

**Boston University**  
**Wheelock College of Education & Human Development**  
**Position Description: Dean of the Wheelock College of Education & Human Development**

**Position:** Dean  
Boston University  
Wheelock College of Education & Human Development

**Location:** Boston, Massachusetts

**Position  
Summary:**

Boston University is seeking applications for Dean of Wheelock College of Education & Human Development (Wheelock). Wheelock is a diverse, scholarly community committed to excellence in education and research; equity, diversity, and inclusion; the advancement of research to inform best practices; and the transformation of systems that impact learning and human development for a thriving, sustainable, and just future.

Competitive candidates for the Wheelock Dean position should be nationally recognized scholars with a record of outstanding professional accomplishment appropriate for a tenured full professor at Boston University. The successful candidate will also have a record of excellence in academic leadership and management experience as well as a demonstrated commitment to issues of diversity, equity and inclusion.

**Role of the Dean of the Wheelock College of Education & Human Development**

The dean provides vision, inspiration, and leadership to faculty, staff, and students with direct responsibility for the college's academic programming, financial management, student affairs, and research productivity, as well as development and external relations. The dean works closely with a leadership team that includes an executive director of operations, department chairs, and associate and assistant deans representing academic affairs; student affairs; faculty affairs and research; equity, diversity, and inclusion; executive affairs; strategic initiatives; and development/alumni relations.

The Wheelock dean serves within the University leadership structure, reporting to the University Provost and Chief Academic Officer of Boston University, and participating in substantive ways as a member of the Council of Deans, University Council, and University Leadership Group. At Boston University, deans work with the University President on development, alumni relations and other consequential issues.

**Qualifications for the next dean of Wheelock include:**

- A distinguished record of outstanding professional accomplishment appropriate for a tenured full professor at Boston University
- A demonstrable record of excellence in leadership and management within complex settings
- Demonstrated accomplishments in fostering equity, diversity, and inclusion within organizations and communities; and demonstrated commitment to social justice and antiracist teaching practices addressing issues of structural and systemic inequity in (and beyond) education and human development.
- Demonstrated ability to create interdisciplinary connections and work collaboratively with organizational leaders

- Experience with strategic planning and achievement of strategic goals
- Experience with financial planning, resource allocation, and tracking
- Capacity to actively and substantially support development and fundraising efforts.
- An ability to collaborate and communicate effectively with all members of the Wheelock community (including alumni, students, staff, faculty and community partners); and an ability to build and empower teams of faculty and staff to work towards a common identity and achieve Wheelock goals through shared governance.

### **Expectations and Qualifications for Leadership**

Expectations for the next dean of Wheelock include:

- Continuing to move the College to greater national prominence through excellence in research and education.
- Strengthening Wheelock’s commitment to equity, diversity and inclusion through the recruitment, retention and support of students, faculty and staff from historically underrepresented groups; and the development of Wheelock’s curriculum, scholarship and outreach efforts
- Building Wheelock’s national reputation as a leader of innovation on teacher education
- A commitment to Wheelock’s guidestar vision: *Transforming the systems that impact learning and human development for a thriving, sustainable, and just future in Boston and beyond.*
- Continued expansion of research productivity, including publications and support from extramural funding, to enhance visibility of the scholarly excellence of Wheelock faculty and programs
- Developing and expanding Wheelock’s partnerships with local and global partners ranging from Boston Public Schools to Teach For America to a variety of national and international agencies
- Deepening the financial resources of Wheelock through the pursuit of development, fundraising, and external grant opportunities
- Supporting the advancement of rigorous curricular opportunities for undergraduate to PhD students including residential and online programs

### **Wheelock College of Education & Human Development**

Boston University Wheelock College of Education & Human Development is a vibrant college within a large research university. Nationally recognized, Wheelock ranked #39 (out of 393) in U.S. News & World Report’s 2021 “Best Education Schools” rankings. With approximately 300 undergraduate and 800 graduate students, our community has a strong sense of collaboration, as well as a shared commitment to the college’s goals and one another’s well-being. Wheelock also has available the resources of a major university: libraries, laboratories, lectures, concerts, and an abundance of courses and faculty in a wide range of academic disciplines and professional fields. Wheelock has developed exciting and productive partnerships with other Colleges inside BU. These include joint programs, dual degrees, and special project-related partnerships with the School of Medicine, the School of Engineering, the School of Social

Work, the College of Fine Arts, and with numerous College of Arts and Sciences departments. In 2018, BU merged with Wheelock College. This merger brought many new faculty and resources, and led to the creation of the Wheelock College of Education and Human Development. As a result of the merger (combining the strengths of Wheelock College, which was founded in 1888; and BU's School of Education, which was founded in 1918), the college has undergone a systematic and strategic process of re-organizing, developing a new identity, and establishing a shared vision statement (or "guidestar") that is supported by faculty and staff across the college.

Currently, approximately 1100 students are enrolled in degree or certificate programs offered by Wheelock for the 2020-2021 school year. Roughly 300 of these students are undergraduates pursuing a bachelor's of science in one of Wheelock's undergraduate majors and minors. Approximately 700 are graduate students earning master's degrees or licensure-only certificates in one of Wheelock's graduate programs. Finally, approximately 100 students are pursuing their doctorate of education (Ed.D.) or philosophy (Ph.D.) in one of Wheelock's advanced graduate programs. Wheelock alumni go on to serve as classroom teachers, school and district administrators, counselors in school and community settings, child life specialists, non-profit leaders, and university faculty.

