

Fairleigh Dickinson University Dean of the College of Psychology and Counseling



**FAIRLEIGH
DICKINSON
UNIVERSITY**



Fairleigh Dickinson University announces a national search for the Dean of the College of Psychology and Counseling, the academic home of undergraduate and graduate programs on our two degree-granting campuses in Madison and Florham Park, N.J. (“the Florham Campus”); Teaneck and Hackensack, N.J. (“the Metropolitan Campus”), with plans to open up programs at our campus in Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada (“FDU Vancouver”). FDU invites applications, nominations, and expressions of interest. The Dean of the College of Psychology and Counseling will work primarily on one of FDU’s New Jersey campuses and visit the FDU Vancouver campus periodically as appropriate.

Fairleigh Dickinson University: History and Mission

Founded in 1942 as a two-year college in Rutherford, N.J., by Peter Sammartino and his wife, Sylvia, and named for its primary benefactor, Fairleigh Dickinson Junior College, as it was then called, quickly grew into a four-year, baccalaureate institution, accredited by the Middle States Association. In 1954, it acquired Bergen Junior College in Teaneck, N.J., as a second campus (now known as the Metropolitan Campus). That same year it added its first graduate program, an MBA, and by 1956 had achieved university status. In 1958, it acquired the 178-acre estate of Florence Vanderbilt Twombly in Madison, N.J., which became its third campus (known as the Florham Campus). In 1965, it acquired Wroxton Abbey in Britain from Trinity College, Oxford University, England, and Wroxton College became FDU’s first overseas campus and the first campus to be owned by an American university in England. In 2007, Fairleigh Dickinson added a campus in Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada, which is expanding into a new location in 2026. FDU’s accreditation was recently reviewed and renewed — without any additional monitoring reports — by the Middle States Commission on Higher Education through 2033.

Over its 83-year history Fairleigh Dickinson has grown to become the largest private university in New Jersey. FDU’s focus on personal attention and support is captured in our promise — Personal, Global, Transformational — which best describes the experiences our alumni continually stress as the hallmark of an FDU education. Ranked the 6th best value in the North by *U.S. News and World Report*, FDU has defined its mission as “a center of academic excellence dedicated to the preparation of world citizens through global education.”

FDU’s Academic Offerings

Spanning across its three campuses are Fairleigh Dickinson’s six academic colleges: Maxwell Becton College of Liberal Arts and Education, Gregory H. Olsen College of Engineering and Science, Silberman College of Business, and the three health profession colleges that constitute FDU Health, a division of Fairleigh Dickinson University: The Henry P. Becton College of Nursing and Allied Health, the College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences, and the College of Psychology and Counseling. Through these distinct academic units, the University currently offers its students four associate degree programs, 41 baccalaureate majors, 42 master’s programs, 60 advanced certificates and seven doctoral degrees in clinical psychology, higher education, occupational therapy, nursing practice, pharmacy, physical therapy and school psychology. Instruction is offered in in-person, online, and blended formats. The spirit of curricular development at FDU has long been innovative to meet emerging workforce needs and to expand the curriculum in ways that serve both its students and society at large.



Demographics

At its two domestic campuses, the University currently enrolls 7,837 degree-seeking students (fall 2024), including 4,617 undergraduates and 3,220 graduate students. The University also enrolls an additional 3,000+ non-degree part-time students in its high school “early college” program. Eighty-five percent of its undergraduates and 64% percent of its graduate students are residents of New Jersey. FDU is an increasingly diverse university: Hispanics constitute 31% and 14% percent of undergraduate and graduate programs respectively. Black students are 12% and 9%, and Asians 5% and 6% percent. Adding an extra dimension of diversity are nearly 1,000 international students coming from over 80 countries who mostly attend the Metropolitan Campus. Our Vancouver campus enrolls more than 1,000 students (most of whom are international).

