



Dean of the College of Information

Leadership Profile

October 2025



WittKieffer

The Opportunity - Executive Summary

The University of Maryland (UMD) invites nominations and applications for the position of Dean of the College of Information.

Reporting to the Senior Vice President and Provost, the next Dean of the College of Information (INFO) will be committed to strong and innovative leadership, eager to articulate and champion a compelling and future-focused INFO vision. Rooted in the college's mission of improving lives and opportunities for people through information and harnessing data and technology for social, economic, and environmental good, the Dean will promote a culture of impactful scholarship and research, supporting cross-college collaborations, and advancing interdisciplinary and multidisciplinary research and partnerships that are in line with the University's strategic priorities. Additionally, the Dean will be deeply committed to building a community whose members constantly intertwine inclusive excellence, equity, and respect into their teaching and learning, research, and scholarship. Leveraging the College's upcoming 60th anniversary, the Dean will expand fundraising efforts by engaging broader audiences beyond its alumni base, promoting an inspirational vision, and emphasizing the College's societal impact and relevance when articulating a compelling case for support. Finally, the Dean will be laser focused on supporting student academic success while also working to increase partnerships and philanthropic support for INFO's faculty, programs, and students.

The University seeks a strategic, visionary, collaborative, entrepreneurial, and dynamic leader with a national and international perspective, a collegial and consultative leadership style, a deep commitment to student success, and the demonstrated skill of creating an inclusive and welcoming environment for students, staff, and faculty. A terminal degree in a related field and the scholarly achievement to attain the rank of full professor within the College of Information at Maryland is required.

The University of Maryland is a diverse and inclusive community of more than 50,000 fearless Terrapins. The University is 16th among U.S. public institutions and 42nd among national universities in U.S. News and World Report's Best Colleges, is the nation's first Do Good Campus, and is consistently ranked for its innovation, research, and commitment to inclusive excellence. Propelled by a \$1.4 billion joint research enterprise, UMD is dedicated to addressing the grand challenges of our time. Located four miles from Washington, D.C., the University offers an unparalleled student experience with more than 300 academic programs, 25 living-learning programs and 400 study abroad programs. Spurred by a culture of innovation and creativity, its faculty are global leaders in their field and include two Nobel laureates, five Pulitzer Prize winners, and 79 members of the national academies.

The College of Information is a top-ranked research and teaching college in the field of information science and a vibrant hub of innovation, with over 3,000 combined faculty, staff and students from 61 countries around the world who are diving into library resources for communities, AI applications for archives, app development, data visualization, assistive technology and much more. Since its inception, INFO has been a leader in developing innovative solutions to help people access and use information—both through research and by shaping the next generation of information professionals and researchers. Across all endeavors, INFO is committed to utilizing information and technology to connect communities, empower individuals and create opportunities.

INFO's degree programs are highly ranked, with its graduate LIS programs ranked #3 in the nation by U.S. News and World Report 2025 (up from # 8 in 2018 and #4 in 2021). INFO has one of the largest student populations at UMD, including the 2nd largest undergraduate program and 4th largest (and fastest growing) overall graduate student body as of Fall 2025. Additionally, the INFO college boasts a highly effective research enterprise that brought in over \$10 million in new funding in FY25. Known for its multidisciplinary approach that fosters new perspectives and solutions, INFO is a catalyst for cross-college, multi-institutional and private collaboration. INFO faculty, staff and students—across all endeavors—are passionate about using information and technology to break down barriers and create exciting new possibilities.

To nominate an individual or express personal interest in this position, please see the Procedure for Candidacy section at the end of this profile.

The University of Maryland

The University of Maryland is the state's flagship university, a land-grant institution and one of the nation's preeminent public research universities, committed to reimagining teaching and learning, advancing the public good, investing in people and communities, and taking on humanity's grand challenges. Compelled by a fearless mission to serve the state, nation and world, UMD confronts the great societal issues of our time through an unparalleled academic and research enterprise.

