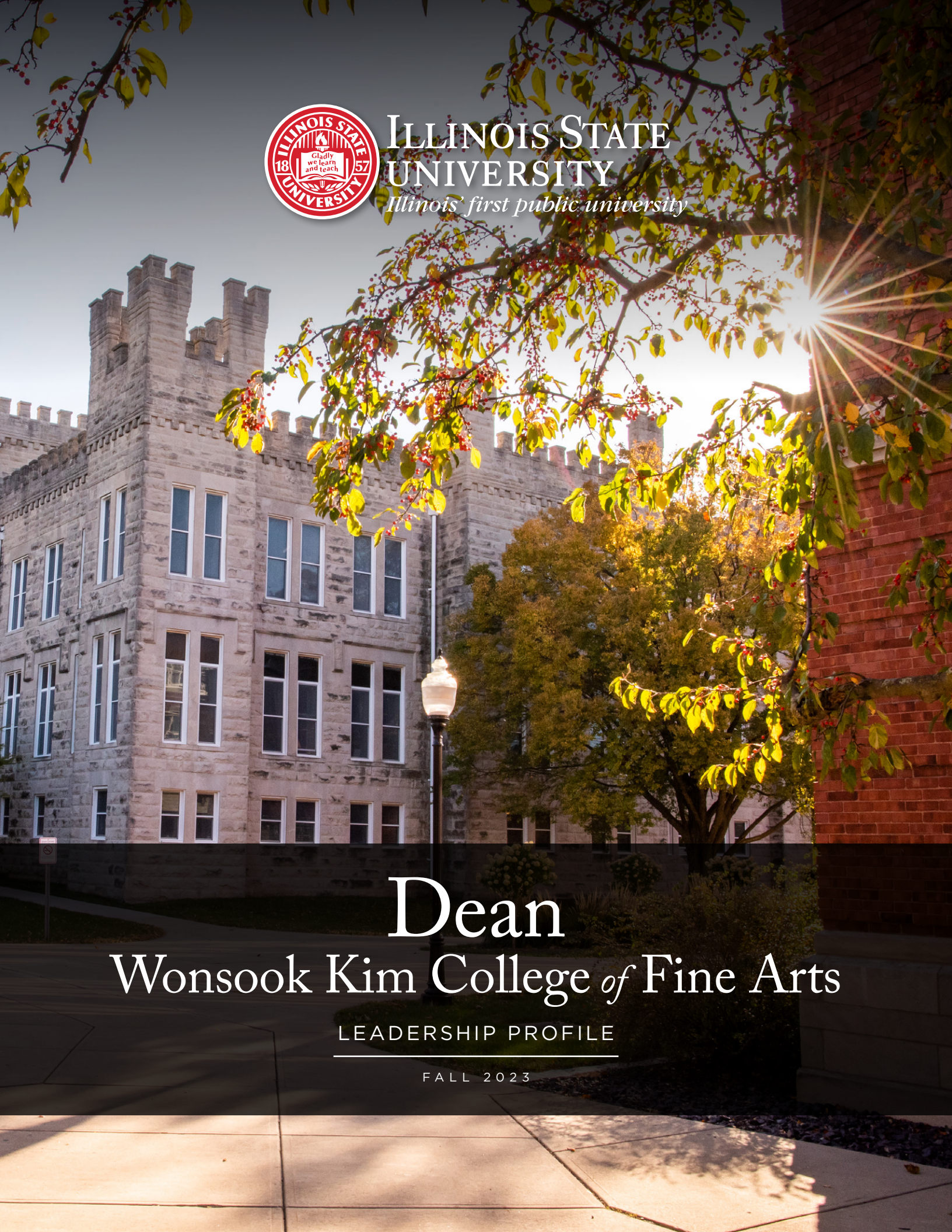




ILLINOIS STATE
UNIVERSITY
Illinois' first public university



Dean

Wonsook Kim College of Fine Arts

LEADERSHIP PROFILE

FALL 2023



Dean Wonsook Kim College *of* Fine Arts

LEADERSHIP PROFILE

This leadership profile is intended to provide information about Illinois State University and the position of dean of the Wonsook Kim College of Fine Arts. It is designed to assist qualified individuals in assessing their interest in this position.

About Illinois State University

OVERVIEW

On February 18, 1857, Gov. William Bissell of Illinois signed a bill creating a normal school and establishing the Board of Education of the State of Illinois as its governing body. The bill stipulated that the permanent location would be the place that offered the most favorable inducements. Jesse W. Fell took up the campaign for Bloomington and obtained financial backing totaling \$141,000. Abraham Lincoln, acting as attorney for the Board, drew up the bond guaranteeing the Bloomington citizens would fulfill their financial pledges. Illinois State University was consequently founded as the first public institution of higher education in the state.

