programs, including all aspects of teaching and learning; research, scholarship, and creative activity; and community engagement. The Dean provides leadership for assessment, accreditation, and metrics related to graduation and retention. This individual is also responsible for fund diversification, including fundraising and development as well as extended education programs in alignment with the goals of the School of Business and Economics.

The Dean will report to Provost Lisa Vollendorf and serve on the Provost’s Leadership Council. As part of this group, the Dean has the responsibility to work collaboratively and collegially with all stakeholders to advance the goals and mission of the Division of Academic Affairs and the University. Reporting to the Dean is the Chair of Economics, the Chair of Business Administration, the Director of Business Operations, the Director of the SBE Career Center, the Manager of Marketing and Communications, the Executive Director of the Wine Business Institute, and the Executive Director of Graduate & Executive Programs. The Dean will oversee a budget of approximately $5M.

Major priorities of the position include, but are not limited to, the following:
• Work closely with students, faculty, and staff in a tradition of collegial shared governance within a collective bargaining;
• Strategically direct the School’s academic programs;
• Provide leadership in faculty support, student success, staff development, and curriculum development;
• Support and lead School fundraising efforts and assure the effective use of human, fiscal, and physical resources;
• Make informed, evidence-based decisions and make progress towards all graduation and retention metrics for the School;
• Play a critically important role as a leader in Academic Affairs; serve on University academic leadership teams, represent the School in all University matters, including planning and budgeting;
• Lead efforts to hire diverse faculty and staff;
• Develop and articulate the School’s role in supporting the broader strategic direction of the University;
• Represent the School in the surrounding communities through active leadership in the development of activities that further the mission of the School, the University, and the community; serve on Boards of community and business organizations to further the mission of the University and the economic and cultural vitality of the region;
• Oversee Centers and Institutes operating within the School, and be responsible for grant and contract activity undertaken by such Centers or conducted independently by faculty;
• Represent the School and the University at the California State University system level.

Other duties include special projects assigned by the Provost and President furthering the mission and goals of the University.

**Key Opportunities and Challenges for the Dean**

The incoming Dean will be a collaborative organizational manager and builder who is fully aligned with and embraces the University’s core values, which include: diversity and social justice; sustainability and environmental inquiry; connectivity and community engagement; adaptability and responsiveness. With these values at the center of the work, the Dean will be tasked with the following key opportunities and challenges:

**Develop and articulate a compelling vision for the School that aligns with the new University strategic plan**

In 2017-18, the University developed a strategic plan centered on the values of student success, academic excellence and innovation, leadership cultivation, and transformative impact. Collaborating with the faculty and staff in SBE and other leaders on campus and in the community, the Dean will create and execute the next strategic vision for the School that is aligned with this larger University plan. The Dean will lead this process by promoting strong and engaged leadership, providing clear direction, and fostering a culture of shared governance and open communication with the School. One key area of focus is academic excellence, and the next Dean will elevate the School by continuing to prioritize and define academic excellence, particularly with respect to student experience, graduation rates and career placement, and tie it to the larger CSU system goal, Graduation Initiative 2025.

Additionally, the Dean will continue the impactful work of the distinctive wine program and use this successful framework to start other innovative programs that will develop and sustain the region, including continuing to build out the emerging entrepreneurship program. The vision will also include...
strategies to help the School meet goals and targets leading up to and after the next AACSB accreditation visit in 2022.

**Recruit, retain, and empower faculty and staff to provide an excellent student experience**

Outstanding faculty and staff are critical to fulfilling SBE’s mission. To this end, the next Dean will be expected to not only attract and hire high-quality and diverse faculty, but also to retain them by mentoring, developing, and supporting them in becoming engaged and innovative leaders in their respective disciplines. This individual will also oversee all staff and will provide mentorship and professional development opportunities to ensure their continued success. Furthermore, the Dean should strive to be accessible, inclusive, and consultative, advocating for more faculty and staff involvement and recognition institution-wide.

**Manage and diversify revenue streams and grow resources**

In order to carry out the goals in the next strategic vision, the Dean will be expected to grow and diversify new sources of funding and will ensure strong financial resources management. This will include creating self-support programs and leveraging relationships with existing donors, foundations, corporate sponsors, and other partners, in addition to cultivating new opportunities aligned with the strategic plan priorities. The Dean will use existing resources prudently, will optimize internal financial and administrative management, and will seek opportunities for shared resources with internal and external partners.

**Continue to prioritize, embrace, and promote diversity and inclusion**

In 2017, Sonoma State University received its Hispanic-Serving Institution designation, reaffirming its commitment to diversity and student success. The next Dean will continue to enhance the SBE’s role in the broader diversity and inclusion initiatives at the University, particularly with respect to social impact programs and scholarships, and will work to sustain and expand the School’s current portfolio to create additional opportunities for students.

Furthermore, the Dean will seek out diverse perspectives by continuing efforts to diversify faculty, staff, students, and advisory boards. The Dean must be proactive and thoughtful about addressing the academic and social needs of the diverse student population to ensure a safe, welcoming, and accepting environment for all SBE students.

**Be the connector within the University and externally**

At the University level, the Dean will be a proponent of interdisciplinary relationships and work, encouraging faculty to advance new thinking across academic units. The Dean will lead by example in this regard and will collaborate with other deans and their faculty to identify opportunities for innovative joint initiatives and programs. This individual will leverage campus assets, such as the Green Music Center and the Wine Spectator Learning Center, which are state-of-the-art venues to host events, guest speaker series, and workshops. These spaces are optimal venues for interdisciplinary, innovative collaboration.

Externally, maintaining excellent community relationships is imperative to the success of the School. The next Dean will ensure that the School is embedded in the external community as a partner and promoter for the overall economic health of the region. This individual will be a connector between employer needs and talented students and graduates during and after their time at the University, and build effective career services collaborations to ensure that students will have strong, pre-professional internship opportunities in addition to job placement support.
Qualifications and Characteristics

The ideal candidate would bring all or most of the following professional experiences and personal qualities:

- An earned doctorate and an academic record to support appointment at the rank of professor in either the department of Economics or the Department of Business Administration;
- At least five years of successful administrative experience such as serving as a dean, associate dean, department chair, or similar position;
- A commitment to maintaining and developing strong undergraduate and graduate programs;
- Experience, knowledge, and commitment to evidence-based decision-making and accreditation processes;
- Demonstrated excellence in higher education leadership;
- Strong communication, interpersonal, and managerial skills;
- Ability to work successfully and inclusively with diverse students, faculty, staff, administrators, and community members;
- Commitment to effective, collegial decision-making within the context of shared governance and collective bargaining;
- Experience and vision for developing external funding and fostering community relationships.

Location

Sonoma State University is near Rohnert Park, California, in beautiful Sonoma County. Located in San Francisco’s North Bay, the region is famed for its extraordinary wines, farm-to-table cuisine, and a strong sense of dedication to our tremendous natural resources. From local beaches to an incredible system of regional and state parks within reach, Sonoma County provides access to the benefits of urban life within the context of beautiful natural surroundings and many thriving local communities. For more information, see https://www.sonomacounty.com/.

Applications, Inquiries, and Nominations

Screening of complete applications will begin immediately and continue until the completion of the search process. Inquiries, nominations, referrals, and CVs with cover letters should be sent via the Isaacson, Miller website for the search: www.imsearch.com/6589. Electronic submission of materials is strongly encouraged.

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