With 12 colleges and schools offering degree programs from the bachelor's through doctoral levels, UMD is ranked 16th among public universities by US News and World Report, and many of UMD's academic programs are highly ranked, with more than 70 graduate and undergraduate programs in the top 25 and 20 in the top 10.

UMD enrolls more than 41,000 students, employs more than 14,000 faculty and staff, and offers more than 300 academic programs. UMD boasts a diverse student body with students from every U.S. State and over 120 countries and is committed to attracting and retaining outstanding and diverse faculty and staff who contribute to its stature of preeminence in its three missions of teaching, scholarship and full engagement in its community, the state of Maryland, and the world.

As the only public research university inside Washington, D.C.'s Beltway, UMD gives students and faculty unparalleled opportunities inside the classroom, labs and beyond the campus. This unique proximity to business and technology leaders, federal departments and agencies, and a myriad of research entities, embassies, think tanks, cultural centers, and non-profit organizations is unparalleled. Synergistic opportunities for our faculty and students abound and are virtually limitless in the nation's capital and surrounding areas.

The University of Maryland fosters an inclusive environment where all 50,000 members of our community know that they belong and are empowered to reach their full potential, a vision known as TerrapinSTRONG. It includes an onboarding program for all students and employees that promotes belonging and community on campus. The University is also supporting efforts to expand the pool of outstanding candidates for faculty positions and naming buildings for those who opened doors and broke barriers. In addition, the Arts for All initiative aims to ensure equitable access to the arts and leverages the power of the arts, technology and social justice to address the grand challenges of our time.

The institution has a nearly \$2.97 billion operating budget including more than \$834 million annually in research funding. Maryland is recognized as a top 10 public research institution according to the National Science Foundation's (NSF) Higher Education Research and Development (HERD) survey. The University of Maryland, College Park and the University of Maryland, Baltimore are linked as one research enterprise in the HERD survey and reported combined research expenditures of almost \$1.4 billion in 2024, an increase of nearly \$157 million from the previous year. UMD's research and innovation has global impact across the traditional disciplines and takes a multidisciplinary, innovative approach to solving real-world problems and addressing the questions of foundational research. The campus's adjacent Discovery District, a 150-acre research and innovation park, includes government agencies, international scholarly associations, corporate partners and advanced University research facilities. Collaborations with the University of Maryland, Baltimore through a strategic partnership called Mpowering the State also boost educational opportunities, research and combined degree programs. UMD is the nation's first Do Good Campus, a campus-wide effort to engage the entire student body in programs designed to ensure that every student who graduates from UMD will be informed and motivated to Do Good in their communities and around the world.

Maryland fields 20 intercollegiate varsity teams in the NCAA Division I. Members of the Big Ten Conference, the Terrapins (or “Terps”) are a major part of campus life for students and the larger community. Since 2005, Terps have won 16 national championships in men’s and women’s sports. Maryland Athletics is distinguished for fierce competition on the field coupled with excellent performance in the classroom and in careers after college. The Terps boast one of the highest graduation rates in the Big Ten. Maryland is a sustainable university community committed to becoming carbon-neutral by 2050. The forthcoming Purple Line mass transit system, with five stops on or around campus, will further connect UMD to all the region has to offer. The light-rail line will also expand the success of the Greater College Park initiative, a \$2 billion public-private investment to revitalize the community around the University and create one of the nation’s best college towns.



Maryland is a member of the Association of American Universities (AAU), the invitation-only organization that includes North America’s most prestigious research universities. The University is a member of Universitas 21 (U21), the network of leading universities on six continents that focuses on global research collaboration, education and exchange, as well as the Association of Public and Land-Grant Universities (APLU) and the Big Ten Academic Alliance (BTAA). The University’s teaching, research and innovation mission is evident in its connectivity to the greater

Maryland and Washington region through numerous long-term partnerships in the private and public sectors.