The University’s Leadership

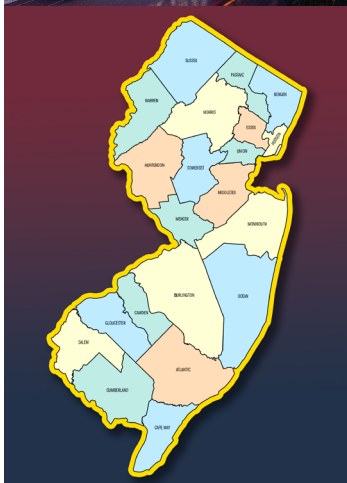
A private university, FDU is governed by a 28-member Board of Trustees, which includes the President, the President of the Faculty Senate (non-voting) and the President of the Board of Governors of the FDU Alumni Association as ex-officio members. The Board meets four times a year and the Executive Committee meets quarterly.

Michael J. Avaltroni became the University’s ninth president on January 1, 2023, after holding significant leadership positions at the University over a period of more than 20 years, including Dean of the School (now College) of Pharmacy and Health Sciences and University Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs.

FDU’s Future

Under President Michael Avaltroni, the University is moving forward with an exciting strategic direction that builds on FDU’s longstanding legacy of providing an education that is personal, global and transformational and that helps students make a difference in the real world. The FDU Will Soar strategic plan places students at the center of all priorities with broad goals designed to better meet students where they are and that enable the University to become more flexible and adaptable to respond to the rapidly changing needs of students and the challenges facing higher education. The University is moving toward becoming more distinctive in its offerings, with innovative lessons and immersive experiences that will provide career advantages. The University is committed to providing transformational opportunities that align with and address critical workforce needs, with particular emphasis on health sciences, health-related fields, and broader career-focused offerings. The introduction this year of FDU HealthPath Forward (<https://www.fdu.edu/news/fdu-launches-fdu-healthpath-forward-to-transform-health-care-workforce/>) is a great example of the University moving ambitiously to stimulate innovation, encourage collaboration within and outside higher education and to better serve students and address critical needs in society.

To better position FDU for this exciting future, the University recently embarked on several important initiatives: the review of its existing shared governance structure and the development of a new shared governance structure (2023–2024) and reaccreditation with the Middle States Commission on Higher Education (2024–2025). In addition, the University established an ad hoc faculty committee to reorganize the University’s academic structure, which was accomplished, with



overwhelming faculty support in the 2024–2025 academic year, resulting in the establishment of Olsen College. Work will soon begin on the next strategic plan, which will continue many of the themes outlined above.

Our Campuses

The University's three degree-granting campuses each have their own distinctive features and afford different learning environments. They thereby allow the University to meet a broad range of student needs and interests.

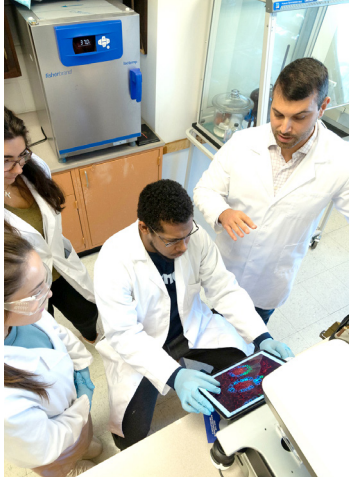
The Florham Campus is located on the former Vanderbilt-Twombly estate in Madison and Florham Park, N.J. The 178-acre campus features magnificent Georgian-style buildings and picturesque grounds that were designed by Frederick Law Olmsted. The Florham Campus is home to 1,990 undergraduates, just over half of whom live on campus, and 870 graduate students and is home to the FDU Devils NCAA Division III athletic program, which competes in the Middle Atlantic Conference and Eastern College Athletic Conference.

The Metropolitan Campus lies along the Hackensack River in Teaneck and Hackensack, N.J., just six miles from Manhattan. The campus features a comprehensive university atmosphere with a full complement of professional and career-oriented degree programs. It is currently home to 2,627 undergraduates and 1,940 graduate students. The majority of FDU's international students also attend the Metropolitan Campus. Accelerated bachelor's/master's options and selected doctoral programs are also available. The Metropolitan Campus is also home to the FDU Knights, the NCAA Division I athletic program that competes in the Northeast Conference.

The Vancouver Campus, which offers students the rare opportunity to earn a degree from a U.S.-based university while studying in Canada, opened in 2007 in a renovated, state-of-the-art facility in Vancouver's historic and cosmopolitan Yaletown section. Home to both undergraduate and graduate students, the campus primarily serves international students and includes selected undergraduate and graduate degree programs in business administration, information technology, applied computer science, as well as a master of administrative science degree. Nearly all of the students who attend the Vancouver Campus are international students coming from over 40 countries, with the majority coming from China, India, Bangladesh, and Iran. FDU's Vancouver Campus will be moving to a new location at Oak Ridge Park (<https://oakridgepark.com/>) in the summer of 2026 where we will be able to serve more students in an expanded range of degree programs.

