 Kent State University
Campus Dean and CAO, East Liverpool and Salem

Position Description
Kent State University invites inquiries, applications, and nominations for the position of Campus Dean and Chief Administrative Officer (CAO) for the East Liverpool and Salem campuses located in Columbiana County, Ohio.

Reporting to Dr. Peggy Shadduck, Vice President for Regional Campuses and Dean of the College of Applied and Technical Studies, the Campus Dean and CAO serves as the chief academic and administrative officer of the campuses. The Campus Dean provides overall leadership and direction and assumes responsibility of campus administration and operation.
About
Kent State University
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Kent State University is the largest public multi-campus system in Northeast Ohio serving nine local communities with more than 33,000 students, 5,700 full- and part-time faculty and staff members and 273,500 alumni worldwide.

The University's Kent Campus has over 25,000 students and a thriving residential population of more than 5,300. Its seven regional campuses draw more than 8,000 full- and part-time students from across Northeast Ohio: Kent State at Ashtabula; Kent State at East Liverpool; Kent State at Geauga in Burton and the Academic Center in Twinsburg; Kent State at Salem; Kent State at Stark in Canton; Kent State at Trumbull in Warren; and Kent State at Tuscarawas in New Philadelphia. Kent State has one of the largest regional systems in the nation, offering programs from information technology and nursing to arts and business management technology. The university’s wealth of intellectual, physical, and cultural resources makes it a whole delivering far greater impact than the sum of its parts. As one university with multiple campuses, Kent State serves as an economic driver and regional cornerstone in communities throughout Northeast Ohio.

Outside Ohio, in the heart of the New York City’s Garment District, the Kent State Fashion School’s NYC Studio offers a unique academic experience to further students’ studies in fashion design, fashion merchandising, and fashion journalism. In addition, the University offers more than 200 global education opportunities at its campuses in Florence, Italy, and Geneva, Switzerland; centers in China and India; as well as partnerships with 60 institutes and universities from Columbia to Vietnam and Germany to Kenya. All students, including those on regional campuses, have the opportunity to participate in these global education opportunities. The Kent Campus is a global education destination in its own right, serving as home to 1,309 students hailing from 98 countries.

Kent State is proud of its outstanding faculty, staff, and students; collaborative culture; exceptional academic and research orientation; and strong commitment to engagement, academic excellence, and diversity. The University offers 160 associate and bachelor's degree programs and 165 graduate degree programs. Academic programs are provided through 11 colleges: Aeronautics and Engineering; Applied and Technical Studies; Architecture and Environmental Design; Arts and Sciences; the Arts; Business Entrepreneurship; Communication and Information; Education, Health and Human Services; Nursing; Podiatric Medicine; and Public Health.
Kent State is committed to the cultivation and nurturance of a diverse community of individuals through inclusive excellence. The University strives for a culturally diverse student body, faculty, and staff who reflect the multicultural nature of Ohio, the nation, and the world. The Division of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI), now under the new Division of People, Culture, and Belonging, was created in 2009 to promote diversity, equity, and inclusion across all eight Kent State campuses and monitored as part of ongoing DEI work at the University.

Kent State has received two prominent rankings in the 2023 edition of Best Colleges by U.S. News & World Report. It is the only Northeast Ohio institution among the top 125 national public schools and it holds a coveted spot on the first-tier list of Best National Universities. In the 2023 edition of Best Graduate Schools by U.S. News & World Report, Kent State ranked in the top 100 in the nation in Best Graduate Education Schools.

The University is recognized by the Carnegie Classification of Institutions of Higher Education among the nation’s top 76 public high-research (R1) universities. Kent State was also ranked 13th in the nation on the 2020 list of “America’s Best Employers for Diversity” by Forbes. For the 10th time, Kent State has been recognized as a “Great College to Work For,” according to Great Colleges to Work For. The University was also named to the Great Colleges Honor Roll in 2021, a status granted to the top universities that are highlighted most across the several recognition categories, an honor awarded to only 21 public institutions in the nation that year.

Kent State University is accredited without reservation by the Higher Learning Commission.

**Strategic Road Map**

**VISION**
To be an inclusive community whose collective commitment to learning sparks transformative thinking, meaningful voice, and sustainable outcomes to better our world.

**MISSION**
To transform lives by providing access and opportunity, fostering diverse and inclusive communities, and advancing the power of discovery, learning and creative expression.