Established as a teacher education institution, Illinois State has developed into a multipurpose university with degree programs at the bachelor's, master's, and doctoral levels. Six colleges currently offer approximately 174 undergraduate majors, 97 master's programs, 17 doctoral degrees, and 40 certificate options. The College of Engineering plans on offering three undergraduate majors as the University's seventh college beginning in fall 2025. One of 12 public universities in Illinois, the alumni base has now grown to more than 230,000. All initiatives are guided by ***Educate • Connect • Elevate: Illinois State—The Strategic Plan for Illinois' First Public University 2018-2023***. The document details the University's seven core values: Learning and Scholarship, Diversity and Inclusion, Respect, Collaboration, Individualized Attention, Civic Engagement, and Integrity. They combine to make Illinois State an institution with large-school opportunities and a small-school feel. Personalized attention is the focal point at the University, which lives its motto of "Gladly we learn and teach."

Enrollment for fall 2023 was 20,989 students. Illinois State's students appreciate the average 19:1 student-faculty ratio. Professors teach in the classroom, mentor, and partner with both undergraduates and graduates in research endeavors. Within the faculty, 98%

hold a terminal degree in their field. Additional examples of excellence include Illinois State placing 65th on the 2023–24 *U.S. News & World Report* Best Value Schools rankings. Students return to campus and complete their degrees, as shown by the fact the University's retention rate is among the highest in the nation at over 80%. Graduation rates are near 70%.

These retention and graduation rates place Illinois State in the top 10% of all public universities nationwide. Illinois State is also praised for providing an affordable education, with *Washington Monthly* honoring the University as one of the Best Bang for the Buck Colleges in the Midwest. There are many other reasons that reveal Illinois State's competitive advantage as a premier undergraduate institution—from record-breaking fundraising to student civic engagement and scholarly breakthroughs. Each explains the reason Illinois State University is "Redbird Proud."

Illinois State affirms and encourages community belonging and a respect for differences. The University fosters an inclusive environment characterized by cultural understanding and engagement, ethical behavior, and a commitment to social justice. The University supports diverse faculty and staff who mentor a diverse student population. The institution endeavors to provide opportunities for students, staff, and faculty to participate productively in a global society.

Campus diversity at Illinois State increasingly reflects the nation's changing demographics. In the 2023–24 academic year, 41% of the freshman class comes from traditionally underrepresented groups. Over the past five years, there has been a 14% increase in African American students and a 9% increase in Latinx students. Students are mentored by a faculty that includes numerous teacher-scholars recognized at national and international levels, all dedicated to superior teaching.





Community

Illinois State is in the Central Illinois community of Bloomington-Normal, which has a combined population of 132,000. The community is home to Illinois Wesleyan University, Heartland Community College, OSF St. Joseph Medical Center, Carle BroMenn Medical Center, Rivian Motors, COUNTRY Financial, and State Farm Insurance Corporate Headquarters. The community has distinguished itself for its outstanding school systems and educational attainment, parks and recreation, health care, job growth, economic opportunity, and low crime. [*Forbes* magazine](#) ranked Bloomington-Normal 66th in its best small places for businesses and careers and 13th best for education.

The vibrant twin cities provide a high quality of life. Normal is ranked a Top 10 Best College Towns in America for a reason. There are plentiful activities, cultural events, and entertainment opportunities for students and staff locally, with more opportunity to explore nearby. Normal is centrally located in Illinois, making it possible to drive or catch a train to major cities such as Chicago, St. Louis, and Indianapolis. All are within 2-3 hours from campus. Public

transportation systems make the community easily accessible, with a train and bus station within a few blocks of campus. There is also a regional airport with free parking that removes many of the hassles of flying. For more information on our community, please visit www.visitbn.org.

Ranked the No. 3 Best Small City for Job-Seeking College Grads, there are multiple opportunities for students upon graduation. Illinois State partners with companies in the area, including State Farm Insurance and COUNTRY Financial—both with headquarters in the community—to provide internships and employment.

There are ample leisure activities as well, with five public golf courses in the area, several lakes, and the 45-plus miles of the hard-surfaced Constitution Trail. Converted from an abandoned railroad, the trail is bustling with individuals walking, biking, running, and blading. There are numerous restaurants and shops to visit as well. Uptown Normal is home to locally owned retail outlets with quality products and delectable food. There are unique movies, concerts, theatrical performances, and festivals to attend in every season.



Academics

Illinois State University is currently comprised of seven academic colleges and Milner Library, each of which contains academic departments and centers designed to provide—singly and collectively—a comprehensive and robust academic experience for students. Degrees are offered at the bachelor’s, master’s, and doctoral levels. Secondary education students major in their academic disciplines while completing their teacher preparation requirements under the auspices of the Council for Teacher Education. The University’s academic programs are supported by the services and collections of Milner Library.

College of Applied Sciences and Technology houses the Departments and Schools of Agriculture, Criminal Justice, Family and Consumer Sciences, Health Sciences, Information Technology, Kinesiology and Recreation, Military Science, and Technology. The college also includes several significant centers, including the University Farm; Horticulture Center; the Child Care Center; and Illinois State’s well-known Gamma Phi Circus, the nation’s oldest collegiate circus.

College of Arts and Sciences houses 16 departments and offers many majors and minors at the undergraduate level. Some of these programs are interdisciplinary, including African American Studies, Women’s, Gender, and Sexuality Studies, and Latin American and Latina/o Studies. Many departments have graduate programs leading to master’s and doctoral degrees. The college houses many of Illinois State’s study abroad opportunities, the Center for Child Welfare and Adoption Studies, and the University’s radio station, WGLT.

