



## **PRESIDENT Tarleton State University**

*Six campuses, including one online; potential to grow to 25,000 plus students*

The Board of Regents and Chancellor John Sharp of the Texas A&M University System are conducting a national search for the next President of Tarleton State University (second largest university in the system).

### **TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY SYSTEM**

The Texas A&M University System is one of the largest systems of higher education in the nation, with a budget of \$4.55 billion. Through a statewide network of 11 universities and seven state agencies, the Texas A&M System educates more than 152,000 students and makes more than 22 million additional educational contacts through service and outreach programs each year. System-wide, research and development expenditures exceeded \$972 million in FY 2016, helping drive the state's economy.

### **TARLETON STATE UNIVERSITY**

Providing an innovative and transformative educational experience, **TARLETON STATE UNIVERSITY** and its six campus's (one online) are on a phenomenal eleven-year growth trajectory. The new Fort Worth campus launch was made possible through support from the city, the State Legislature, the Texas A&M System, and a donation of 80 acres of prime real-estate in Fort Worth. This new Fort Worth campus alone is projected to equal Tarleton State's enrollment today. This campus will be the only public education institution offering in the major metropolitan area of Fort Worth.



As founding member of the Texas A&M University System, Tarleton is rich in history and tradition while being fully committed to student success and diversity. Tarleton strives to develop moral and ethical thinkers, scholars and leaders who demonstrate civility and integrity, while contributing meaningfully and responsibly to a global society.

Tarleton State is the leading producer of teachers in the state. It boasts the 2<sup>nd</sup> largest agriculture program in state of Texas and 25<sup>th</sup> in nation, and is the only university that has a working dairy. The university also features a new Corps of Cadet program – the only such program in the country in a non-senior cadet university. Outside of Texas A&M College

Station, Tarleton State has the best statistics for student success within the system. Tarleton's research centers include the renowned Texas Institute for Applied Environmental Research, the Center for Agribusiness Excellence and the Southwest Regional Dairy Center. Tarleton ranks in the top 25% for 6-year graduation rate and in the bottom 25% for tuition and related costs.



In addition to fantastic academics, Tarleton State boasts a fabulous student life and deeply rooted traditions as well. Tarleton State students truly serve and support the school, have unmatched school spirit and loyalty, and make Tarleton State one of the friendliest places you will ever visit. Tarleton's athletics are first class in their division.

Tarleton State offers more than 100 undergraduate, graduate and certificate programs. Students can choose to study in one of seven colleges, including agricultural and environmental sciences, business administration, education, graduate studies, health sciences and human services, liberal and fine arts, and science and technology.

Tarleton's first Ph.D. program, a Doctor of Philosophy in Criminal Justice, begins in fall 2019. Graduates of the program will influence scholarship and policy issues and occupy key positions in state, national, and international organizations.

The university's primary campus is in Stephenville, just southwest of the Dallas-Fort Worth Metroplex, and includes centers in Fort Worth, Waco, Midlothian, Bryan and an online Global Campus. A new 98,000-square-foot engineering building is testament of Tarleton's commitment to the future. The \$54 million addition puts Tarleton's engineering, engineering technology, and computer science programs at the forefront of educational delivery for these disciplines.

New pedestrian malls, part of a campus-wide utility and infrastructure project, now connect the quadrants of the Stephenville campus, and Memorial Stadium. The stadium, home of the Lone Star Conference Texans, has received a \$26.4 million facelift and expansion to enhance football fans' game-day experience.

Additionally, the first building at Tarleton's new 80-acre location along the Chisholm Trail Parkway in Fort Worth opens this fall.

