

Vice President for Academic Affairs and Dean

OBLATE SCHOOL OF THEOLOGY

(San Antonio, TX)

Full-Time, Exempt

Summary of Position

Oblate School of Theology, the premier Roman Catholic school of Theology and Ministry serving the Southwest United States, seeks a new **Vice President for Academic Affairs and Dean** to provide collaborative and strategic leadership for the mid-twenty-first century.

The Vice President for Academic Affairs and Dean is the chief academic officer of the School and is appointed by the President. She or he is charged with the academic leadership of this ecumenically robust, pastorally oriented, internationally diverse school of theology which remains thoroughly grounded in the local context of Hispanic Catholicism in the Southwest. The chief academic officer serves as both the leader of the faculty and as academic liaison to formation communities and other academic stakeholders. In the coming years, the new Vice President for Academic Affairs and Dean will be responsible for guiding several anticipated faculty searches, providing leadership for emerging online and hybrid programs, and overseeing the development of the theological research library.

Inspired by the charism of the Missionary Oblates of Mary Immaculate, Oblate School of Theology educates, forms, and renews men and women to “preach the Gospel to the most abandoned.” Established in 1903, OST is a vibrant and complex educational institution that provides theological and ministerial leadership in both academic and professional degrees. Its Ph.D. program in Spirituality has grown exponentially in the ten years since its beginning. The school is equally committed to the pastoral and theological education and formation of students from eleven dioceses and five different religious orders who are studying for priesthood. Other established programs include academic degrees such as the MA in Theology, the MA in Spirituality, and the recently launched MA in Sacred Scripture. Professional programs include the D.Min., the M.Div., the MA in Pastoral Ministry, and the Maestría de Artes en Ministerio Pastoral which is offered bilingually in Spanish and English. OST likewise resources the local church with several vibrant lay certificate programs.

Institutes such as the Sankofa Institute for African American Pastoral Leadership, the Institute for the Study of Contemporary Spirituality, and the Instituto de Formación Pastoral provide academic homes for students studying across the degree programs.

Accountability

President

Department

Administration

Essential Duties and Responsibilities:

- The Vice President for Academic Affairs and Dean is primarily responsible for fostering and promoting excellence in all the academic programs of the School as well as maintaining and promoting standards of academic freedom and responsibility.
- The Dean oversees the development, implementation, and evaluation of the academic curriculum in accordance with the stated purpose of the School in consultation with all appropriate faculty committees and accrediting guidelines.
- The Dean is responsible for the supervision and evaluation of the faculty in the fulfillment of their responsibilities including the quality of instruction, academic advising, community service, research, publication, and contributions to the overall mission of Oblate School of Theology.
- The Dean supervises the Registrar, Associate Deans, Certificate Program Directors, and Librarians and works closely with the Educational Technology Department.
- The Dean serves on the Executive Council advising the president, representing the academic needs of the school, advancing the mission, and offering strategic vision for the academic programs.
- A comprehensive job description is available on request.

Education and Experience

- Doctorate in Theology or an allied discipline from an accredited institution is required.
- Experience in higher education including accreditation, faculty development, and strategic planning is desirable.

Skills and Qualifications

- Demonstrated competence in teaching and scholarly research
- Demonstrated sensitivity to and ability to work with the diverse academic, socioeconomic, cultural, and ethnic backgrounds of members of the school community
- Demonstrated collaborative leadership abilities
- Interest in the predominately Hispanic cultural milieu of the church in the Southwestern U.S.
- Fluency in Spanish is desirable.

To Apply

To apply, please submit a c.v., a cover letter addressing your academic and administrative background and interests, and a list of three people who could serve as references to deansearch@ost.edu. References will not be contacted without the consent of the applicant. Review of applications will begin on **November 15**.

Mission Statement

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