College of Business is known for its comprehensive undergraduate programs, highly regarded master’s programs, and the outstanding accomplishments of its alumni. It is one of only 188 business colleges in the world to hold both business and accounting accreditation by AACSB International. It is also the only College of Business in a public university in Illinois which has earned STEM designation for all its master’s programs.

College of Education prepares early childhood through middle level teachers, special educators, and administrators in addition to partnering with departments across the University to offer teacher education programs in a wide variety of academic programs and areas of study. With 44 accredited teacher education programs and offerings at the bachelor’s, master’s, and doctoral levels, Illinois State remains true to its founding as Illinois State Normal University, specializing in teacher education. The College of Education is also home to Thomas Metcalf and University High School laboratory schools serving approximately 1,000 students.

College of Engineering anticipates enrolling its first cohort of students in fall 2025 with an initial offering of electrical, mechanical, and general engineering degree programs. The college will be uniquely designed with a vision of student success, diversity, and workforce development. Leveraging Illinois State’s reputation as a student-focused institution, the College of Engineering will prepare students for success by melding theory and practice in core engineering disciplines and innovative cross-disciplinary experiences.

Menonite College of Nursing offers nursing degrees at the bachelor’s, master’s, and doctoral levels. Building on the rich history of nursing education at Menonite College, established in 1919, the College of Nursing was incorporated into the University in 1999 as Illinois State’s sixth academic college. The college is proud of NCLEX and FNP pass rates consistently exceeding state and national averages and offers a state-of-the-art Nursing Simulation Lab with diverse clinical placements that prepare students to practice in a complex health care system.

Wonsook Kim College of Fine Arts includes the Wonsook Kim School of Art, the School of Music, the School of Theatre and Dance, and the Arts Technology program. University Galleries, the Illinois Shakespeare Festival, Theatre for Young Audiences, String Project, and the Big Red Marching Machine are also housed within the Wonsook Kim College of Fine Arts. Notable alumni include Jane Lynch, Sean Hayes, Brendan Hunt, Nicholas Africano, LaRoyce Hawkins, Gary Cole, Judith Ivey, Terry Kinney, John Malkovich, Laurie Metcalf, Jeff Perry, Cecilia Suarez, and Michelle Williams.

Milner Library staff includes subject librarians who work closely with academic units to provide learning and research materials across the academic spectrum. Group study areas, quiet floors, collaboration stations, and a technology-rich environment support varied student learning styles. While the availability of electronic resources grows at a rapid rate, Milner is still home to 1.4 million physical volumes and the University Archives.

Strategic Plan

The University's strategic plan, ***Educate • Connect • Elevate: Illinois State - The Strategic Plan for Illinois' First Public University 2018-2023***, is a guide as the University maintains its strength while seeking new opportunities to support student success and academic innovation that serve the state of Illinois, the nation, and the world.

With the underpinning of the commitment to an individualized and transformative experience for students, Illinois State is committed to pursuing four strategic directions:

- Enhancing strength and stability;
- Fostering innovation;
- Nurturing diversity and inclusion; and
- Enriching engagement.

Master Plan

The Master Plan presents a long-range blueprint for the physical development of Illinois State—its future size, form, function, character, image, and environment. The plan presents a series of recommendations designed to further the University's physical transformation beyond what has been accomplished in recent years. These recommendations have been tailored to support and enhance the University's strategic plan. A mid-plan review and update is currently underway.

For more information, visit **[MasterPlan.IllinoisState.edu](https://www.masterplan.illinoisstate.edu)**.



ILLINOIS STATE UNIVERSITY

METRICS OF Excellence



FIRST-CHOICE INSTITUTION

Illinois State has welcomed our largest freshman class in 36 years. We enroll more than 20,900 students, while maintaining academic quality and small class sizes.



DIVERSE CAMPUS

Illinois State provides accessible opportunity and increasingly reflects the nation's changing demographics. We enrolled our most diverse freshman class in school history this year with 41% of these students and nearly 32% of the total student population coming from traditionally underrepresented groups.



BANG FOR THE BUCK

Illinois State is ranked among the top universities for return on investment. *U.S. News & World Report* recognized the University as one of the Best Value Schools in the nation, and *Washington Monthly* included the University on the Best Bang for the Buck list in the Midwest. In addition, the University was also ranked among the top 30% of four-year higher education institutions for graduates' return on investment.



RECORD FUNDRAISING

Illinois State University raised more than \$34 million in private support, reaching its third highest private support total in university history. Through these donations, more than 3,350 scholarships were awarded last fiscal year and 76 new scholarships were created.



HIGH RETENTION AND GRADUATION RATES

Illinois State students complete their degrees on time. ISU's retention rate remains among the highest in the nation at over 81.3 percent, and our high graduation rate (66.3%) is well above the national average.



MILITARY FRIENDLY SCHOOL

Illinois State supports veterans and those in the military. We are ranked a top 10 Military Friendly School by *VIQTORY*.