Campus locations:

- [Stephenville Campus](#)
- [Fort Worth Campus](#)
- [Midlothian Campus](#)
- [Waco Campus](#)
- [RELLIS - Bryan Campus](#)
- [Global Campus - Online](#)



## THE MULTIPLE COMMUNITIES SERVED BY TARLETON CAMPUSES AND CENTERS

- **Fort Worth, Texas**, home to more than 800,000 residents, is ranked the 16th largest and one of the fastest growing cities in the U.S.
- **Bryan, Texas** is a center for agriculture and light industry located half-way between Dallas and Houston. The city features a revitalized core and some historic interest.
- **Midlothian, Texas**, a regional center in Northeast Texas and one of the fastest-growing cities in the Dallas-Fort Worth Metroplex, offers excellent public schools, entertainment, arts and culture, and a diverse economy.
- **Waco, Texas** is its county seat and offers one of the nation's lowest costs of living. Known as the birthplace of Dr. Pepper, the city has many recreation opportunities, historic sites, and museums.
- **Stephenville, Texas** is a beautiful rural area called the “Cowboy Capital of the World” and is in one of the fastest growing regions in the nation.

## POSITION OVERVIEW

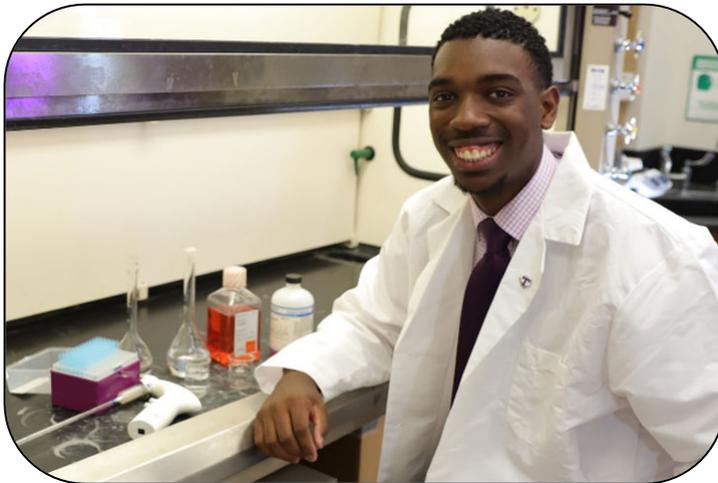
The President reports directly to the Texas A&M University System Chancellor and is responsible for implementing System policies, effectively managing the institution, and sustaining and enhancing the institution’s mission and overall operations while fostering and building upon the existing traditions, distinctiveness, and strengths of the University.



## PRESIDENT ROLE SPECIFICATIONS AND EXPECTATIONS

- Strengthen, identity, and provide entrepreneurial, strategic, visionary leadership in the fulfillment of the University’s mission and vision.
- Manage and grow multiple campuses, including launching a new campus with large growth potential.
- Maintain and strengthen relations with other members of the Texas A&M University System to include Regents, Chancellor, and other Presidents.
- Understand the importance of the University's role in the economic development of the state of Texas and align assets to address those needs.
- Foster continued growth of the academic enterprise surrounding research, scholarship, and creative activity.
- Thrive in a rapidly changing, globalized, technology driven higher education environment that includes online and digital education to expand educational opportunities.
- Promote a multicultural environment including commitment to a diverse student body, faculty, staff, and administration.

- Recognize, develop, and retain talented faculty and staff.
- Maintain and strengthen community and alumni relations.
- Utilize knowledge and understanding of how to develop key relationships in order to garner necessary resources to move the University forward.
- Demonstrate a commitment to academic values; students and faculty; learning and research; and collaborative, shared governance.
- Promote international outreach and programs to further the development of students, faculty, staff, and build the reputation of Tarleton State University.
- Utilize new technologies to deliver educational services.



- Build upon and develop community relations; work successfully with the media to enhance the positive image of the University.
- Lead major fundraising initiatives for the university and fosters relationships with the philanthropic community.
- Maintain the positive and vibrant culture present at Tarleton and carry that culture to the new campus in Fort Worth, while balancing the differences in students and communities.