**CORE VALUES**

- A distinctive blend of teaching, research, and creative excellence.
- Inquiry and discovery that expands knowledge and human understanding.
- Life-changing educational experiences for students with wide-ranging talents and aspirations.
- An inclusive environment for learning, working, and living that creates a genuine sense of belonging.
- Collaborative engagement that inspires positive change across campuses, communities, and throughout the world.
- Diversity of identities, cultures, beliefs, and thoughts.
• Freedom of expression and the free exchange of ideas.
• Respect, kindness, and purpose in all we do.

UNIVERSITY PRIORITIES

Priority 1: Students First
Ensure Kent State is a university where students thrive, belong, graduate, become engaged alumni and lifelong learners committed to a life of impact.

Priority 2: A Diverse Kent State
Create a diverse learning environment through the recruitment and retention of a diverse student body, faculty, and staff.

Priority 3: A Nationally Distinctive Kent State
Bolster idea generation, innovation, and national distinction through investment in top-tier teaching, research and creative activities, and co-curricular programs.

Priority 4: Community Impact
Serve as an innovative and engaged partner to meet community needs and enhance quality of life in the region and state.

Priority 5: Global Presence
Leverage, expand, and elevate Kent State’s global relationships, international engagement, and integration of global perspectives.

Priority 6: Organizational Sustainability
Ensure a culture of continuous improvement and the careful and responsible management of university resources and infrastructure.

Mission of KSU Regional Campuses

The Kent State University Regional Campuses advance the quality of life in Northeast Ohio by providing open access to a major university education. The campuses are key intellectual resources for social diversity, cultural enrichment, and economic development.

Kent State University Columbiana County
Campuses

Combined, the Kent State Salem and Kent State East Liverpool campuses make up Kent State University of Columbiana County, which offer 28 degrees, 14 of which are bachelor’s degrees. Between the two campuses there are 51 full-time faculty and enroll approximately 883 students: 285 at East Liverpool and 598 at Salem; 70 percent are female.

Numerous scholarship and financial aid opportunities exist for students of the Columbiana County campuses. The average financial aid package for a full-time undergraduate determined to have financial need is more than $7,200 (2020).

Students have the opportunity to select from a broad range of programs to fit the needs of their educational, life, or career goals. From an associate degree in nursing technology to a bachelor’s degree in criminology and justice studies, Kent State offers high quality academic programs to provide students with the education and skills they need to succeed. For a full list of programs, please visit https://www.kent.edu/regional-campuses/programs.

Kent State University at East Liverpool

Kent State University at East Liverpool is a cornerstone of downtown East Liverpool, overlooking the Ohio River in an area known as the tri-state region. Just minutes from West Virginia and Pennsylvania, the campus was established in 1965 and includes Purinton Hall, the Mary Patterson Building, and the Locke House.

Purinton Hall is the former East Liverpool High School and houses the academic learning commons, biology/anatomy lab, virtual reality lab, bookstore, administrative offices, and classrooms with technology to enhance learning on campus and/or online. The Enrollment Management and Student Services Department is in Purinton Hall, providing assistance with enrollment, advising, financial aid, and other services.

Kent State East Liverpool also currently includes the Mary Patterson Building, a former women’s residence that was purchased by the Friends of the East Liverpool Campus in 1993. The Mary Patterson Building now features nursing simulation labs, as well as classroom and learning spaces for the occupational therapy assistant and physical therapist assistant programs.

The Locke House is an extension of the East Liverpool Campus and is used as a learning laboratory for students in the Occupational Therapy Assistant (OTA) program. The house is the
former residence of the late James and Margaret Locke and was donated to the campus. There, OTA students learn to treat patients in a real home setting, while a “hospital room” is designed to simulate a typical patient room in a clinical setting, complete with a hospital bed and medical equipment.

East Liverpool lies along the Ohio River in the Upper Ohio Valley and borders Pennsylvania to the east and West Virginia to the south. East Liverpool is included in the Salem micropolitan area, about 34 miles from both Youngstown and downtown Pittsburgh. East Liverpool is notable for its pottery industry, which was at one time the largest in the United States.

**Kent State University at Salem**

Kent State University at Salem is just south of the city of Salem. The campus sits on nearly 100 acres of wooded property with a pond and nature trails.

The main campus building includes the James and Coralee Centofanti Hall, a multi-million-dollar health and sciences wing that includes dedicated spaces for nursing and radiology/imaging instruction, a biology lab, chemistry lab, research lab, classroom space, a bookstore, and faculty offices. Renovations that converted this former gymnasium into a modern learning environment were completed in phases that began in 2010 and finished in 2015. The main building opened in 1971 and includes an academic learning commons area, lecture hall, greenhouse, a virtual reality lab, and updated classrooms with technology to enhance learning for students on campus and/or online. The Flash Bistro offers students and employees a variety of food and drink options.