In addition to its three degree-granting campuses, FDU works very closely with the local communities in New Jersey and offers programs in almost every county in the state. The faculty and academic programs of both New Jersey campuses are organized into six colleges, each led by a dean.

The College of Psychology and Counseling brings together faculty, staff, and students in the undergraduate major in Psychology and graduate programs in Clinical Forensic Psychology, Clinical Mental Health Counseling, Clinical Psychology, Clinical Psychopharmacology, General Theoretical Psychology, Industrial and Organizational Psychology, School Psychology, and a post-Baccalaureate respecialization program. The College collaborates closely with other units at the University, including the Peter Sammartino School of Education.



The Deanship of the College of Psychology and Counseling

The Dean of the College of Psychology and Counseling shall serve as the College's academic leader and chief administrator responsible for faculty status, curricular oversight, and academic advising. The Dean will promote a culture of openness, trust, accountability, innovation, and collaboration. Reporting to the University Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs, the Dean will provide strategic leadership, foster global perspectives, and serve as an advocate for the College with internal and external stakeholders. The Dean is a tenured member of the faculty in one of the disciplines of the College of Psychology and Counseling with an appropriate terminal degree and a record of scholarly productivity, teaching, and service to warrant appointment at the rank of professor or associate professor. The primary location for this position will be New Jersey, but the position will require travel to other degree-granting campuses that offer programs within the College of Psychology and Counseling.

Key Responsibilities

- Provides vision and strong leadership in defining and shaping the structure and goals of the College.
- Works collaboratively with associate/assistant deans, department chairs, program directors, faculty, and staff to direct programs, curriculum development, and course offerings.
- Encourages and supports faculty growth and development in teaching, scholarship, and professional activities; and promotes the acquisition of external funding.
- Develops and implements strategies for student recruitment and retention.
- Serves as the College's principal academic officer for reviewing faculty status matters and providing renewal, promotion, and tenure recommendations.
- Advances and strengthens the College's commitment to creating and nurturing a campus environment that fosters mutual respect and understanding among all students, faculty, staff, administration, and alumni as well as our promise that we will not tolerate discrimination or bias based on race, religion, gender identity/expression, sexual orientation, sex, ability status, age, nationality and/or socioeconomic class.
- Provides leadership in scholarly and pedagogical activities, including interdisciplinary program development and accreditation of professional programs, where applicable.
- Promotes and represents the College to the outside community, corporate and education partners, alumni, and donors.
- Manages the College budget to ensure fiscal accountability.
- Oversees assessment of student learning outcomes and continuous improvement of academic programs.
- Works collaboratively with other University administrators and Deans to advance University and College missions and strategic goals.
- Models the College's ideal of the teacher-scholar.
- Undertakes additional responsibilities and special projects as assigned by the University Provost.

The Leadership Agenda of the Dean of the College of Psychology and Counseling

In addition to providing effective, collegial leadership and administration to the College, the new Dean will focus on the following priorities:

Build on Excellence

- Cultivate and enhance the sense of community and identity among the faculty, staff, and students of the College at both NJ campuses (and at Vancouver, should FDU launch a relevant program there)
- Sustain collegial relations among the faculty, staff, and students of the College
- Sustain and grow the College's initiatives including the Empathy and Character-Building projects
- Foster the development of interdisciplinary curricula and research,

Advance the Priorities of the University and the Division of Academic Affairs

- Sustain and grow the College's initiatives as part of FDU Health and in alignment with the University's HealthPath Forward Initiative
- Cultivate faculty support of and contribution to University initiatives in academic certificates in artificial intelligence and interdisciplinary studies of leadership
- Collaborate closely with faculty and staff, the Office of Institutional Research, and others in the Provost's Office, continue the work to improve retention and degree completion for undergraduate students majoring in Psychology
- Meet regularly with the Provost's Leadership Council and with the other Deans to advance the priorities of the Division of Academic Affairs in accordance with the priorities of the President, Provost, and other officers of the University
- Work with the University's Career Development Center to expand and increase internship opportunities for students in the College of Psychology and Counseling and to enhance engagement of our students' current and future employers
- Participate in the work of task forces and committees as appointed by the Provost