Fearlessly Forward: In Pursuit of Excellence and Impact for the Public Good

Fearlessly Forward: In Pursuit of Excellence and Impact for the Public Good, the University of Maryland Strategic Plan presents a bold reimagining of what UMD must be to uphold and expand its mission of service to humanity and is rooted in the principles of values-driven excellence; diversity, equity and inclusion; impact; innovation; collaboration, and service to humanity. Pursuant to the plan, UMD seeks to:

- Reimagine learning and teaching as inclusive, experiential, publicly engaged, creative, integrative, holistic, and empowering.
- Accelerate solutions to humanity’s grand challenges – within UMD’s communities and around the globe.
- Invest in people, their well-being and advancement, and the conditions that support their ability to fully participate and thrive in UMD’s community, the state, and the world.
- Partner to advance the public good by creating and sustaining partnerships that allow UMD’s research to have impact locally and globally, its education to prepare students for civic engagement and impact, and its service to create solutions for a more equitable, sustainable, and resilient world.

College Park, Maryland

The City of College Park is located in Prince George's County, which has experienced tremendous growth over the past decade, becoming an epicenter for economic development in the Washington, DC metropolitan area.

Greater College Park encompasses historic districts, up-and-coming new neighborhoods, and a bustling downtown that offers a myriad of amenities; including hotels, retailers, restaurants, and recreation. Several neighboring communities provide diverse housing options, including the City of College Park, City of Greenbelt, City of Hyattsville, City of New Carrollton, Town of Berwyn Heights, Town of Riverdale Park, and the Town of University Park.

College Park is easily accessible to Baltimore, MD, the Maryland state capital of Annapolis, and Washington, DC, as well as Baltimore/Washington International Thurgood Marshall Airport and Ronald Reagan Washington National Airport.

Leadership



Dr. Darryll J. Pines has served as the University's 34th President, since July 2020. He also is the Glenn L. Martin Professor of Aerospace Engineering.

Formerly the Nariman Farvardin Professor of Engineering and Dean of UMD's A. James Clark School of Engineering, where he has been on the faculty since 1995, Pines amassed a record of academic leadership and research accomplishments that dramatically elevated the School's rankings and stature nationally and internationally. In 2019, he was elected to the National Academy of Engineering for his "inspirational leadership and contributions to engineering education."

As Dean for 11 years, Pines instituted sweeping changes to improve the student experience, including revamping teaching in fundamental undergraduate courses; encouraging participation in national and international student competitions; emphasizing sustainability engineering and service learning; and expanding innovation and entrepreneurship activities. Under Pines' leadership, the School established five interdisciplinary research centers and institutes: the Maryland Energy Innovation Institute, Robert E. Fischell Institute for Biomedical Devices, Maryland Transportation Institute, Quantum Technology Center (jointly with the Department of Physics) and Maryland Robotics Center. Research accomplishments ranged from revolutionary, safer energy storage techniques to the development of futuristic materials and quantum technologies.

The Clark School led UMD in fundraising while Pines was Dean, raising \$240 million of the achieved \$1 billion goal of the Great Expectations campaign ending in 2013. In the recent \$1.5 billion Fearless Ideas campaign, Pines and his leadership team secured a \$219.5 million investment—which in 2017 was the sixth-largest gift ever to a public university—from the A. James & Alice B. Clark Foundation. The Building Together: An Investment for Maryland gift is funding need-based scholarships campuswide, as well as graduate fellowships, faculty positions, infrastructure, and other initiatives. One signature element of this investment is support for the Emilio Fernandez IDEA Factory, an innovative facility to encourage transformative ideas that have a positive impact on people and society.

Prior to his promotion to Dean, Pines led the Department of Aerospace Engineering for four years, taking a leave of absence from UMD from 2003 to 2006 to serve as a program manager for the Tactical Technology Office and Defense Sciences Office at the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency. He also held positions at the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory (LLNL), Chevron Corp., and Space Tethers. At LLNL, Pines worked on the Ballistic Missile Defense Organization's Clementine spacecraft program, which discovered water near the south pole of the moon. A replica of the spacecraft now sits in the National Air and Space Museum.

Pines' research focuses on structural dynamics, including structural health monitoring and prognosis, smart sensors, and adaptive, morphing and biologically inspired structures as well as the guidance, navigation and control of aerospace vehicles. He holds seven co-authored patents with his students and collaborators.

