



TULANE UNIVERSITY
School of Medicine

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THE SEARCH

[Tulane University School of Medicine](#) (Tulane School of Medicine, School) seeks a Chair of the [Department of Neurosurgery](#) to lead and shape one of Gulf South's most important academic neurosurgical programs. As the only private Tier 1 research university in the region, Tulane anchors a high-acuity, referral-based enterprise with comprehensive subspecialty neurosurgical care and established strengths in cerebrovascular and stroke, complex cranial neurosurgery, and neurocritical care, supported by a rapidly expanding regional telestroke network. This is a defining moment for the department and the broader clinical enterprise.

[Tulane University](#) is a private, research-intensive institution founded in 1834 and a member of the Association of American Universities and is a Research 1 Institution (R1). The School of Medicine serves as a core driver of the university's health sciences mission, with a strong emphasis on complex clinical care, biomedical discovery, and workforce development. Neuroscience is a clear institutional priority, supported by sustained investment in interdisciplinary research, clinical programs, and partnerships addressing stroke, brain injury, neurodegenerative disease, and other high-impact conditions. For more information on Tulane, please visit the appendix.

The Department of Neurosurgery at Tulane School of Medicine provides comprehensive, subspecialty neurosurgical care across a distributed clinical network in partnership with LCMC Health and affiliated institutions. Faculty deliver care across cerebrovascular and endovascular neurosurgery, spine, neuro-oncology, functional and stereotactic neurosurgery, pediatric neurosurgery, and peripheral nerve disorders. Clinical care is supported by a multidisciplinary model that integrates inpatient and outpatient services, advanced surgical and interventional capabilities, and participation in clinical trials and outcomes-based research. The department plays a central role in two Joint Commission-certified Comprehensive Stroke Centers and a mature telestroke network that extends subspecialty expertise

across a large and diverse population, creating a strong foundation for continued clinical and academic growth.

Following Tulane's transition to a new partnership with [LCMC Health](#), the system is readily positioned to align care delivery across a distributed network, strengthen and expand subspecialty programs, and further its role as a tertiary and quaternary referral destination for Louisiana and the region. The Chair will play a central role in shaping this next phase, bringing greater cohesion, focus, and scale to a complex, multi-site academic environment.

The Department of Neurosurgery is comprised of more than 25 faculty members, nine residents, four fellowship programs, and a strong clinical and translational research program with growing funding from NIH, foundations, and industry. The Chair will build on this foundation to advance a more cohesive and scalable academic enterprise. Priorities include subspecialty development and shaping a unified strategy across clinical, educational, and research missions. Working with Tulane's partnership with LCMC Health and alongside Ochsner Health through the jointly sponsored residency program, the Chair will align programs and operations across institutions to support growth and long-term impact.

Reporting to the [Senior Vice President and Dean of the School of Medicine](#), the Chair will provide strategic and operational leadership across all missions of the department. This role calls for an experienced academic neurosurgeon who is comfortable leading in a distributed, relationship-driven environment and who can build trust across institutional partners and the broader New Orleans medical community. The successful candidate will bring a clear vision for neurosurgery, a strong record of leadership and scholarship, and the ability to translate opportunities into sustained programmatic growth. Candidates must hold an MD or DO degree, be board-certified in neurological surgery, and be eligible for medical licensure in Louisiana.

Tulane School of Medicine has retained Isaacson, Miller, a national executive search firm, to assist with this search. Inquiries, nominations, and applications should be directed in confidence to the firm as indicated at the end of this document.

TULANE UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

The School is part of the Tulane University Health Sciences Center in downtown Orleans and serves as a central academic and clinical hub for the Gulf South. It is led by the Senior Vice President and Dean, Lee Hamm, MD. It includes approximately 23 departments and 650 faculty across clinical and basic science disciplines, with faculty distributed across a multi-site clinical enterprise through partnerships with regional health systems. The School enrolls about 190 medical students per class, and supports a broad graduate medical education portfolio, including 16 core residency and 3 combined residency programs, and approximately 20 fellowship programs across affiliated hospitals and clinical sites. This distributed academic model integrates tertiary and quaternary care, community-based practice, and academic training across a diverse and medically underserved region.