TOP COLLEGE TOWN

Bloomington-Normal ranks as one of the top 5 college towns in America based on its quality of life and among the nation's best small cities for affordability, arts and entertainment opportunities, and safety. The University's hometown was also ranked as one of the Best College Towns in America, among the Best Places to Live in the United States, and one of the most affordable cities for college students.



TOP PUBLIC UNIVERSITY

Washington Monthly ranked the University in the top 106 out of all public national universities for the institution's contribution to the public good through social mobility, research, and public services. Illinois State made *U.S. News & World Report's* 2024 rankings of America's top public schools, at No. 112. In addition, the University was ranked in the upper echelon of *Money's* 2023 list of Best Colleges in America for quality education and affordability.



CIVICALLY ENGAGED CAMPUS

Illinois State's campuswide commitment to our core value of civic engagement has earned us recognition with the Elective Classification for Community Engagement, as an Excellence and Innovation Award for Civic Learning and Community Engagement recipient, and as a Voter Friendly Campus.



ILLINOIS STATE
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Executive Summary

Founded in 1857, Illinois State University is the oldest public university in the state. Located in Normal, 125 miles southwest of Chicago, Illinois State hosts a diverse community of scholars committed to fostering a small college environment with large university opportunities. Illinois State's mission is based on a shared set of core values: Learning and Scholarship, Diversity and Inclusion, Respect, Collaboration, Individualized Attention, Civic Engagement, and Integrity. Students at Illinois State find rigorous academic programs that challenge them to be their best and a welcoming and supportive campus atmosphere that helps them grow and mature as scholars, citizens, and leaders. Illinois State has a total enrollment of 20,989 students (18,450 undergraduate and 2,539 graduate students) situated on a 1,111-acre campus.

Illinois State University seeks a dynamic, collegial leader, and a nationally accomplished fine arts scholar and administrator to serve as the next dean of Wonsook Kim College of Fine Arts. Enrolling more than 1,400 students in three schools and the Creative Technologies program, the college has 92 tenured and tenure-track faculty, 47 non-tenure track faculty, approximately 40 staff, and an annual operating budget of \$13 million. The college offers majors and sequences leading to the Bachelor of Arts, Bachelor of Fine Arts, Bachelor of Science, Bachelor of Music, Bachelor of Music Education, Master of Arts, Master of Fine Arts, Master of Music, Master of Music Education, and Master of Science degrees. Schools are accredited by NASAD, NAST, and NASM.

The Wonsook Kim College of Fine Arts is committed to creative living and aspires to be a leader in the preparation of world-class artists and designers, performers, scholars, teachers, and therapists through pedagogical excellence and practice. The college prepares

and empowers students to make positive contributions to their communities, profession, and the world.

The dean provides vision and leadership for the college; serves as its academic leader; advocates on behalf of the college to the provost and president; and engages with donors, alumni, and external constituents to seek support and other resources for the college. The dean is responsible for supervising, evaluating, and supporting faculty in academic units to promote excellence in instruction; providing leadership to expand creative scholarship and grant activity; and supervising the college's faculty evaluation processes, especially as related to promotion and tenure. The dean assumes fiscal responsibility for the college.

The dean reports to the vice president for academic affairs and provost, who reports to Illinois State University's president. Personnel reporting to the dean includes one associate dean, one assistant dean, three school directors, the director of the Creative Technologies program, the director and senior curator of University Galleries, the manager of the Center for the Performing Arts, the director of Wonsook Kim College of Fine Arts IT, the business communications associate, and college budget associate. The dean works closely with the college's director of development and college facilities planners as well as the producer and the artistic and managing directors of the Illinois Shakespeare Festival. The dean is expected to work collaboratively and collegially with seven other academic deans as well as administrators from all four divisions of the University.

Applications, inquiries, and nominations are invited. To submit a nomination or express personal interest in this position, please refer to the Applications and Nominations section at the end of this document.





Wonsook Kim College of Fine Arts

Illinois State's Wonsook Kim College of Fine Arts is comprised of three Schools (Art, Music, Theatre and Dance) and the interdisciplinary program in Creative Technologies. Invigorated by creative discourse and diversity of opinion, Wonsook Kim College of Fine Arts advances the arts within a global context. Through collaboration, applied learning, and artistic practice, the college fosters curiosity and critical thinking to illuminate the human experience. Creative and intellectual endeavors enrich the quality of life of the University, the community, and beyond.

In fall 2023, the college enrolled 1,445 undergraduate and graduate students. The college has a strong tradition of teacher preparation in fine arts integrated with conservatory and studio models to create thinkers, writers, designers, makers, performers, scholars, educators, therapists, and entrepreneurs through pedagogic and creative excellence.

Notable alumni and former students include Jane Lynch, LaRoyce Hawkins, John Malkovich, Judith Ivey, Sean Hayes, Laurie Metcalf, Terry Kinney, Jeff Perry, Brendan Hunt, Gary Cole, Francois Battiste, Terry Adkins, Lourdes Ramos, Lorenzo Pace, Nicolas Africano, and Wonsook Kim.