In recognition of his contributions to the field, Pines was named a fellow of the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics, American Society of Mechanical Engineers and Institute of Physics. He chairs the Engineering Advisory Committee for the National Science Foundation's Engineering Directorate and sits on the Board of Trustees for Underwriters Laboratory not-for-profit arm. Pines received a B.S. in mechanical engineering from the University of California, Berkeley. He earned M.S. and Ph.D. degrees in mechanical engineering from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.



Dr. Jennifer King Rice is the University of Maryland's senior vice president and provost. As the chief academic officer, she steers the university's academic enterprise in accordance with its mission, including providing strategic direction for its 12 schools and colleges. An accomplished administrator and educator, Rice manages a diverse portfolio, including academic planning and programs, enrollment management, community engagement, faculty affairs, international affairs, academic innovation, and institutional research, planning and assessment.

Rice's leadership is driven by her commitment to inclusive excellence; innovative and transformative teaching and learning; and impactful research and scholarship.

Serving as provost since 2021, Rice led the campuswide development of the university's ambitious strategic plan. *Fearlessly Forward: In Pursuit of Excellence and Impact for the Public Good* sets forth UMD's bold vision of being a university in service to humanity through an unwavering dedication to advancing the public good. Reflecting her collaborative, innovative and values-centered approach, the plan is guided by the university's shared commitments to reimagine learning, take on humanity's grand challenges, invest in people and communities, and partner to advance the public good.

She has been a driving force behind the conception and launch of numerous university initiatives, including the Artificial Intelligence Interdisciplinary Institute at Maryland (AIM), the Grand Challenges Grants program, the Terrapin Commitment investment of \$20 million in need-based scholarships, and the Center for Community Engagement.

Rice has served on the faculty and in college and campus leadership roles at UMD for three decades, and she has been recognized as a Distinguished Scholar-Teacher. Prior to becoming provost, she served as dean of UMD's College of Education where she launched new academic programs, advanced initiatives to cultivate an environment of inclusion and belonging, and expanded research activity to unprecedented levels.

Before joining the faculty at Maryland, she was a researcher at Mathematica Policy Research in Washington, D.C. A prolific scholar and a Fellow of the American Education Research Association, her research draws on the disciplines of economics and philosophy to understand the policies, practices, and resources needed to support more effective and equitable educational opportunities for all students.

Rice has published five books and 30 journal articles and currently serves on the editorial board of *Education Finance and Policy*. She is a member of the Politics of Education Association and has been a National Academy of Education/Spencer Foundation postdoctoral fellow and a visiting fellow at the Urban Institute. She is a past president of the Association for Education Finance and Policy.

She completed her B.S. in mathematics and English at Marquette University and earned her M.S. and Ph.D. in educational administration and social foundations from Cornell University.

College of Information

Connecting people, information and technology for good

The UMD College of Information (INFO) is a top-ranked research and teaching college in the field of information science, located just outside of Washington, DC. Since its inception, INFO has been a leader in innovating solutions to how people access and use information—both through research and by shaping the next generation of information professionals and researchers. Across all endeavors, INFO is committed to utilizing information and technology for good—to connect communities, empower individuals and create opportunities.

INFO was founded in 1965 at UMD in response to demand for library education in the DC/MD/VA area, which lacked a library school in a public university at that time, initially offering a Master of Library Science (MSL) degree. However, as the world of information expanded, so did INFO. Today, INFO is a vibrant hub of innovation, with over 3,000 combined faculty, staff and students from 61 countries around the world who are diving into library resources for communities, AI applications for archives, app development, data visualization, assistive technology, and much more.

Research

The INFO college boasts a highly effective [research enterprise](#) that brought in over \$10 million in new funding in FY25. Known for its multidisciplinary approach that fosters new perspectives and solutions, INFO is a catalyst for cross-college, multi-institutional and private collaboration. Among INFO's current funders are Adobe, US Department of Defense, US Department of Health and Human Services, US Department of Agriculture, National Science Foundation and the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation. INFO leads or co-leads [many](#) prestigious research centers, labs, and groups at UMD, including the [UMD Human-Computer Interaction Lab](#) (HCIL), the [Artificial Intelligence Interdisciplinary Institute at Maryland](#) (AIM), the [Maryland Initiative for Digital Accessibility](#) (MIDA), and the [Center for Archival Futures](#) (CAFe).