The School maintains an active and growing clinical and translational research enterprise, with approximately \$74 million in annual funding, supported by federal, foundation, and institutional sources and anchored in strengths such as cardiometabolic disease, infectious disease, neuroscience, cancer, and population health. Research is advanced through interdisciplinary centers and infrastructure that support clinical trials, translational science, and community-engaged investigation.

The School is deeply integrated into the New Orleans healthcare landscape through a major, finalized partnership with LCMC Health, transitioning Tulane Medical Center into a broader network. This collaboration unites Tulane's academic research with community-based hospitals to enhance medical training and clinical care. The School operates a faculty practice plan, Tulane University Medical Group, which acts as the clinical practice arm for its faculty physicians. This plan integrates patient care with the medical school's education and research missions, allowing faculty to practice in various specialties while training residents and students.

ABOUT THE DEPARTMENT OF NEUROSURGERY

CLINICAL CARE

The Department delivers high-acuity neurosurgical care across a range of clinical settings within the LCMC Health system. Faculty provide subspecialty expertise in cerebrovascular and endovascular neurosurgery, spine, neuro-oncology, functional and stereotactic neurosurgery, pediatric neurosurgery, and peripheral nerve disorders. Care is organized through a multidisciplinary model that brings together neurosurgery, neurology, neurocritical care, and interventional teams to support coordinated decision-making and management of complex cases.

Clinical programs are supported by advanced imaging, surgical, and interventional capabilities and are closely integrated with clinical trials and outcomes-based research. Faculty practice across multiple hospital sites, providing both tertiary and quaternary care while supporting access to specialized neurosurgical services across the region.

Clinical Partnership with LCMC Health

The School of Medicine's clinical enterprise is anchored by its partnership with LCMC Health, a New Orleans-based, mission-driven, non-profit health system with eight-hospitals serving patients across Southeast Louisiana. LCMC Health operates multiple hospital sites in the greater New Orleans region, including [University Medical Center New Orleans](#), [East Jefferson General Hospital](#), Touro, New Orleans East Hospital, [Manning Family Children's Hospital](#), and additional community hospitals across the region. LCMC Health operates within a multi-partner academic ecosystem, with established relationships with both Tulane Medicine and LSU-Health. These affiliations create opportunities around education, research, and clinical integration that require thoughtful leadership and collaboration.

In 2023, Tulane transitioned its clinical partnership from a for-profit operator (HCA) to LCMC Health, aligning its academic medical mission with a locally governed non-profit system. As part of this partnership, inpatient and specialty services previously based at downtown Tulane Medical Center were consolidated primarily at East Jefferson General Hospital and University Medical Center New Orleans, while the former Tulane Medical Center campus is being repurposed to support research, education, and academic programs.

Through this integrated academic–community model, the Tulane Medicine Neurosurgery faculty practice across LCMC facilities including: East Jefferson General Hospital, University Medical Center New Orleans, Lakeside Hospital, with some presence at Lakeview Hospital on the Northshore in Covington, LA. Opportunities lie ahead to expanding access to subspecialty neurosurgical care, strengthening regional referral pathways, and supporting the continued growth of Tulane’s clinical and academic mission in neuroscience.

Stroke and Cerebrovascular Services

The department delivers comprehensive stroke and cerebrovascular care across its clinical network. The program is anchored by two Joint Commission–certified Comprehensive Stroke Centers, with neurosurgery faculty working closely with vascular neurology, neurocritical care, and interventional teams to manage complex cases across the continuum of care.

A key component of the program is its established TeleStroke network, which provides 24/7 consultation to 23 community and regional hospitals across Louisiana and the Gulf South. This model supports timely evaluation and treatment, facilitates transfer of patients requiring advanced neurovascular intervention, and extends subspecialty expertise across a broad geographic region.

Education

Education is a core mission of the Department. Tulane sponsors an ACGME-accredited neurosurgery residency program in partnership with the Ochsner Clinic Foundation. Founded in 1944, the Tulane–Ochsner Neurosurgery Residency Program is among the earliest neurosurgical training programs in the United States and has remained a central element of the department’s academic mission for more than eight decades.

The residency program currently includes ten residents and two prelims, providing comprehensive training across the full spectrum of neurosurgical disease. Residents rotate across multiple clinical sites within the Tulane–Ochsner and LCMC Health environments, offering experience in high-acuity, high-volume settings that serve diverse patient populations across the region. There is also a Complex Spine Fellowship in partnership with Ochsner that accepts one fellow per year.

