



Executive Search Consulting



## Department of Public Health Sciences

Professor or Associate Professor  
February 2013

## **Introduction and Overview**

The University of Virginia School of Medicine is part of the University of Virginia Health System (UVAHS) based in Charlottesville, Virginia located approximately 100 miles southwest of Washington, D.C. and 70 miles northwest of Richmond, Virginia. The University of Virginia was founded by Thomas Jefferson in 1819 and the School of Medicine was subsequently established in 1824 and was one of the first ten medical schools established in the United States.

The UVAHS underwent an extensive strategic planning process during 2012. This process identified increased clinical research as a mechanism to strengthen and distinguish the clinical programs of the entire UVAHS. The strategic plan focuses significant new resources primarily on three initial Clinical Centers of Excellence. Through the development of these initial Centers of Excellence, the UVAHS intends to ultimately increase the quality and reputation of the entire system by following the models introduced and tested in these centers. The three initial centers identified in the strategic plan are Cancer, Cardiovascular Medicine and Neurosciences.

The Department of Public Health Sciences is the home for faculty with expertise in clinical effectiveness research as well as in the management of large clinical datasets, including the UVAHS Clinical Data Repository where clinical data from across the UVAHS are aggregated and made available for research purposes. This new position is aligned with the new strategic mission of the Health System to energize innovative clinical research efforts.

## **Charlottesville, Va.**

The City of Charlottesville is located in west Central Virginia, approximately 100 miles southwest of Washington, D.C. and 70 miles northwest of Richmond, Virginia. Situated within the upper Piedmont Plateau, at the foothills of the Blue Ridge Mountains and at the headwaters of the Rivanna River, Charlottesville was established as a town in 1762 by the Virginia General Assembly, and was incorporated as an independent city in 1888. As a result of eight annexations, the most recent of which was effective in 1968, the City now encompasses a land area of 10.4 square miles.

Charlottesville serves as the economic, cultural, and educational center of a multi-county region in Central Virginia. In 1981, the Bureau of the Census recognized the Charlottesville area as a Standard Metropolitan Statistical Area (SMSA). The SMSA includes the City of Charlottesville and the counties of Albemarle, Fluvanna, Greene, and Nelson. The 2004 Census listed the population of the City around 40,000 and the Charlottesville SMSA population of nearly 200,000. (For more statistics on Charlottesville, see [Community Profile](#).)

(Above section taken directly from the City of Charlottesville's website. Additional information can be found at <http://www.charlottesville.org> and at <http://www.albemarle.org/>)

## University of Virginia

Thomas Jefferson founded the University of Virginia in 1819. He wished the publicly-supported school to have a national character and stature. Jefferson envisioned a new kind of university, one dedicated to educating leaders in practical affairs and public service rather than for professions in the classroom and pulpit exclusively. It was the first nonsectarian university in the United States and the first to use the elective course system.

Jefferson considered the founding of the University to be one of his greatest achievements. Undertaking the project toward the end of his life—after a long, illustrious career that included serving as a colonial revolutionary, political leader, writer, architect, inventor, and horticulturalist—he was closely involved in the University's design. He planned the curriculum, recruited the first faculty, and designed the Academical Village, a terraced green space surrounded by residential and academic buildings, gardens, and the majestic center-point—the Rotunda. The most recognizable symbol of the University, the Rotunda stands at the north end of the Lawn and is half the height and width of the Pantheon in Rome, which was the primary inspiration for the building. The Lawn and the Rotunda have served as models for similar designs of "centralized green areas" at universities across the United States.

The University opened for classes in 1825 with a faculty of eight and a student body numbering sixty-eight. Jefferson took great pains to recruit the most highly qualified faculty, five of whom were found in England and three in the United States. Instruction was offered in ancient languages, modern languages, mathematics, moral philosophy, natural philosophy, chemistry, law, and medicine. The students came from the American South and West; interestingly, though, most were not Virginians.

Jefferson opposed the granting of degrees on the grounds that they were "artificial embellishments." In 1824, however, the Board of Visitors authorized granting the master of arts degree. The doctor of medicine, or M.D., was awarded to the first graduates of the School of Medicine in 1828, and the bachelor of laws degree, or LL.B., was first awarded for law school graduates in 1842. The bachelor's degree was awarded beginning in 1849, but became the standard undergraduate degree and a prerequisite for the master's degree in 1899, bringing the University into conformity with other institutions of higher learning. The Ph.D. has been awarded since 1883.