INFO's research/expertise areas:

- Accessibility and Inclusive Design
- Archival Science
- Data Privacy and Sociotechnical Cybersecurity
- Data Science, Analytics, and Visualization
- Digital Humanities
- Future of Work
- Health Informatics
- Human-Computer Interaction
- Information Justice, Human Rights and Technology Ethics
- Library and Information Science
- Machine Learning, AI, Computational Linguistics and Information Retrieval
- Smart Cities and Connected Communities
- Social Networks, Online Communities and Social Media
- Youth Experience, Learning and Digital Practices

Academics

Through academic programs at INFO, students are prepared to be tomorrow's thought leaders in applications of information and technology for social good—fostering access to information, improving information interfaces and

expanding how information is used in an evolving world. Today, INFO has one of the largest student populations at UMD, including the 2nd largest undergraduate program and 4th largest (and fastest growing) overall graduate student body as of Fall 2025.

- BS in Information Science (InfoSci)
- BS in Social Data Science (SDSC)
- BA in Technology and Information Design (InfoDesign)
- Master of Science in Human-Computer Interaction (HCIM)
- Master of Information Management (MIM)
- Master of Professional Studies in Gaming, Entertainment, and Media Analytics (GEM)
- Master of Professional Studies in Data Journalism
- Master of Library & Information Science (MLIS)
- Dual Masters in History and Library & Information Science (HILS)
- Doctor of Philosophy in Information Studies

With approximately 200 industry partners, INFO is unique in its ability to provide hands-on learning to all students, both graduate and undergraduate, through capstone projects and field study opportunities. INFO's degree programs are highly ranked, with its graduate LIS programs [ranked #3](#) in the nation by the *U.S. News & World Report 2025* (#4 in 2021 and #8 in 2017). Alumni go on to be leaders and changemakers in the field of information science, such as Nancy Groves – Chief of Digital Strategy of the United Nations (MLIS), Aderonke Adeniji – Deputy Chief Information Security Officer of the U.S. House of Representatives (MIM), Jenny Hottle – Editorial Tools Product Designer at the New York Times, Omar Youssef – Cyber Risk Consultant at Deloitte (InfoSci), and Tanya Marshall – Vermont State Archivist & Chief Records Officer.

INFO is assisted in its work by the INFO College Leadership, Entrepreneurship, Advocacy and Development ([iLEAD](#)) Council, made up of distinguished professionals in the information science field. The council provides a variety of ideas, perspectives, and resources that support the INFO College's educational, research, and philanthropic goals.

The iLead Mission:

- Facilitate engagement with industry to create new opportunities for the INFO College
- Enhance the academic and public visibility of the INFO College
- Support the college's philanthropic aspirations

INFO faculty, staff, and students—across all endeavors—are passionate about using information and technology to break down barriers and create exciting new possibilities.

Additional Information

- [INFO Insider Annual Magazine December 2024](#) (to include 2024 Annual Report)
- [INFO Annual Report 2023](#)
- [INFO Annual Report 2022](#)
- [INFO Annual Report 2021](#)
- [INFO Connections – Stories of Impact Through Partnership](#)
- [INFO Connect](#) – Industry bi-monthly e-newsletter with 2,000+ industry and academy subscribers

Role of the Dean of the College of Information



Reporting to the Senior Vice President & Provost, the Dean of the College of Information is the senior administrative officer for the college and provides a clear and strategic direction, vision, and leadership for its [academic departments and programs](#). The Dean promotes excellence in curricula, teaching and learning, and student success; research scholarship and research growth; cross-university, regional, national, and international interdisciplinary initiatives; faculty and staff recruitment, retention and professional development; and the stewardship of physical resources. UMD is preparing to launch its next comprehensive capital campaign. The Dean is expected to be deeply engaged in development opportunities and expanding donor support. The Dean serves as a strong advocate for INFO, both within

the University and with legislators, state and federal agencies, industry partners, and community constituents, regularly representing the University of Maryland in important discussions relating to how information and technology are accessed and used in a rapidly evolving world.

