Bates College

Director, Harward Center for Community Partnerships
Position Specification

Bates College is a private, highly selective, liberal arts college located in Maine. Bates enjoys a beautiful 109-acre campus within Lewiston-Auburn, twin cities of about 64,000 people. The College is only an hour's drive from the coast and mountains and 140 miles northeast of Boston.

Since its inception in 1855, Bates has been a coeducational, nonsectarian, residential college with special commitments to academic rigor and to programs and opportunities by qualified learners of all backgrounds. Today and throughout the history of the College, Bates' students and graduates have linked education with service, leadership, and obligations beyond themselves. The College has 1,746 students originating from every state and 40 countries, who work closely with 163 full-time, outstanding faculty.

The Harward Center for Community Partnerships is an emerging organizational structure at the College that will link key academic endeavors with community collaboration, service, and research. The Center is designed to pursue academic excellence through the integration of local, national, and international communities with the mission of the College.

In May 2002 members of the board of trustees, former trustees, parents of students, alumni, faculty, and staff announced a gift of $1.7 million to endow the Center in the name of Donald W. Harward and his wife, Ann M. Harward. The Center will serve as a focal point of Donald Harward's continuing legacy after thirteen years as President of Bates, 1989-2002. The Center will be a reflection of his commitment to connecting the academic mission of the College and service to community. Under the Harward presidency, Bates College established a highly effective and nationally recognized Center for Service-Learning and helped launch LA Excels, which links the College and thirty-seven area organizations in an alliance to promote excellence in community development.

The Center will consolidate and connect key existing components of the College's mission. These components involve community collaboration, service-learning, civic engagement, and applied research in a community context at the local, national, and international levels. The new initiative will provide opportunities for enhancing the mutually beneficial engagement of Bates and the wider community while adding clarity and structure to the process of developing new partnerships. The Center offers a single point of contact where local, national, and international organizations and individuals may approach the College with new ideas for relationships that contain academic value, civic engagement, and mutual benefit. The creation of the Center offers an opportunity for the Director to nurture further contacts with communities and to open an intellectual dialogue about links between learning and scholarship on the one hand and community service on the other.

The Center embodies and reinforces the defining characteristics of the College—an egalitarian residential community of teachers, scholars, and learners devoted to the principle of academic rigor and achievement, having a distinctive culture of engagement that prizes respect, civility, and trust, and that seeks connections beyond the individual. These characteristics are infused in the College's missions of teaching (learning), research, and service, the "trinity" that has been a consistent touchstone for Bates, and like-minded institutions, since its founding.

Teaching and learning at Bates continue to be revitalized by faculty and students through the use of new technologies, innovative teaching methods, and expanded venues for learning. Research and scholarship
among the faculty and, increasingly, students contribute to intellectual vitality and directly inform the process of communicating new knowledge gained through discovery. The Harward Center is a reflection of the College's belief that community engagement is both important to the transformation that lies at the heart of a liberal arts education and is a responsibility of the educated individual. While learning and scholarship take many forms, we understand that they are linked to engagement with community. Engagement with others encourages self-development and social responsibility; practical experience deepens understanding of theory; and geographic place, or community, provides a context for research that both enriches and is itself enriched.

The Center is firmly rooted in the academic purpose of the College; its strength flows from the academic strengths of Bates. The Center's fundamental missions are to develop and sustain new forms of classroom and campus connections in the local, national, and international community, and to lead the discussion about connections between community engagement and responsibility, on the one hand, and learning and scholarship at a liberal arts college, on the other.

The Harward Center combines three specific components:

- Community Engagement
- Service-Learning and Applied Research
- New Directions and Initiatives

I. Community Engagement

Our engagements with the wider community can be understood as partnerships—serving mutual, yet independent interests and thereby honoring the integrity of both partners. The Center will serve as the College's primary connection to agencies and collaborative efforts that span the local, national, and international communities. The Center will coordinate and represent guidance for the variety of ways in which the College and its constituents directly involve the neighborhood communities surrounding Bates. The Center will provide an important connection between the community and the President of the College. The Center also will house key areas of the College that are involved in local community and, increasingly, in the world beyond Lewiston-Auburn and Maine.