Known for its successful Bachelor of Science in Nursing and Radiologic Technology programs, the Salem Campus also boasts a strong early childhood education program, as well as high quality English, Social Work, and Psychology programs, to name a few. The Salem Campus is the only Kent Campus to offer an associate degree in Horticulture Technology, strongly supported by the Ohio green industry and a physical campus that provides plenty of outdoor classroom and learning spaces, including a greenhouse and gardens.
The Salem Campus also includes the City Center, the former local junior/senior high school in downtown Salem. Space is leased to the Salem City Health Department and the Hannah Mullins School of Practical Nursing (through the Salem City Schools).

Nestled in the beautiful rolling hills of Northeastern Ohio Salem is a city for adventure, American history, art & culture, entertainment, and relaxation. This quaint town retains much of its original character while new and unique shops, restaurants and galleries fill its beautifully restored historic downtown buildings.

The Role

Kent State University presents an exceptional opportunity for a dynamic and visionary leader to serve as the Campus Dean and Chief Academic Officer (CAO) of its East Liverpool and Salem campuses. This role is not just a position but a chance to make a meaningful impact for the communities served by these campuses, with tremendous opportunities to provide educational pathways for students, engage the community, and ignite a passion for higher education.

The ideal candidate will be a collaborative team player, adept at working with campus deans across the regional campuses in the system while simultaneously building strong local relationships. They will see themselves as part of a cohesive team with other regional campus deans, while respecting and celebrating the distinctiveness of each campus as they serve their role as anchors in their respective communities.

The Dean will oversee the day-to-day operations and vision of the Columbiana Campuses, working within the framework of Kent State’s student-first focus. This role is perfect for someone who recognizes the importance of shifting processes and culture, respects shared governance and collective bargaining, and is committed to helping the campuses thrive as symbols of community strength. The Dean will champion the East Liverpool and Salem campuses as important parts of the Kent State system while maintaining the campuses’ distinct personalities. Given the high number of first-generation and non-traditional students, the Dean will have the opportunity to contribute to innovations that serve those students most effectively. The role calls for a forward-thinking leader who can bring proactive solutions to the table. With a collaborative approach to education and a successful budget management track record, the new Dean will join a team that takes pride in providing world-class education and fostering student success in a supportive environment. Kent State’s student-first focus is
important for East Liverpool's and Salem’s students as they continue their educational journey. The key stakeholders understand the importance of selecting a leader who deeply respects and cares for both campuses, understands their unique qualities, and is committed to becoming an integral part of the community.

This role is an opportunity to be deeply involved in a community that values local culture. The Dean will understand and address regional economic and social issues, enhance communication with local industries for economic development, and create and advocate for workforce development initiatives. They will build strong relationships in the community, fostering relationships with local businesses, community organizations and civic leaders. They will increase faculty engagement with external stakeholders and be a respected figure in the multi-campus system. In a time of significant change in higher education, the ideal candidate will be a risk-taker, open to new ideas, and an active participant in this evolving landscape. The community seeks a visionary who is approachable and able to manage multiple priorities while being actively present on the campuses and in the community. With a proud history of impactful workforce programs and a commitment to serving a diverse student body, the new Dean will lead these campuses to not only meet but exceed their potential, making a lasting impact on the students and the broader community.

Minimum qualifications

- Terminal degree in a relevant field;
- A minimum of eight years progressively responsible experience in academic program development, marketing, budget, and personnel administration;
- Experience as a faculty member; and
- An academic record sufficient to qualify for faculty appointment at senior rank.
Nomination & Application Process
Compensation
Salary will be competitive and commensurate with qualifications and experience.

How to Apply
Jim Johnsen and Shelley Feather with Greenwood Asher & Associates® are assisting Kent State University in this search. Applications and nominations are now being accepted. Inquiries, nominations, and application materials should be directed to Greenwood Asher & Associates. Application materials should include:

 › A letter of interest that clearly states the applicant’s qualifications for the position
 › A current résumé/curriculum vitae
 › The name, relationship, and email address of five professional references

We strongly encourage submitting application materials as PDF attachments. The search will be conducted with a commitment to confidentiality for candidates until finalists are selected. Initial screening of applications will begin immediately and will continue until an appointment is made.

Please direct inquiries, nominations, and application materials to:

Jim Johnsen, Ed.D., Vice President for Executive Search
jimjohnsen@greenwoodsearch.com

Shelley Feather, Senior Executive Search Consultant and Practice Leader
shelleyfeather@greenwoodsearch.com
We are an equal opportunity employer, and all qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, disability status, protected veteran status, or any other characteristic protected by law.