## PREFERRED QUALIFICATIONS AND ATTRIBUTES

- Significant experience as a leader of a major complex organization, including a distinguished record of leadership and intellectual achievement, and excellence in fiscal responsibility.
- Commensurate experience that demonstrates the ability to work effectively with faculty, staff, students, alumni and other constituencies important to the University, region, state, nation, and world.
- Passion for educating students and serving a public mission of teaching, research, and service; dedication to preparing students for productive and successful lives.
- Strong commitment to academic excellence, student success and learning, and success in achieving national recognition for programmatic and institutional excellence.
- Knowledge of key issues facing public universities in multi-campus systems, including legislative processes.
- Strong mentorship experience and proven ability to grow and develop others.
- An understanding of and an appreciation for the role of athletics in the University setting; experience with Division 1 and/or major Division 2 athletics.
- Strong communication skills and an ability to encourage open dialogue.

- Unquestionable character and integrity, reflected in accountability, transparency, ethical behavior, honesty, and reliability.; *confident humility* and servant leadership style.
- Innovative and visionary, not afraid to fail, and willing to try new approaches and ideas.
- Engaging and approachable; knows students and faculty.
- Will embrace and be embraced by Tarleton State University; will saturate themselves in the culture and learn history, tradition and uniqueness of institution.
- Comfortable operating between a small town where the university is the largest employer and a large major metropolitan city.
- Experience and diplomacy to work collaboratively, effectively, and with consistency throughout the organization. An ability to build consensus through collaboration in order to set a vision and goals for the university. Able to evolve strategy and tactics as needed.
- Innovative, strategic, and future-oriented. Dynamic, driven, and results oriented.
- Enthusiastic, passionate and visible leader who can articulate and communicate the institution's strategic vision to internal and external constituencies. Savvy public relations skill that continually increases the reputation and standing of the university.
- Visible and accessible, with responsive listening skills and active interest in the personal and professional development of others. Outstanding mentoring skills, a motivator. An ability to recognize, empower, and reward the most qualified staff and faculty.
- Nimble and curious; seeks to understand the changing nature and needs of the students through personal interaction. An educator who fosters the creative and academic growth of students.
- An earned doctorate or equivalent is preferred.

## KEY ATTRACTORS

- Career making opportunity to serve as President of a highly successful 6 campus institution that has recently added a new campus in a major metropolitan city. Make your mark while building a legacy. Here your pivotal decisions will define, shape and elevate the future of an advancing institution, including a new campus projected to exceed the student population of the main campus.
- Chance to leverage the institution's assets in a way that creates a unique regional and national voice for the university.
- An opportunity to work toward something bigger than oneself.
- Chance to join an innovative system of institutions and leaders renowned for great accomplishments, in a favorable political environment.
- Join a close knit, hard-working, proud community and an environment where



openness, integrity and diversity are valued.

- Professional satisfaction and career achievement are paired with optimal quality of life. Geography, climate, demographics, and ambiance combine to offer a truly excellent place to live.
- Embrace a warm, open community that offers an attractive array of activities, amenities, services and opportunities, whether top-notch education, meaningful employment, or simply a safe and comfortable place to live.

## APPLICATION PROCESS

The Search Committee invites applications to be submitted to the search firm assisting the Texas A&M System with the Tarleton State University President search. Completed applications should be received by June 26, for optimal consideration; review of completed applications will continue until the position is filled. Candidates should include, with their curriculum vitae, a letter of application describing their relevant experiences and interest in the position, together with the names, titles, and phone numbers of at least five references. References will not be contacted without prior permission of the applicant. Please submit all nominations, applications, and communications to the search firm assisting Tarleton State University:

Mike Wheless, Division President  
Florene Stawowy, Client Partner  
Scott Watson, Corporate Officer  
Dr. Robert E. Witt, Senior Advisor  
Wheless Partners Higher Education Search  
[Tarleton@WhelessPartners.com](mailto:Tarleton@WhelessPartners.com)  
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*The system will provide equal opportunity for employment to all persons regardless of race, color, sex, religion, national origin, age, disability, genetic information, veteran status, sexual orientation or gender identity and will strive to achieve full and equal employment opportunity throughout the system.*