An exciting time for the college, the design phase of the \$67.3 million Fine Arts Transformation Building Project has been completed. A groundbreaking is scheduled for spring 2024 and completion anticipated in 2026.

On campus, the concert hall and proscenium-style theatre are located in the Center for the Performing Arts (CPA). Westhoff Theatre near the CPA offers a flexible seating plan. Off-campus, the college presents the Illinois Shakespeare Festival at the Ewing Cultural Center outdoor theatre and grounds. Art exhibition spaces include University Galleries in Uptown Normal, the Wonsook Kim School of Art Student Gallery in Julian Hall, and the Student Art Gallery at the Central Illinois Regional Airport (CIRA). MFA Art Studios are located at Eastland Mall.





Wonsook Kim School of Art

The [Wonsook Kim School of Art](#) enrolls 453 students and offers bachelor's degrees in Studio Arts, Graphic Design, Art History, and Art Teacher Education; Master of Arts degrees in Visual Culture and Art Education; and a Master of Fine Arts in Studio Arts. Additionally, the school has a highly selective Bachelor of Fine Arts degree. Studio areas include ceramics, drawing, glass, printmaking, wood and metal design, expanded media, painting, photography, sculpture, and video. The school's faculty and students work collaboratively with the Creative Technologies program. The glass program is one of only two studio glass programs in Illinois, attracting students from across the region. Admission to the studio programs is achieved through a portfolio review process.

Faculty-led study abroad programs are expanding the school's presence internationally and include Art History and Valle Gianni Field School in Italy, Art Education in Australia, and Studio Art in Chongqing, China. The school has established an international partnership with Shanghai Normal University Tianhua College's graphic design

program. Faculty participate in international conferences, exchanges, and exhibitions. Additionally, the school offers a selection of online courses each semester.

Through the thriving Visiting Artists program, the Wonsook Kim School of Art welcomes distinguished national and international artists to campus for long-term residencies and short-term visits. The artists work with both undergraduate and graduate students, allowing students to gain professional business skills and hands-on experience. Similarly, graphic design faculty and students have access to Design Streak Studio, a research-based social innovation lab focused on human-centered service design. Students complete design projects for community and business entities in Central Illinois and throughout the country. Students also gain professional experience through Normal Editions Workshop, a professional print studio housed within the printmaking studios, that produces editions for a nationally and internationally renowned roster of artists.

The Wonsook Kim School of Art undergraduate and

graduate students present exhibitions at the Student Art Gallery on campus, the Central Illinois Regional Airport Student Art Gallery, and University Galleries.

Founded in 1973, [University Galleries](#) of Illinois State University is one of the premier exhibition spaces for contemporary art in the Midwest. University Galleries' mission is to foster a greater understanding of contemporary art in our university and community, while providing support for artists at pivotal points in their careers. The exhibitions and interpretive programming reflect the shifting dynamics of contemporary artistic practice and encourage active participation by the community. University Galleries has been awarded the Center for Civic Engagement's Unit Award multiple times in the past few years.

University Galleries has organized museum surveys or large-scale exhibitions of works by: Wonsook Kim, Terry Adkins, Jen Bervin, Bethany Collins, Kambui Olujimi, Aram Han Sifuentes, Basim Magdy, William Cordova, Michelle Grabner, Jason Lazarus, Jim Lutes, Tony Tasset, Allan Sekula, Jeanne Dunning, Melanie Schiff, Nadia Hotait, Stephanie Brooks, Siebren Versteeg, Martin Wong, David Wojnarowicz, and Jane Dickson, among many others. It has also published definitive monographs for many of these artists.

University Galleries occupies an expansive storefront space in Normal's Uptown Station. This central location, which also houses the Amtrak station, bus station, and City Hall, has increased access to contemporary art for both the University and the Bloomington-Normal community.

University Galleries has recently been awarded grants by the National Endowment for the Arts, Illinois Arts Council Agency, and The Andy Warhol Foundation for the Visual Arts.

Founded in 1976, [Normal Editions Workshop](#) (NEW) is a distinctive nonprofit print research facility adjoining the student printmaking studios in the Wonsook Kim School of Art. Normal Editions Workshop is an outstanding example of an intersection between education and fine art printing, placing professionals together with students in an exciting, productive interaction that goes far beyond the usual classroom. Artists of regional, national, and international reputation visit Illinois State University and collaborate with the Normal Editions faculty, staff,

and students to produce original limited edition works. As a result, students have opportunities to work with and observe visiting artists who explore the creative and expressive potentials of printmaking, lecture about their work, and critique student work.

More than 120 artists, including Phyllis Bramson, Jane Dickson, Julia Fish, Judy Glantzman, Sidney Goodman, Alex Grey, Arturo Herrera, John Himmelfarb, Dennis Oppenheim, Kiki Smith, Buzz Spector, David Wojnarowicz, members of the faculty, and others have created over 250 editions of contemporary art. Two impressions from each edition are included in the NEW archive. These study impressions are made available for scholarship and research and organized into exhibitions that travel to universities, museums, and other cultural centers. NEW also provides students with opportunities to assist with grant writing, exhibition preparation, and aspects of running a professional print workshop.