The Dean manages a budget of over \$30 million and provides leadership to 74 full time faculty (44 [TTK or tenure track faculty](#), 28 [PTK or professional track faculty](#), and 2 [PoP or professors of the practice](#)) in addition to a [substantial number of part-time faculty](#). The Dean also supervises a [senior leadership team](#) with five Associate Deans, two Assistant Deans, and seven senior staff along with the multiple facilities associated with the College. An organizational chart for INFO can be found in Appendix A.

Opportunities and Challenges

The Dean will be a distinguished scholar and visionary leader, dedicated to advancing the College's mission by championing its exceptional students, faculty, staff, and programs. With a deep respect for the College's history and values, the Dean will guide it confidently into its next era.

Working closely with the Senior Vice President and Provost, senior academic leadership, and members of the INFO community, the Dean will engage with the following issues, ideas and opportunities at the University of Maryland:

- **Continue to articulate, champion, and elevate College's distinct identity, mission, impact, and top-ranked programs**

The INFO College is a non-departmental, interdisciplinary college with a unique identity that blends computing, information science, and social impact. The field of information is relatively new and varies widely in structure across institutions. As a result, identity integration will be a key leadership task for the next Dean, who must define and communicate the College's distinct identity while building on its legacy as a leader in the iSchool movement. Additionally, the new Dean will further align the College with the University's [strategic plan, *Fearlessly Forward: In Pursuit of Excellence and Impact for the Public Good*](#), that positions the University for leadership and distinction as a model next-generation, land-grant institution.

The new Dean will have a strong understanding of and respect for the history, professional relevance, and future potential of the College's signature Master of Library and Information Science (MLIS) program, promoting and defending its significance and strong reputation. Currently ranked #3 by *U.S. News & World Report*, the MLIS program is a research and academic cornerstone that is foundational to the College. The new dean will continue to promote and advocate for this key program, ensuring that its value as a discipline is widely understood across the university and beyond.

In the face of rising costs, shifting job markets, and concerns about the return on investment in educational degrees, the Dean must clearly and confidently communicate the College's impact, emphasizing its relevance across industries and disciplines. The Dean will have the opportunity to position the College as resilient, career-orientated, and adaptive to economic and demographic shifts while maintaining its professional mission. Externally, the Dean will also be a visible and vocal ally in the broader anti-information climate, reinforcing the College's mission and values.

- **Lead the INFO College through sustained strategic growth while managing stabilization**

The INFO College is one of the fastest-growing colleges at UMD, especially its undergraduate programs. While some stabilization is occurring, the rapid growth trajectory over the past ten years remains a challenge. The next Dean will provide a vision to guide decisions on strategic growth versus stabilization with long-term sustainability in mind. They will need to balance enrollment strategy with mission alignment and resource constraints, while fostering a rapidly evolving learning environment. To meet operational needs, administrative structures will need to evolve to support this expansion.

In collaboration with the Provost, the Dean will coordinate funding, grow graduate programs strategically, and align financial models with the College's evolving scale. Strategic enrollment and growth management will require a creative approach from the new leader. An entrepreneurial mindset will be important as new revenue models and innovative programs are explored, supported, and developed.

- **Provide leadership in fostering inclusive excellence and a welcoming environment for INFO**

The next Dean of the INFO College will be deeply committed to building a community whose members integrate equity amongst, inclusion of, and respect for diverse constituencies into their teaching and learning, research, and scholarship. INFO already recognizes that an inclusive, welcoming community increases their ability to successfully carry out their mission of improving lives and opportunities for people through information.

The College's next Dean will be well-versed and practiced in introducing strategies, systems, and initiatives that are scalable to make the College's programs and offerings accessible on all levels. The Dean will also continue to invest attention, resources, and thought leadership around issues of equity and excellence, continually examining all facets and complexities associated creating a sense of community and belonging for all. Finally, they will act as a strategic partner to the campus academic leadership team and university-wide

committees and initiatives to address structural inequalities in policies and practices as the Maryland community strives to cultivate a learning and work environment where everyone can thrive and participate.

