Cross Endowed Chair in the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning (SoTL)

POSITION DESCRIPTION

THE POSITION
Title: Cross Endowed Chair in the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning

Illinois State University invites applications for the position of Cross Endowed Chair in the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning (SoTL). The endowed chair is named for K. Patricia "Pat" Cross who is the David Gardner Professor of Higher Education, Emerita at the University of California, Berkeley. She has also served as Dean of Students at Cornell University; Distinguished Research Scientist at Educational Testing Service; and Professor and Chair of the Department of Administration, Planning and Social Policy at the Harvard Graduate School of Education..

Integral to the mission of Illinois State University, the Cross Endowed Chair enhances innovation and research in teaching and learning, supports SoTL work on campus and beyond, increases Illinois State's ability to attract outstanding teacher-scholars to campus, and helps to establish a balance of recognition in scholarly work in teaching across disciplines. The Cross Endowed Chair also fosters opportunities for interaction and relationships with prestigious national forums related to SoTL. This is a university-level position reporting to the Office of the Provost. The Chair holds faculty rank in one of the University's academic colleges in order to promote the scholarship of teaching and learning across all disciplines and colleges. The University is organized into six academic colleges: Applied Science and Technology, Arts & Sciences, Business, Education, Fine Arts, and Nursing.

The Cross Endowed Chair for the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning shall be evaluated annually by the Associate Vice President for Research and Graduate Studies. The purpose of the annual review is formative; it also provides a comparative basis for the award of merit-based salary increases, if available.

KEY RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE CROSS ENDOWED CHAIR
The Cross Endowed Chair provides the opportunity for scholarship on teaching and learning in the discipline of the Chair, and also serves as a resource, related to SoTL, to colleagues on and off the campus of Illinois State University. The Cross Chair receives resources to support their own SoTL work and to assist in the development of faculty SoTL research, including items such as research time, clerical and research assistance, and travel sufficient to support a national research agenda and reputation. The Cross Endowed Chair works collaboratively with the Center for Teaching, Learning and Technology; University Assessment Services; national and international SoTL organizations; and faculty colleagues on teaching.

The position also carries teaching responsibilities. The teaching requirements may vary at times as negotiated by the Associate Vice President for Research & Graduate Studies, the appropriate Dean, and the Cross Chair,
but will typically not be more than 25 percent of the Cross Chair's responsibilities. The specific unit goals of the Cross Chair in SoTL are to accomplish high quality work and achieve recognition in the following roles:

1. Supporting the SoTL work of others (faculty, staff, and students) at Illinois State University and locally, and enhancing the value/reward for SoTL work on campus.
2. Conducting SoTL research, teaching, and service.
3. Working at the national and international levels on SoTL connections and on the reputation of SoTL at Illinois State University.

The preferred start date for the position is July 1, 2016.

QUALIFICATIONS
Selection of the chair will be based on a commitment to demonstrate and promote the scholarship of teaching and learning. Qualifications include the following.

1. Terminal degree in any discipline.
2. Eligible for, or currently maintains the position of a tenured senior Associate Professor or full Professor in a discipline at Illinois State University.
3. Has a significant track record of multi-faceted experience in the SoTL in all or most of the following areas.
   a. An active research agenda in SoTL
   b. Professional presentations and publications in SoTL in one’s discipline
   c. Editor or associate editor/reviewer of pedagogical journals
   d. Roles in SoTL professional organizations
   e. Relevant service activities
   f. Recipient of teaching and/or SoTL honors/awards
   g. Experience and commitment to mentoring other faculty members and with faculty development
   h. Invitations as a master teacher (in service to others)
   i. Involvement in assessment activities
   j. Relevant grant writing
4. Experience with administrative responsibilities including: developing and managing budgets, planning and writing progress reports, supervising staff and faculty scholars, administering internal grant programs, supervising selection of SoTL university award winner, organizing events, and coordinating SoTL website, social media, and internal SoTL publications.
5. This position is security sensitive and subject to a criminal background investigation based on University policy. Employment is contingent upon passing a satisfactory criminal background investigation. Work may not begin until the criminal background investigation results have been received and cleared by Human resources.

Illinois State University
Institution Profile:
The first public university in Illinois, Illinois State University dates from 1857. Illinois State is a comprehensive Carnegie Doctoral/Research Institution and residential university offering more than 189 undergraduate fields of study in 6 colleges and 34 academic departments. The Graduate School coordinates 42 master’s, 1
specialist, and 10 doctoral programs. The University has an enrollment of approximately 21,000 students and over 1,225 faculty. Illinois State is distinguished by its strategic plan, Educating Illinois (www.educatingillinois.ilstu.edu), which focuses on the values of individualized attention, pursuit of learning and scholarship, public opportunity, diversity, and civic engagement in order to create an optimal learning and working environment for all Illinois State students and faculty/staff members.

Student profile:
- 88 percent of the University’s students are undergraduates.
- 20.6 percent of all students are from traditionally underrepresented groups, including African-Americans, Asians or Pacific Islanders, Hispanics, Native Americans or Alaskans, and international students from 65 countries.
- About 25 percent of our freshman class comes from underrepresented groups.
- Our students complete their degrees on time. Our high graduation rate (73.4 percent) ranks us among the Top 10 percent of all U.S. universities.
- Illinois State alumni go on to successful careers, shown in the very low student loan default rate of our graduates (2.8 percent) compared with the national average (11.7 percent).

Faculty:
- Most of Illinois State’s 1,155 faculty members hold a terminal degree in their field.
- Ninety percent of undergraduate credit hours are taught by faculty members; the remaining 10 percent are taught by graduate assistants.
- The student-faculty ratio is 18.6 to 1.

Accreditation:
- Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools
- Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation

BLOOMINGTON/NORMAL
Illinois State University’s campus is in the twin-city community of Bloomington-Normal near the geographic center of the state, 137 miles southwest of Chicago and 164 miles northeast of St. Louis. Interstates 74, 55, and 39; U.S. Route 150; and Illinois Route 9 intersect in Bloomington-Normal, creating a transportation hub. An Amtrak passenger station is just two blocks from the University and daily flights are available through the Central Illinois Regional Airport.

We are proud to be the home of Illinois State University and Illinois Wesleyan University who offer the finest in higher education; the corporate headquarters of State Farm Insurance; COUNTRY Financial; Beer Nuts; and world-class healthcare institutions including Advocate BroMenn Medical Center and OSF St. Joseph.

TO APPLY
The Search Committee will accept applications and nominations until the position is filled. Candidate screening will begin immediately. All application materials must be submitted online at www.IllinoisState.edu/jobs no later than January 15, 2016. Application materials submitted via fax, email, or mail will not be accepted. Please prepare in advance separate documents representing a cover letter describing relevant experiences and interest in the position, five references with titles, addresses, business telephone numbers and e-mail addresses, and resume/C.V. to attach to this application.

(Inquiries may be directed to Chair of the search committee: Dr. Amy Hurd, at 309-438-2583 or arhurd@IllinoisState.edu)

For more information, please visit our website at http://illinoisstate.edu/ and http://sotl.illinoisstate.edu/

As an Equal Opportunity Employer, Illinois State University that has a strong institutional commitment to diversity and providing employment opportunity without regard to an individual's race, color, religion, sex, national origin, sexual orientation, order of protection, gender identity and expression, ancestry, age, marital status, disability, genetic information, unfavorable military discharge, or veteran status.