Dean, Tickle College of Engineering
The University of Tennessee, Knoxville

The University of Tennessee, Knoxville (UTK) invites applications and nominations for the position of the Dean of the Tickle College of Engineering. The Dean is the chief academic and administrative officer of the College, and reports to the Provost. The Dean will also hold the Wayne T. Davis Endowed Dean’s Chair. Salary is nationally competitive and commensurate with experience and qualifications.

UTK is the state’s flagship Research R1 land-grant university with 11 colleges and more than 30,000 students. With dynamic new leadership at the system, university, and college levels, UTK is poised for global leadership in addressing the most pressing challenges facing our nation and world. Toward this end, the Tickle College of Engineering is committed to (1) excelling as a leading public research institution that thrives in its commitment to supporting the educational, technical and economic development priorities of the state of Tennessee and our nation; (2) creation of world-leading research and teaching facilities that allow us to address the needs of our students and stakeholders; and (3) the development of an exemplary and diverse student body and faculty recognized for their role in engineering solutions for the world’s most critical challenges.

The Tickle College of Engineering has 181 T/TT and 61 NTT faculty in its eight academic departments and offers 11 undergraduate, 14 M.S. and 12 Ph.D. degrees. The college is home to seven research centers and three interdisciplinary institutes. Approximately 3500 undergraduate, 350 MS, and 700 PhD students are enrolled in the college. The college’s ranking in the U.S. News Graduate rankings among public colleges has increased from 43rd to 32nd in the last 10 years. It is also the 33rd largest PhD-granting program for public engineering colleges. Faculty in the Tickle College of Engineering have won 24 early career awards over the last 5 years. With FY20 research expenditures of $83 million, the college leverages the University’s unique partnership with nearby Oak Ridge National Laboratory (ORNL); the Oak Ridge Institute (ORI) at the University of Tennessee was recently formed to more strategically integrate collaborative research and academic opportunities between ORNL and the UT system and to enhance Tennessee’s ability to provide top-tier talent in areas of national need. The college also plays a leadership role in the UT Space Institute, which, with annual expenditures of ~$20 million, is being revitalized to serve the growing aerospace and defense community in the state and in the southeast region.

The next Dean will provide vision and leadership in moving the college to new levels of national prominence in academic and research excellence. The successful candidate should possess skills that help the college nurture and expand relationships with government, industrial and national laboratory stakeholders to fully realize and mature these outstanding opportunities.

The Dean will lead in establishing and articulating an exemplary vision for the future of the college and demonstrate commitment to and experience with mentoring, developing, and supporting faculty and staff. The Dean must be a champion of diversity, equity and inclusion and lead with a spirit of humanity, generosity and empathy. The successful candidate will possess a demonstrated commitment to these principles.

The successful candidate must have an earned doctorate in engineering or its equivalent; a distinguished record of effective leadership and management skills demonstrated experience providing leadership for, and managing the personnel and budgetary issues of, an academic unit or equivalent in industry or government; a distinguished record of scholarly, professional, and creative
achievement sufficient for appointment as Full Professor in a program within the College; and the personal, communication, and development skills that will facilitate interaction with the college’s 27,000 alumni and corporate partners.

The city of Knoxville is a hidden gem surrounded by eight gorgeous lakes, with a beautiful and walkable downtown, a diverse music scene including internationally recognized festivals, active neighborhoods, unique restaurants, and a robust offering of diverse cultural and outdoor activities. UTK is located within easy driving distance to the Great Smoky Mountains, Atlanta, Nashville, Asheville, Charlotte, Louisville, and Cincinnati. It is only a day’s drive to Memphis, Chicago, and Washington D.C. Knoxville and the surrounding counties have a population of more than 850,000 people.

The Search Committee will begin reviewing candidates immediately and will continue until the position is filled. **Priority consideration will be given to materials received by Friday, April 9, 2021.**

Applications should include 1) a detailed CV and 2) a letter of interest that addresses the candidate’s interest in the role, experiences that make the candidate a good fit for the role, and why this is a good time for the candidate to consider this opportunity. To ensure full consideration, inquiries, nominations, and applications (PDF preferred) should be submitted electronically, in confidence, to:

**Paul Chou, Senior Client Partner**  
**Korn Ferry**  
**utk-engdean@kornferry.com**

The University of Tennessee is an EEO/AA/Title VI/Title IX/Section504/ADA/ADEA institution in the provision of its education and employment programs and services. All qualified applicants will receive equal consideration for employment and admission without regard to race, color, national origin, religion, sex, pregnancy, marital status, sexual orientation, gender identity, age, physical or mental disability, genetic information, veteran status, and parental status.