- **Enhance community engagement and philanthropic support for the College**

The Dean will have the opportunity to build grassroots fundraising efforts, engage alumni, and lead strategic advancement efforts, capitalizing on the College's upcoming 60th anniversary. Experience in development strategy and donor engagement will be a vital asset for the new leader to bring to this role. The Dean will be tasked with engaging broader audiences beyond its alumni base, promoting an inspirational vision and emphasizing the College's societal impact and relevance when articulating a compelling case for support. As an ambitious University-wide campaign launches in Fall 2025, the new Dean will help shape fundraising priorities and expand donor engagement – advocating for the college's unique contributions such as critical tech studies and entrepreneurial programs – especially in the DC/Maryland/Virginia region.

- **Manage and stabilize a complex budget**



Strong business acumen will be essential to guiding financial sustainability, strategic planning, space constraints, entrepreneurial funding models, and other budget complexities. The INFO College currently operates under more of an Responsibility Centered Management (RCM) funding

model, with entrepreneurial revenue playing a larger role than in other colleges. In collaboration with the Office of the Provost, ongoing efforts to strengthen financial stability are progressing, and the Dean plays a key role in navigating complex budget scenarios, addressing space needs, and guiding long-term planning. To support the College's entrepreneurial spirit, the Dean will need to continue to advocate for resources and guide innovative program development.

- **Strengthen interdisciplinary collaboration within the College and across the University**

The INFO College is one of the most inter- and multidisciplinary units on campus. Its faculty, staff, and students have diverse disciplinary degrees and backgrounds. The College leadership continuously enhances its multidisciplinary nature by investing in hiring colleagues with a range of backgrounds and perspectives. The INFO College is also proud to be a strong advocate on campus for the value, contributions, and leadership of PTK or professional track faculty, many of whom serve in key positions within the INFO College.

In addition, the INFO College actively builds, maintains, and thrives on interdisciplinary collaborations across and beyond campus, with joint hires, shared appointments, and community-engaged research. Sometimes this arrangement can lead to complex inter-college dynamics that the new Dean must be competent at navigating. With the goal of strengthening important interdisciplinary partnerships, managing these complex dynamics, and elevating the College's visibility, the new Dean will be a relational leader who represents the college with enthusiasm, clarity, and respect.

Although the INFO College community spans multiple facilities, it remains committed to fostering team cohesion and values shared decision-making. The next Dean will lead efforts toward realizing greater space consolidation while fostering strong, respectful partnerships with other colleges.

Responsibilities

Responsibilities of the Dean of the College of Information will include but are not limited to:

- Provide leadership and vision for the College, including oversight and guidance in all aspects of the College's activities: educational programs, research endeavors, entrepreneurial efforts, budget, and development activities;
- Continue to articulate and champion compelling strategic initiative areas for the future of information science, technology, computing, and interconnected disciplines and for INFO's role in that future;
- Support research enterprise productivity and growth;
- Develop partnerships with other colleges and with information and technology constituents to provide new educational and research opportunities to students and faculty and potentially increase the fiscal resource base for the College;
- Foster an excellent teaching and learning environment for all constituents, including the recruitment and retention of academically talented and diverse faculty and students as well as the recruitment and retention of highly qualified, competent, and diverse staff;
- Foster high levels of excellence and rigor in undergraduate and graduate educational programs and research;
- Work with College leadership to identify and develop new degree programs grounded in market feedback;
- Work with College leadership to develop assessment measures that monitor the quality and effectiveness of the curriculum;
- Provide responsible fiscal management and oversight of budgets, personnel, and operational functions;
- Increase fundraising activities;
- Maintain and enhance existing College infrastructure and facilities;
- Encourage effective collaborative relationships within and outside of the University, articulate effectively, and engender enthusiasm for the College's mission to the students, faculty, staff, alumni, legislators, federal and state agencies, industry partners, and other constituents.