In the August 2009 U.S. News rankings of best colleges, the University of Virginia ranked the No. 2 best public university in the nation. U.Va. continues to rank in the Top 25 among the best of all national universities, public and private. In the twenty-two years that U.Va. has been ranked by U.S. News, the University has never dropped from the Top 25 group, and in the twelve years since U.S. News began ranking public universities as a separate category, the University has ranked either No. 1 or No. 2. [Read more.](#)

The many highlights of the 2000s include the creation of numerous new research centers, institutes, buildings—such as Wilsdorf Hall; the Mary and David Harrison Institute for

American History, Literature, and Culture; and the Albert and Shirley Small Special Collections Library. In 2007 the Frank Batten School of Leadership and Public Policy was created by a gift from Frank Batten, Sr. The Batten School trains students for public service careers in domestic and international areas. Graduates assume leadership positions in government, in the non-profit sector, and in selected private sector firms. The University's new financial aid program, AccessUVa, was created in 2004 to keep higher education affordable for U.Va. students. The program is in keeping with the University's mission—as envisioned by Thomas Jefferson—to educate the public citizenry as a basis for participating in a democratic republic.

(Above section taken directly from the University of Virginia's website. Additional information can be found at <http://www.virginia.edu/uvatours/shorthistory/>)

### **School of Medicine**

The School of Medicine, the tenth medical school to be established in the United States, was authorized by the University of Virginia Board of Visitors at its first meeting in 1819. The school was established as one of the University's original eight in 1824, and opened in March 1825. The first degree offered at the University was that of the Doctor of Medicine in 1828. Doctor of Medicine degrees have been awarded annually since that time, except for the Civil War year 1862. The original faculty consisted of a single professor, Dr. Robley Dunglison, whom Jefferson recruited from London in 1824. Dunglison was the first full-time professor of medicine in the United States and a leader in medical education. Unlike most other medical schools of the time, the School of Medicine was an integral part of the University and its professors held full-time appointments. The first dean of the school was appointed in 1904 as "Dean of the Department of Medicine." It was not until 1952 that the title of the dean became "Dean of the School of Medicine."

Today the school flourishes with a dedicated faculty, an outstanding student body, a flexible and innovative curriculum, patient care of the highest quality, and biomedical research programs nationally recognized for their stature and productivity. To supplement their classroom work, medical students gain clinical experience at the University Medical Center and affiliated hospitals and private offices throughout Virginia. After graduation, interns and residents continue generalist and specialty training as housestaff in the best hospitals throughout the United States.

Students in Ph.D. programs earn their degrees through the University's Graduate School of Arts and Sciences. Those in the M.D./Ph.D. Program earn both a medical degree and a doctorate in one of the biomedical science programs of the School of Medicine. Postdoctoral scholars study and conduct research in the laboratories of School of Medicine faculty members.

(Above section taken directly from the University of Virginia School of Medicine's website. Additional information can be found at <http://www.medicine.virginia.edu/administration/office-of-the-dean/about/factbook>)

## Department of Public Health Sciences

The Department of Public Health Sciences (DPHS) was originally established in 1995 as the Department of Health Evaluation Sciences. It was created to provide comprehensive and multidisciplinary scientific and analytical services to the University of Virginia Health System, as well as other components of the University. The initial business plan described the development of an infrastructure designed to initiate, expand and enhance clinical and translational research education and activities throughout the School of Medicine rather than the traditional investigator-initiated model.

In 2002 with the arrival of a new dean and vice president, the department re-energized. It added a new focus on population health, while also continuing its ongoing clinical research and biomedical informatics activities. New senior leaders were recruited to head biomedical informatics and biostatistics, and a new MPH program was established under the direction of Ruth Gaare Bernheim. In 2005 the Department of Public Health Sciences was adopted as the department's new name to reflect an expanded mission in clinical, translational and population research and education. In 2007 the department contributed to the establishment of a new Center for Public Health Genomics at the University of Virginia, under the leadership of Stephen Rich, a Distinguished Board of Visitors Scholar.