Organizations already existing at Bates College to be included in the Center are:

Center for Service-Learning (see below)
Bates-Morse Mountain Conservation Area and Bates College Coastal Center at Shortridge
Community Breakfast Series
Volunteerism
Special Projects and Summer Programs, which includes programs such as
  Bates College Dance Festival
  ARTSMART Camp
  Creative Writing Workshop for Students entering Grades 10-12
  Bates Forensic Institutes
  Edmund S. Muskie Scholars Program in History, Politics, and Government
  Programs for teachers K-12
  Byzantine Studies Conference, October 2003
  APSAAPT Physics Conference
  Odyssey of the Mind
  Business Trade Show of Lewiston-Auburn Economic Growth Council

Other campus connections at the College not included in the Center include:

Admissions
Career Services
Colby-Bates-Bowdoin Consortium
Chaplain
College Advancement
Dining Services
II. Service-Learning and Applied Research

Service-learning provides opportunities for students to widen or deepen the material of a course through direct engagement in service to community, whether in schools, businesses, hospitals, social service, environmental, or government agencies. The Bates College Center for Service-Learning was founded in 1995. In the 2002-2003 academic year, 32 Bates College faculty members integrated service-learning into their courses, resulting in more than 61,900 hours given by more than 800 students to service-learning projects, and involving nearly 179 agencies and institutions. The Harward Center for Community Partnerships will align the activities and goals of the eight-year-old Center for Service-Learning with those of other programs and serve as its organizational base.

The Harward Center for Community Partnerships will provide a structural home for the College's existing programs that support applied research related to the local, national, and international communities, student internships, and other practical experiences, especially as these relate to the senior thesis. Many of these are now organized and coordinated through the Center for Service-Learning at the College.

Programs also include Learning Associates, a category of instructional resource under faculty supervision, whose role is to assist students in their thesis research, analysis, and presentations, and Assistants in Instruction, who assist faculty in the classroom and laboratory. The Center will also serve the College and community by conducting analyses and evaluations of its service mission.

Academic departments and programs that have in the past or are currently engaged in the community through applied research are:

- Anthropology
- Biology
- Chemistry
- Dance
- Economics
- Education
- Geology

- History
- Medical Studies
- Philosophy and Religion
- Physical Education/Athletics
- Political Science
- Psychology

III. New Directions and Initiatives

The Center will serve as a site for liberal learning where intellectual, academic discussion and community engagement meet. The Harward Center for Community Partnerships provides its new director the...
opportunity to work with faculty and staff in further building and defining the Center. The campus and community will look for creative individual leadership that shapes and broadens the Center through investigation and discussion about community with faculty, scholars from other Centers, and members of local, national, and international communities.

The Position of Director

The Director is a senior-level leadership appointment, offering a genuine opportunity to assist the College in forging a position and Center of identifiable excellence. A graduate degree is expected; Ph.D. or appropriate terminal degree is preferred. The Director will have displayed the ability to engage in scholarship in his or her appropriate discipline or field.

The Director will have demonstrated extensive experience through positions of complex responsibility in college or university work. He or she will have leadership experience in integrating local, national, or international community and institutional objectives and leadership experience with diverse community agencies. The new Director will have experience and a theoretical grounding in community-based research.

The Director will have leadership experience in fostering examination and discussion about connections between intellectual life and civic engagement. The Director will have shown leadership experience in building new programs. The Director with have experience in developing and managing staff and developing advisory board(s) needed to implement goals. The Director will have a record of raising support from public or private sources and have shown experience in multiple-source budget management. The Director will have excellent skill in communication, promotion, and public relations.

The Director will serve the broader College community and report to the Vice President for Academic Affairs. Salary and benefits are competitive and reflect senior-level qualifications and experience. Faculty status is possible and will depend on candidate's qualifications and College's need. Starting date for the position is July 1, 2004.

Members of the search committee will begin reviewing applications on February 2, 2004 and continue until the position is filled. Please mail letters of nomination or interest with curriculum vitae, three letters of recommendation, transcripts, and a sample of publication, report, or other document that exemplifies work that is relevant to the Harward Center to:

   Academic Services
   Search Committee
   Director of the Harward Center for Community Partnerships, R2021
   Lane Hall 7
   2 Andrews Road
   Bates College
   Lewiston, ME 04240

For more information, please go to http://www.bates.edu/harward-center.xml or contact:
   Judy Head, Ph.D.
   4 Canham House
   Bates College
   Lewiston, ME 04240
   Phone: 207-786-6195

Bates College values a diverse College community and seeks to assure equal opportunity through a continuing and effective Affirmative Action program.