Qualifications and Qualities

The Dean of the College of the College of Information will be a transformative, innovative, entrepreneurial, and inclusive leader with a national and international vision; a collegial and consultative leadership style; a deep commitment to student success; and demonstrated skill creating an equitable and welcoming environment for students, staff, and faculty. The next Dean will have a history of scholarly excellence, administrative leadership in a large and highly complex enterprise, and the ability to build and cultivate consensus within the College and beyond.

While no single candidate will have all the ideal qualifications, the committee seeks candidates with the following qualifications and abilities:

Required Qualifications

- A terminal degree in a related field and the scholarly achievement to attain the rank of full professor within the College of Information at the University of Maryland. Example fields include but are not limited to Information Science, Computer Science, Data Science, Library and Information Science, etc.;
- An intellectual leader, a distinguished teacher, scholar, and academic visionary who can articulate the transformative potential of research and education within and across the disciplines represented in INFO;
- Progressive experience as a skilled academic administrator — for example, as a department chair, assistant or associate dean, institute director, etc. — with a track record of success in a large, complex unit, college/school, or similar environment, preferably at a research-intensive university.

Preferred Qualifications and Qualities

- A demonstrated track record of cultivating an environment of inclusive excellence where everyone can fully participate and thrive; the ability to articulate the value of diversity in all of its forms to excellence in education; and a deeply held belief in the critical importance of diverse perspectives in enabling students and graduates to solve society's most pressing challenges;
- The ability to be an effective advocate for information, technology, and the inter- and multidisciplinary disciplines that contribute to this field along with the willingness to articulate the varied ways in which research and scholarly practices in these areas can contribute to the land-grant mission of the University of Maryland and to the public good;
- Proven experience or potential for success in fundraising, donor cultivation and stewardship, and public relations;
- Experience collaborating with related disciplines outside of the College to promote interdisciplinary and multidisciplinary studies that will enhance INFO, the University of Maryland, and beyond;
- Deep devotion to student-centered, experiential learning and the ability to implement the latest pedagogical models conscientiously and effectively;
- An astute understanding of finances and the relationship between academic priorities and budget;
- Experience with strategic planning, assessment, and policy development to enhance services and the entrepreneurial spirit and strategic mindset to stimulate growth;
- A demonstrated commitment to shared governance, transparency in management, and data informed decision-making;

- An authentic, open, consultative, and collaborative leader who is an excellent collaborator and can actively listen to, support, partner with, and motivate faculty, staff, students, and external constituents;
- Experience and demonstrated success in hiring, training, developing, supervising, assessing, and evaluating faculty and staff performance in the achievement of College and unit goals;
- Integrity, honesty, enthusiasm, and a sense of humor;
- An interest in being a visible member of University life and connected to civic life in the Washington, D.C., Metropolitan area, the state of Maryland, and on the national and international stage.

Procedure for Candidacy

[WittKieffer](#) is assisting the University of Maryland in this search. All applications, nominations and inquiries are invited.

Applications should include, as two separate documents, a CV or resume and a letter of interest addressing the themes in this profile. Professional references are not requested at this time.

For fullest consideration, candidate materials should be received by January 16, 2026.

Nominations, inquiries, and application materials can be directed to:

Jen Meyers Pickard, Ph.D., Jess Herrington, and Jess Cummings

MarylandINFODean@wittkieffer.com

The anticipated compensation range for this position is between \$325,000 and \$375,000 annually.

Benefits Information: [Benefits Overview for Regular Exempt Employees](#) [Additional Information](#)

Affirmative Action and Equal Employment Opportunity

The University of Maryland, College Park, an equal opportunity/affirmative action employer, complies with all applicable federal and state laws and regulations regarding nondiscrimination and affirmative action; all qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment. The University is committed to a policy of equal opportunity for all persons and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, physical or mental disability, protected veteran status, age, gender identity or expression, sexual orientation, creed, marital status, political affiliation, personal appearance, or on the basis of rights secured by the First Amendment, in all aspects of employment, educational programs and activities, and admissions.

Appendix A

COLLEGE OF INFORMATION, UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND
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