In 2020-2021, Wheelock has 89 full-time faculty. Approximately 33% of the faculty are tenured or tenure-track. Members of Wheelock's faculty conduct award-winning research, publish in top journals in their fields, and are represented in national professional societies and on highly ranked journal editorial boards. In Fiscal Year 2020, faculty received over \$8.8 million in grant funding, including from the Institute of Education Sciences, National Institutes of Health, National Institute of Justice, and National Science Foundation, as well as from various foundations and organizations.

Wheelock currently has over 40 staff members, whose work is central to the mission of the school. Their roles include support for students through the office of Student Services; support for school events, outreach and communication through the offices of Event Planning and Marketing and Communications; as well as management of finances, facilities and operations, through the Office of Operations. In addition, Wheelock benefits from staff members associated with specific programs or centers, such as Upward Bound, and the Center for the Ecology of Early Development.

### **Boston University: An Overview**

Boston University, a member of the Association of American Universities (AAU), is one of the leading private research and teaching institutions in the world, with two primary campuses in the heart of Boston and programs around the globe. Chartered in 1869, the University today enrolls more than 33,000 students, including over 16,000 undergraduates, and employs nearly 4,000 faculty members across 17 schools and colleges offering more than 250 programs of study. Moody's Investors Service recently upgraded BU's ranking to AA3, reflective of the University's increasing financial strength, growing donor support, and effective governance and leadership.

Boston University's faculty are committed to excellence in teaching and in path-breaking research and scholarship. We place a strong emphasis on collaborative research efforts of both faculty and students, with major initiatives in emerging areas such as neuroscience, systems biology, photonics, engineering biology, data science, urban health, global health and development, and emerging infectious diseases.

BU is one of the largest private research universities in the United States and one of the Boston area's largest employers. BU's students come from all 50 states and more than 130 countries. Students pursue studies on the Charles River and Medical Campuses as well as study abroad and internship programs in over 35 cities around the world.

From its earliest days, Boston University has opened its doors to women and people from racial and ethnic groups traditionally underrepresented in higher education and academia. Founded in 1839 (in Newbury, Vermont) as a Methodist seminary, the University was incorporated in 1869 and emerged in the twentieth century as a Boston-area institution. Until the early 1970s, the University was mainly non-residential, with a modest research profile and limited on-campus housing. The transformation into today's Boston University began in the early 1970s with a conscious decision to raise the University's standing and quality by marshaling resources, primarily from operating funds, to build an infrastructure for basic and applied research and to improve the campus by adding residential facilities.

Boston University is young as a major research university, having fundamentally transformed itself within a roughly 40-year span. This transformation makes possible still more ambitious aspirations. Shortly after his appointment in 2005 as the University's tenth president, Robert A. Brown, with the enthusiastic support of a revitalized board of trustees, initiated the University's first community-wide strategic planning process. The plan that resulted in fall of 2007, *Choosing to Be Great*, defined clear priorities and set ambitious goals—including expenditures of \$1.8 billion over a decade—and generated broad support across the University's schools and colleges (see *Choosing to Be Great* at [www.bu.edu/president/strategic-plan](http://www.bu.edu/president/strategic-plan)). Following considerable progress in meeting the goals outlined in the 10-year span of the plan, a revision of the plan was completed in 2014 that takes into account new opportunities and challenges.

The University recently completed its first-ever comprehensive campaign with gifts and pledges totaling over \$1.85 billion. Boston University's transformation is perhaps most evident in the national and international recognition achieved by faculty in diverse fields on both campuses and in prestigious grants to distinguished programs or departments. U.S. News & World Report ranked BU #57 worldwide in their 2021 list of Best Global Universities and #42 in their 2021 rating of Best National Universities in the United States.

### **Contact**

Nominations and expressions of interest should be addressed to [wheelockdeansearch@bu.edu](mailto:wheelockdeansearch@bu.edu). Prospective candidates should include a letter expressing interest and current curriculum vitae. Candidates will be asked to provide references after preliminary review and screening.

**Confidentiality will be maintained by all faculty and staff involved in the search process; references will be contacted only with the express consent of the applicant.**

While nominations and applications will be accepted until a new Dean is selected, interested parties are encouraged to submit their materials before **Monday, January 11, 2021**, to ensure full consideration.

Boston University is committed to fostering a diverse University community within a supportive and respectful environment. We believe that the diversity of our faculty, students, and staff is essential to our success as a leading research university with a global reach, and that diversity is an integral component of institutional excellence.

Boston University is an equal opportunity employer and gives consideration for employment to qualified applicants without regard to race, color, religion, sex, age, national origin, physical or mental disability, sexual orientation, gender identity, genetic information, military service, or because of marital, parental, or veteran status or any other characteristic protected by law. If you would like more information about your EEO rights as an applicant under the law, please [download the EEO brochure](#). If you require a reasonable accommodation to complete the employment application, please contact the Equal Opportunity Office at 617-358-1796 or [eo@bu.edu](mailto:eo@bu.edu).