NEW has established an endowed fund to help perpetuate the workshop and its ongoing commitment to provide artists and students with opportunities to collaborate in the creation of new works and encourage creative dialogue as students and artists explore the process and as new audiences are reached. In addition to sales of exhibition catalogs and prints, NEW actively seeks funding from competitive university awards and external grants.

Recent awards include funding from the Illinois Arts Council Agency, The Fell Trust, Harold K. Sage Fund, Social Science and Humanities Research Council of Canada, International Fine Print Dealers Association, and others. NEW's award winning comprehensive retrospective book publication chronicling its first 30 years, *Marks from the Matrix: Normal Editions Workshop Collaborative Limited Edition Prints 1976-2006*, received the Bronze Medal award in the National Category of Fine Art Books by the Independent Publisher Book Awards.

The presence of the Normal Editions Workshop at Illinois State University, the longest running university fine art press in the state, calls attention to a unique institutional facility located centrally in Illinois. This attention brings prestige to the University as the programs within the School of Art are enhanced, as artists use the collaborative process in printmaking, and as creative climates and dialogues are encouraged.

School of Music

The [School of Music](#) faculty is dedicated to academic excellence and student success. They represent internationally recognized performers and conductors, recording artists, published scholars and composers, leading educators and applied artist teachers, and practicing music therapists. The school enrolls 359 students and supports four concert bands, five concert choirs, two orchestras, two jazz bands, and the 400-member Big Red Marching Machine. Student and faculty ensembles frequently tour regionally to engage with public school educators and students, and at times they tour nationally and internationally. All music ensembles are open to all Illinois State University students by audition, regardless of their major.

The School of Music provides over 200 events each academic year and summer to the campus and community at large, including concerts, recitals, operas, chamber music, and guest artist performances and lectures. The school offers undergraduate degrees in Music Education, Performance, Music Therapy, Composition, Jazz Studies, and Music Business. Known for excellence in training outstanding teachers, the School of Music graduates more music teacher educators each year than any other institution in the state of Illinois. The School of Music also offers graduate degrees in Music Education, Performance, Music Therapy, Composition, Collaborative Piano, String Pedagogy, Jazz Studies, and Conducting. Music alumni can

be found in professional organizations such as the United States Army, Navy, Marine, and National Guard bands, and the St. Louis Symphony Orchestra. Graduates hold professorships and collegiate administration positions across the country and globally.

The award-winning Illinois State University String Project is an after-school music program that offers low-cost instruction on stringed instruments to children in the community. The program supports existing public school string programs and provides a string education to children who are homeschooled or enrolled in schools where no string program is available. The String Project also provides valuable teacher training experience for Illinois State University string majors who serve as teaching assistants.

In its 17th season, the RED NOTE New Music Festival at Illinois State University is a weeklong event that features outstanding performances of contemporary concert music. Highlights of past seasons include appearances by Momenta Quartet, Left Coast Chamber Ensemble, Del Sol Quartet, Fifth House Ensemble, Iridium Quartet, and loadbang. Featured guest composers have included William Bolcom, Chen Yi, Stephen Hartke, Bright Sheng, Missy Mazzoli, Steven Stucky, Martin Bresnick, and Joan Tower. RED NOTE also holds an annual composition competition that brings in entries from around the world.

School of Theatre and Dance

The [School of Theatre and Dance](#) offers professional training within the context of a liberal arts education. With an enrollment of 325 students, the Bachelor of Arts/Bachelor of Science program offers options in Acting, Dance, Dance Theatre Education, Film and Digital Media, Musical Theatre, Production Design and Technology, Theatre Studies, and Theatre Teacher Education. Graduate degrees offered include the Master of Fine Arts in Theatre with focuses in Directing, Scene Design, Lighting Design, and Costume Design and a Master of Arts/Master of Science in Theatre Studies.

A member of University Resident Theatre Association (URTA) with accreditation by National Association of

Schools of Theatre (NAST), the school's performance and production opportunities include the Illinois Shakespeare Festival, a professional theatre that offers three productions each summer in repertory in addition to well-attended Theatre for Young Audiences performances throughout the season. Academic year performance and production opportunities include a nine-production mainstage season (seven plays/musicals/operas and two dance concerts), as well as many studio and student-produced productions and films.

The school has an extensive network of alumni employed in theatre, film, and television as well as in education, business, and industry settings, many of whom

return to campus to share their talents and insights with current students. Alumni guest artists in just the 2022–23 academic year included actor Jane Lynch, who returned for a three-week residency to direct a staged reading of Neil Simon’s *Lost in Yonkers*; casting agent Deb Barylski (*Arrested Development*, *The Middle*, *The War at Home*, *Just Shoot Me*), who returns each semester to work with seniors in the acting program; and filmmakers Enrico Natale and David Midell (*The Killing of Kenneth Chamberlain*, NAACP Image Awards 2022 Nominee for Outstanding Independent Motion Picture), who met with students in film classes.

The newest programs in the school are Musical Theatre, which will welcome its third class of students in fall 2024, and Film and Digital Media, which boasts an enrollment of over 100 students in just three years. A new minor in Stage Combat provides students with

certification-level training to perform staged violence for theatre, television, film, and video games.