DPHS continues its original mandate to provide support for students and investigators throughout the School of Medicine and across University Grounds as they come together to learn about and develop: (1) improved ways to evaluate the efficacy of new and existing medical care and population health improvement practices, (2) the efficient and fair delivery of health services and (3) community interventions in public health practice and in health care policy.

The Department of Public Health Sciences, is comprised by 35 primary faculty, a number of faculty who have secondary DPHS academic appointments, and a support staff of 13. DPHS has four major divisions:

- [Biomedical Informatics](#): communications technology to support and analyze biomedical research and health data.
- [Biostatistics](#): research and consulting on the application of statistical analyses to biomedical research data. Biostatistics and Epidemiology provides statistical support for many research projects at the University of Virginia.
- [Patient Outcomes, Policy & Epidemiologic Research](#): teaching, research and community interventions in public health practice and health care policy.
- [Translational Research & Applied Statistics](#): expertise to help develop, foster and lead discovery and innovation for translational science across the University of Virginia.

(Above section taken directly from the Department of Public Health Sciences' website. Additional information can be found at <http://www.medicine.virginia.edu/clinical/departments/phs>)

## **The Position and Opportunity**

The Department of Public Health Sciences at the University of Virginia, School of Medicine, is seeking applicants for a tenured or tenure-eligible faculty position at the rank of Associate Professor or Professor. This position will be responsible for independent and collaborative research involving clinical effectiveness and population outcomes and will have experience or interest in a range of clinical areas such as cancer, neuroscience, and cardiovascular. In addition, the department is seeking candidates who are also interested in taking on a significant leadership role within the department as it supports the UVA Health System's implementation of its strategic vision to be a clinical leader in specific targeted clinical areas as well as a research leader in the areas of clinical effectiveness and population outcomes.

Public Health Sciences provides comprehensive and multi-disciplinary scientific and analytical services to the University of Virginia School of Medicine through its Divisions of Biomedical Informatics; Biostatistics; Translational Research and Applied Statistics; and Patient Outcomes, Policy and Epidemiologic Research. The Department offers two master degrees, an MS in Clinical Research and an MPH. Successful candidates will contribute to the design and implementation of the graduate education curriculum; teach intermediate and advanced graduate level methods courses, conduct research, and advance scholarship in their area of expertise.

## **Qualifications**

Applicants must possess an earned doctoral degree in a relevant field or an MD with quantitative training, strong post-doctoral research and publications record, and teaching expertise. Candidates are expected to have a nationally recognized research program, with a history of significant extramural funding (for example, principal investigator grants awarded by NIH or AHRQ). Candidates should have expertise in searching and retrieving clinical research information and scholarship and should have a broad knowledge of medical/health information sources, including online and other national databases and reference materials.

Successful candidates will have a strong background in statistics, clinical and population outcomes research, and research involving large secondary data sets. Experience working with clinicians through a Clinical Translational Science Award (CTSA) program also is preferred. Candidates must also possess excellent oral and written communication skills and experience working across disciplines.

Qualifications include significant contributions to published research, continued external research funding, and professional distinction in teaching, mentoring, and service as well

as in collaborative research. In addition, qualified candidates should have experience in program management and be prepared to assume a leadership role in the department.

### **Applications and Nominations**

We invite both nominations and applications. Review of applications commences March 1, 2013. The search will remain open until the position is filled. All communications will be kept in strict confidence.

If you would like to nominate a candidate, have a question about the position, the search, or the application process, please do not hesitate to contact:

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To apply:

- 1) Visit <https://jobs.virginia.edu>
- 2) Click the "Search Postings" button on the left side of the page.
- 3) Enter "0611454" in the "Posting Number" field
- 4) Click the "Search" button at the bottom of the page
- 5) The position "Professor or Associate Professor of Public Health Sciences" will appear. Click on "View".
- 6) Click on "Apply for this position"
- 7) Complete a Candidate Profile online, attach a cover letter, curriculum vitae and contact information for three references.

The University of Virginia is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action employer. Women, minorities, veterans and persons with disabilities are encouraged to apply.