



PHILANDER SMITH COLLEGE

President of the College

Philander Smith College, a private, four-year liberal arts institution in Little Rock, Arkansas, invites nominations and applications for the position of the President of the College, an appointment that will be effective July 1, 2012. The successful candidate will have these required qualifications:

1. Visionary leadership that understands and embraces the core values and goals of Philander Smith College; builds on its rich traditions; and vigorously promotes academic excellence, social justice, and student development
2. Successful fundraising experience that will enable expanded, effective development to provide the resources needed for the present and future of the College
3. A minimum of five years of administrative responsibility including successful senior-level experience that assures the ability to plan and manage the academic and financial affairs of the College, as well as create and empower leadership roles throughout the campus
4. Appreciation for the heritage, mission and Christian values of this United Methodist Church-related Historically Black College

Other attributes of the successful candidate will be:

1. An earned doctorate from an accredited university is preferred
2. The ability to work effectively with faculty, staff, students and alumni
3. Excellent communication skills of listening, speaking, and writing
4. The ability to develop productive relationships with governmental, business, community, religious, school, and higher education organizations
5. The ability to work constructively with the Board of Trustees to assure the College's mission is effectively advanced and the future of the College is secure
6. An understanding of and respect for the College's relationship with The United Methodist Church.

Philander Smith College was established in 1877 as Walden Seminary and was dedicated to the education of freed slaves. Renamed Philander Smith College in 1882 recognizing a financial contribution of Mrs. Adeline Smith, widow of Philander Smith, the school was chartered as a four-year college. It has served for over 130 years as a center for teaching and as a source of pride and guidance for generations of students. Today, Philander Smith College is a private, residential, co-educational, historically black, four-year liberal arts institution serving approximately 700 students in 22 majors leading to baccalaureate degrees. In recent years, a return to higher admission standards that were the norm in the early history of the College has produced an increase in freshman enrollment and an improvement in persistence and achievement. Overall, both enrollment numbers and academic quality of the student body are growing, trends that are planned to continue.

During the tenure of the current president, Dr. Walter Kimbrough, the College has gained positive regional and national attention. Under his leadership, the mission of the College has been sharpened with the launching of its Social Justice Initiative, "Think Justice," a program unique in all of higher education. The power of this initiative is felt throughout the campus and it is expected that the new leadership of the College will embrace and further this initiative. In many ways, this initiative is not new to Philander Smith. Social justice has always been a part of the culture of the College and of The United Methodist Church; however, in 2007 the Board of Trustees acted to confirm the centrality of social justice to Philander's mission and revised the mission statement as follows:

To graduate academically accomplished students, grounded as advocates for social justice, determined to intentionally change the world for the better.

Philander Smith College is located on 25 tree-lined acres near the center of the city of Little Rock, the capitol of the state of Arkansas. The campus boasts both historic buildings as well as three new state-of-the-art facilities. Little Rock is located on the Arkansas River and near the foothills of the beautiful Ozark Mountains. It is near the center of the state and also near the geographical center of the United States in an area known as the Sunbelt. The city, with a population of 184,055 and a metropolitan population of 580,625, provides wonderful opportunities for business, education, recreation, and entertainment. Its downtown encompasses the thriving cultural and River Market District and the William J. Clinton Presidential Center. Outdoor recreation choices are numerous and include such activities as trout fishing, canoeing, hiking mountain trails, horseback riding on local working ranches, and enjoying beautiful local parks. Faculty and staff report that the quality of life is high and the cost of living is comparatively low.

Additional information and complete application instructions can be found in the position profile at <http://www.academic-search.com> under current searches, presidential searches or at www.philander.edu.

All applications and expressions of interest in the presidency will be treated in confidence. Nominations and applications should be addressed to Ms. Lynda Byrd, Chair of the Search Committee, and forwarded electronically in MS Word format to philandersmithcollege@academic-search.com Dr. Wanda D. Bigham, Senior Consultant at Academic Search, Inc., is assisting Philander Smith College with this search. Discussions regarding this opportunity may be arranged by contacting Dr. Bigham at wdb@academic-search.com or 334-425-6865. For best consideration, applications should be received by March 1, 2012.

Philander Smith College is an Equal Opportunity Employer and does not discriminate against applicants or employees based on age, race, color, religion, or national origin.

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