Production Design and Technology students have hands-on opportunities to practice their craft and learn skills that include scenic design; scene painting; computer-aided drafting; plastic fabrication; rigging; costume design, construction, and history; lighting design; sound and speaker design; recording; and stage and production management.

Dance and Dance Teacher Education offer intensive training in dance performance and the premiere dance education program in the state of Illinois. Course work includes modern dance; classical ballet; jazz and contemporary styles; choreography and improvisation; dance pedagogy; dance history and multicultural perspectives; and dance kinesiology and somatics training.

Program in Creative Technologies

The [Creative Technologies](#) program is a multi-disciplinary curriculum housed in the Wonsook Kim College of Fine Arts. There are 284 students enrolled in the program. A plan to elevate the status of this program to “School” is awaiting final approval from the Illinois Board of Higher Education.

The program in Creative Technologies offers Bachelor of Arts, Bachelor of Science, and Master of Science degrees. Many graduate students have established careers in areas such as graphic design, musical performance, theatre design, or teaching. The program requires undergraduate and graduate students to complete coursework in multiple arts disciplines, as well as courses specific to Creative Technologies.

Currently, faculty members have their tenure home in one of the three schools in the college: Art, Music, or Theatre and Dance. Faculty members have professional backgrounds in narrative and digital media, sound design, audio engineering, web design, game design, video, computer programming, and digital music composition and production. The program provides students with a broad and flexible curriculum designed to sustain current industry trends and developments. There are currently three pathways through the program, Audio and Music Production, Game Design, and Interdisciplinary Technologies.

Undergraduate students come to the program with varied backgrounds and wide-ranging interests. Arts Technology students do not fit into singular creative categories. It is common for an Arts Technology student to write and record their own music and create videos to post to a website they have designed and built. The program requires students to take coursework in multiple arts disciplines as well as courses specific to Arts Technology.

Much like our undergraduates, graduate students come from varying backgrounds. Many of them enter the program directly from undergraduate arts programs such as visual art, music, and theatre seeking to enhance their technical knowledge and to broaden their creative vision. Others hold degrees in such fields as communications and computer science with backgrounds in the creative arts, and they use the master’s degree to learn creative processes or to develop careers as artists and designers. Many graduate students are already established in careers such as graphic design, musical performance, theatre design, or teaching. Many of these students attend part-time and seek to enhance their career and professional advancement opportunities by expanding their digital art making skills while obtaining an advanced degree.



Opportunities *and* Expectations

FOR LEADERSHIP

- Represent the University, college, and academic units to external constituents and advance outreach and public service efforts.
- Represent the college internally to the campus community and lead collaboration within the college and among university units.
- Lead recruitment, selection, retention, and supervision of department chairs/school directors and college administrative staff in a manner that promotes excellence in instruction and scholarship.
- Develop budgets and manage the college's fiscal affairs.
- Lead development and implementation of the college's strategic plan, in alignment with the University's strategic plan.
- Promote and support college personnel and student diversity, equity, belongingness, and inclusivity.
- Lead the college in its fundraising efforts. Work closely with University Advancement to collaborate in the University's college and overall fundraising efforts.
- Provide leadership and oversight for the nationally accredited academic programs in the college.
- Supervise and oversee the annual appointment, salary, promotion, and tenure process.
- Support and facilitate international instructional and research opportunities for faculty, staff, and students.
- Coordinate management of facilities and associated infrastructure allocated to the college and its units.
- Coordinate and develop programs aimed at the mentorship of new faculty and the professional development of college administrators, faculty, and staff.
- Other duties as may be assigned by the provost and president.

Professional Qualifications *and* Personal Qualities

The following describes the ideal candidate for dean:

- Earned terminal degree in fine arts related to a discipline represented in the college.
- Recognized nationally for scholarship, creative productivity, and teaching, meriting appointment at the rank of professor with tenure within Wonsook Kim College of Fine Arts.
- Record of successful administrative leadership in large, dynamic academic organizations as dean, associate dean, department chair/director, or comparable leadership role.
- Experience with and understanding of the scholarship, creative productivity, teaching, and service responsibilities of a fine arts faculty member at a major university.
- Demonstrated commitment to the University's core values, which are: the Pursuit of Learning and Scholarship; Individualized Attention; Diversity and Inclusion; Respect; Integrity; and Civic Engagement.
- Demonstrated ability to work collegially with other deans, administrators, and diverse stakeholders in developing goals and programs and a commitment to shared governance.
- A record of accomplishment as a manager of people and resources in support of high-quality graduate and undergraduate instruction, scholarly and creative productivity, public engagement, and outreach activities.
- Experience in developing and managing complex budgets.
- Experience in the development and implementation of a strategic plan.
- Knowledge of or experience in fundraising and donor stewardship.
- Experience developing or supporting initiatives and programs related to equity, diversity, inclusion, and anti-racism.
- Experience in developing or supporting study abroad and international partnerships.
- Experience working with national and state accrediting bodies in higher education.
- Experience with leadership and/or oversight of facilities resources.
- Ongoing participation in national/international fine arts professional organizations.

