Chair, Department of Elementary and Special Education  
Search # 42026  
College of Education

The Department of Elementary and Special Education in the College of Education invites applications and nominations for the position of Department Chair. The home campus for this position will be the Statesboro campus, but travel to other campuses is necessary. This is an internal search open to qualified faculty in the College of Education.

Georgia Southern University is a distinctive combination of Southern charm and uncompromising academics. We are a Carnegie Doctoral/R2 institution serving about 26,500 students through nine colleges on three beautiful oak-lined campuses in Statesboro, Savannah, Hinesville, and via a growing online program. Throughout its degree offerings at the associate’s, bachelor’s, master’s, and doctoral levels, Georgia Southern cultivates community collaboration, world-class scholarship and hands-on learning opportunities.

Georgia Southern University was founded in 1906 as a school for teaching modern agricultural production techniques and homemaking skills to rural school children. Its Savannah campus was established in 1935 as Armstrong Junior College for local youth who could not afford to attend college away from home. The Liberty Center in Hinesville was established in 1998 to serve the military and their families at nearby Fort Stewart, the largest military base east of the Mississippi. All three locations came together in 2018 when Armstrong State University and Georgia Southern University consolidated. The “new” Georgia Southern University preserves a passion for serving its neighbors while preparing students for lifelong service as scholars, leaders, and responsible stewards of their communities.

Believing that diversity contributes to excellence in the work place and to the quality of the University’s academic environment, the College of Education is committed to recruiting and retaining a diverse faculty to support, promote and serve a diverse student body (https://tinyurl.com/udwaujg). Candidates from historically underrepresented groups, whose work furthers the College of Education’s diversity and inclusion efforts, and who bring to campus varied life experiences, perspectives and backgrounds are especially encouraged to apply.

Within this setting, the Department offers undergraduate degree programs that lead to initial teacher certification in the areas of elementary education, special education, and elementary and special education combined. At the graduate level the Department offers initial certification Master of Arts (M.A.T.) degrees in elementary education, and special education, Master of Education (M.Ed.) degrees in elementary and special education, and endorsement programs. The Ed.S. in Teaching and Learning degree with specializations in elementary and special education is a jointly offered program with the Department of
Middle and Secondary Education. The Department also offers an M.Ed. in Curriculum and Instruction: Accomplished Teaching that is part of a USG collaborative with Valdosta State and Columbus State Universities. All graduate programs are offered in 100% online formats.

Position Description. Reporting to the Dean of the College of Education, the Department Chair has administrative, academic, and leadership responsibilities. The Department Chair is expected to provide leadership, mentoring, and support for faculty and manage the multiple degree programs in the unit. This position is on a fiscal year (12 month) contract and has a tenured appointment attached to it; salary is commensurate with qualifications and experience.

Required Qualifications:
• Current faculty member in the College of Education
• Ph.D./Ed.D. in Elementary Education, Special Education, Curriculum and Instruction, or a closely related field
• Holds rank of Associate Professor or Professor with tenure
• Evidence of collaborative leadership style
• Evidence of exemplary teaching
• Evidence of an established record of scholarship
• Evidence of service to the College of Education, University, and the profession
• Evidence of a commitment to working with diverse students, faculty, staff and key constituents
• Engagement with institutional student success initiatives
• Commitment to engaging with best practice initiatives in instruction and pedagogy, mentoring, and curriculum design and development
• Must be authorized to work in the United States for the duration of employment without assistance from the institution

Preferred Qualifications:
• Holds rank of Professor with tenure
• Experience leading a college-level initiative or academic program
• Experience with course or program design and assessment

Screening of applications begins April 1, 2020, and continues until the position is filled. The preferred position starting date is July 1, 2020. A complete application consists of a letter addressing the qualifications cited above and that specifies how you will promote diversity and inclusion in your work; a curriculum vitae; and the names, addresses, telephone numbers, and email addresses of at least three professional references. Other documentation may be requested. Only complete applications submitted electronically will be considered. Finalists will be required to submit to a background investigation.

Applications and nominations should be sent to:
Tracy Linderholm, Search Chair, Search # 42026
Georgia Southern University
Electronic mail: tlinderholm@georgiasouthern.edu
Telephone: 912-478-5325
More information about the institution is available through http://www.georgiasouthern.edu or http://www.coe.georgiasouthern.edu. Georgia Southern University seeks to recruit individuals who are committed to working in diverse academic and professional communities and who are committed to excellence in teaching, scholarship, and professional service within the University and beyond. The names of applicants and nominees, vitae, and other non-evaluative information may be subject to public inspection under the Georgia Open Records Act. Georgia Southern University is an Affirmative Action, Equal Opportunity institution. Individuals who need reasonable accommodations under the ADA to participate in the search process should contact the Vice Provost.