Direct the College's Re-Accreditation Efforts

- Support the College's work in reaccreditation relevant to expectations from the Middle States Commission on Higher Education for the NJ campuses and, if/when appropriate, the Degree Quality Assessment Board of British Columbia for FDU Vancouver
- Support the College's work in reaccreditation relevant to each of its accredited professional programs both at the Master's and Doctoral levels

Hire, Mentor, Evaluate, Faculty and Staff; Support the Professional Development and Growth of the College's Faculty and Staff

- Participate in the hiring process of new faculty and staff in the College as appropriate
- Participate in the annual faculty status review process as stipulated in the University's Faculty Handbook
- Foster opportunities for professional development for the College's faculty and staff

Monitor the Efficiency of the Delivery of Instruction and Manage the College's Budget

- Work with the Chief Budget Officer of Academic Affairs and Institutional Research to monitor the efficiency of the delivery of instruction in the College

- Work with the College's assigned budget officer and the College's program directors to manage the College's budget and develop the budget for each fiscal year in the context of the University's regular budget cycle established by the Chief Financial Officer and the University Planning and Budget Committee

Advocate for the College within and Beyond the University and Foster a Culture of Fundraising and Grant Writing

- Identify key needs for infrastructure, equipment, supplies and submit appropriate and timely budget requests
- Identify needs for faculty and staff for each fiscal year's budget cycle
- In the context of change in the federal grants environment, work with the Office of Grants and Sponsored Projects to foster increased success in grant writing
- Work with the Office of Advancement to enhance external support for the College
- Seek out, cultivate and engage in relationship building with partners beyond campus — in coordination with the Offices of the President, the Provost, the Senior Vice President for Advancement and the Vice President for Enrollment Management — with other educational institutions (including K-12 schools, community colleges, and post-secondary institutions), healthcare organizations, private sector businesses (especially those that accept our students as interns or hire our graduates as employees), public and non-profit agencies, and relevant foundations
- Review the functioning of the College's advisory council of alumni, employers, and others in the community to foster philanthropic support of the College, its students, and its academic programs

Desired Qualifications and Attributes

- Ph.D. or terminal degree required in an appropriate discipline within the College.
- Minimum of six years' teaching experience required in a tenured position (or equivalent).
- Minimum of five years of academic administrative experience required at the level of department chair or above.
- Experience with accreditation processes is desirable.
- A record of outstanding scholarly achievement commensurate with the rank of professor associate professor and warranting appointment with tenure.
- Proven ability to secure external funding and build strong relationships with external constituencies (corporate, governmental, and community).
- Demonstrated superior leadership, interpersonal, and communication skills.
- Commitment to implementing the University and College mission of providing a high-quality education and positive learning experience.
- Dynamic, energetic leader with the ability to inspire collaborative performance.
- Must be a zealous advocate for the welfare of the College's faculty, staff and students.
- Employment is contingent upon a satisfactory background check. Candidates for hire will be required to sign a waiver authorizing the background check and produce a Social Security Card.

How To Apply

The Search Committee is currently accepting and reviewing applications until the position is filled. The deadline for submission for best consideration is **Friday, November 14, 2025**.

Candidates Should Provide:

- Letter of interest stating how the candidate's experiences and qualifications connect with the characteristics and priorities expressed in the position profile.
- Résumé or curriculum vitae.
- Three professional references with emails, telephone numbers and a description of the candidate's professional relationship with each reference listed (references will not be contacted without prior written authorization from the applicant)

All application materials should be submitted electronically in PDF format through the portal system at: <https://jobs.fdu.edu>. Should you have any questions or encounter any difficulties with the application process, please contact Patricia Miller, Manager of Employment at pamiller@fdu.edu.



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EEO Statement

Fairleigh Dickinson University strongly supports the principles of equal employment opportunity and affirmative action in all its employment policies and practices, and requires that all these practices be administered without regard to race, color, citizenship status, disability, veteran status, religion, ancestry, national origin, age, handicap, gender, sex, sexual preference or marital status.