Procedure FOR CANDIDACY

All applications, nominations, and inquiries are invited. Applications should include, as separate documents, a letter of interest describing professional experience as it relates to the opportunities and requirements of the position; a current, full curriculum vitae; and the names, telephone numbers, and email addresses of five references. References will not be contacted until the finalist round of interviews.

Applications and all application materials should be submitted at:

jobsearch.IllinoisState.edu/cw/en-us/job/517804?ApplicationSubSourceID=

Nominations and inquiries can be directed to: Lisa Mason,
Director of Academic Employment and Executive Search Services,

Immason@IllinoisState.edu.

LEADERSHIP

Dr. Aondover Tarhule, Interim President



Dr. Tarhule joined Illinois State University in 2020 as vice president for academic affairs and provost and currently serves as interim president. His immediate prior administrative appointment was vice provost and dean of the Graduate School at Binghamton University (State University of New York). Before that, he was executive associate dean and department chair in the College of Atmospheric and Geographic Sciences at the University of Oklahoma. In these positions, he worked on creating new academic programs, increasing student enrollment, increasing diversity, faculty retention, shared governance, and international partnerships and linkages amongst other things.

Having earned master's degrees and a doctoral degree in geography from McMaster University in Hamilton, Ontario, Canada, Tarhule received a postdoctoral fellowship from the Canadian Science Advisory Council to conduct research at Queens University in Kingston, Ontario, Canada. Tarhule earned an additional master's degree in environmental resources planning and a bachelor's degree in geography, both from the University of Jos, Plateau State, Nigeria.

A broadly trained physical geographer, Tarhule has wide-ranging research interests in hydroclimatic variability, droughts, water resources scarcity, and climate information dissemination and use. His scholarly research has appeared in prestigious international journals, including *Nature (Scientific Reports, Climate Perspectives)*, *Journal of Hydrology*, *Remote Sensing*, *Bulletin of the American Meteorological Society*, and book chapters. His efforts as principal investigator (PI) or co-PI have resulted in more than \$5 million in grants from such agencies as the National Science Foundation, the United States Agency for International Development, the National Institute of Health, and the United States Geological Survey. He has served on the editorial board of the *Scientific World Journal*, the *African Geographical Review* and as guest editor on several journals including *Remote Sensing*, *Atmosphere*, and *Climate Research*.

Tarhule has served on committees of prominent national and international organizations, including as consultant to the World Bank (Climate Risk Assessment of the Niger River Basin Sustainable Development Action Plan) and member of the Executive Committee of the Board on Oceans, Atmosphere, and Climate, and Association of Public and Land Grant Universities. He is a member of the College of Mentors of the Council for the Development of Social Science Research in Africa (CODESRIA) and an Executive Board Member of the Walker Institute, University of Reading, in England.

LEADERSHIP

Dr. Ani Yazedjian, Acting Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost



Dr. Ani Yazedjian, university professor, joined the Office of the Provost in 2019 as associate provost and currently serves as acting vice president for academic affairs and provost. In her role as associate provost, Yazedjian oversaw new program development through the Illinois Board of Higher Education, institutional accreditation through the Higher Learning Commission, and was actively involved in the creation of the new College of Engineering. On campus, she supervised the Center for Civic Engagement, the Office of International Education, and University Assessment Services. Yazedjian served on the University strategic planning steering team and the COVID-19 steering team.

Yazedjian has also served as chair of the Department of Family and Consumer Sciences at Illinois State. As chair, she led the increase in the number of degree programs in the department, developed the first accelerated master's degree programs on campus, created a new online dietetic internship certificate, increased student enrollment, oversaw over \$1 million in equipment and facilities upgrades, and secured donor contributions for five new scholarships. She was named a university professor in 2013 and received the University's Distinguished Service Award in 2023.

Over the last two decades, Yazedjian has received over \$7 million to support her scholarly interests in delivering evidence-based programs to support adolescent development. Most recently, between 2015 and 2020, she directed the *CARE4U* program which provided over 1,100 primarily African American and Hispanic youth with relationship education, job readiness and financial management skills in order to support their successful transition to adulthood. In 2021, she received the Marie F. Peters Award from the National Council on Family Relations, a biennial recognition given to a distinguished scholar, researcher, or practitioner who has made significant contributions to the area of racial and ethnic diversity in families.

Prior to her time at Illinois State, Yazedjian was a faculty member in the Department of Family and Consumer Sciences at Texas State University. In 2010, she was appointed as presidential fellow where she served on the president's cabinet and focused on developing and implementing internationalization efforts across campus. She earned a doctorate and master's degree in human and community development from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign and a bachelor's degree in sociology from the University of Florida.

Nationally, Yazedjian has served in leadership roles with the National Council on Family Relations, the Council for Accreditation of the American Association of Family and Consumer Sciences, and the Council for Administrators in Family and Consumer Sciences. She was selected by the Higher Education Resource Services for the Wellesley Institute, which develops women leaders in higher education.

In the local community, she has been involved with the Family and Consumer Science Professionals of McLean County and volunteered with Junior Achievement. She also served for six years on the board of the Multicultural Leadership Institute and continues to serve as mentor.



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