The program has experienced recent growth in faculty and clinical volume and is actively pursuing expansion of its resident complement, creating an important opportunity for departmental leadership to shape the future scale, structure, and educational strategy of the program. The department maintains a strong academic orientation, with structured opportunities for resident engagement in research and scholarly activity, as well as options for enfolded subspecialty training during residency.

Within the context of Tulane's expanded clinical partnership with LCMC Health, the Department of Neurosurgery plays a key role in aligning neurosurgical education with a distributed academic medical enterprise. Through its residency program, the department is committed to training future neurosurgeons and strengthening the broader physician workforce engaged in neurological care across Southeast Louisiana and the Gulf South.

Research

Research is a core component of the Department's academic mission, focused on neurological conditions such as stroke, traumatic brain injury, vascular dementia, neurodegeneration, and complex spine disorders. Faculty scholarship is closely aligned with clinical programs, supporting translational and patient-centered investigation.

The Department is ranked among the top 50 nationally in NIH funding and its faculty participate in a broad portfolio of externally funded research. Faculty collaborate across Tulane University and its clinical partners, with work supported through interdisciplinary centers and shared research infrastructure. These efforts enable clinical trials, outcomes-based research, and engagement of residents and trainees in academic neurosurgery.

Stroke and neurovascular research are closely integrated with the Department's clinical programs, providing a platform for clinical trials and systems-of-care research across a distributed network.

Tulane Center for Clinical Neurosciences

The [Tulane Center for Clinical Neurosciences](#) (Center) serves as a multidisciplinary hub for clinical care and applied research focused on disorders of the brain, spine, and nervous system. The Center integrates neurosurgery, neurology, psychiatry, advanced practice providers, and specialized support staff to support coordinated care and clinical research across a broad range of neurological conditions.

Neurosurgery faculty play key roles in the Center's clinical programs and contribute to clinical research and trials activity, providing patients with access to evolving diagnostic and therapeutic approaches while supporting faculty scholarship embedded within clinical practice.

Clinical Neuroscience Research Center

The [Clinical Neuroscience Research Center \(CNRC\)](#), housed within the Tulane Center for Clinical Neurosciences, serves as a central component of Tulane University's neuroscience research infrastructure and a focal point for translational and clinical investigation. The CNRC advances research aimed at improving outcomes for patients with stroke, dementia, traumatic brain injury, and related neurological conditions by linking fundamental science with patient-centered clinical research.

The CNRC functions as an integrative structure for multidisciplinary neuroscience research across Tulane University, supporting collaboration among departments, centers, and institutes, and contributes to research training for students, residents, and fellows. Engagement with hospital partners and community-oriented research further strengthens its role in advancing neurological care and discovery.

THE CHAIR OF THE DEPARTMENT OF NEUROSURGERY

The Chair will lead a complex academic and clinical department at a pivotal moment of transition and opportunity. Reporting to the Dean of the School of Medicine, the Chair works closely with leaders across Tulane University, its primary clinical partner LCMC Health, and Ochsner Health, with whom Tulane jointly sponsors the neurosurgery residency program.

The role spans a distributed clinical and academic enterprise across multiple hospital sites and institutional partners. Priorities include stabilizing and retaining faculty, sharpening clinical focus and sub-specialization, strengthening regional referral pathways, and building on Tulane's established strengths in cerebrovascular care and its regional tele-stroke network. The position requires a leader who can operate effectively within shared governance environments and serve as a visible advocate for the department, both internally and externally.

The department includes over 31 faculty, 22 gratis faculty, and a dedicated administrative team, supported by a number of senior clinical and administrative leadership roles that advance its clinical, educational, and research missions, including:

- Vice Chair of Clinical and Translational Research
- Vice Chair of Clinical Neurosurgery, Co-Director of the Neurosurgery Spine Program, and Assistant Residency Program Director
- Medical Director of Neurosurgical Spine and Spine Fellowship Director
- Director of the Division of Endovascular Neurosurgery / Interventional Neurology
- Program Director of the Neurocritical Care Fellowship, Director of Neurocritical Care, and Director of TeleStroke

KEY OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE CHAIR OF THE DEPARTMENT OF NEUROSURGERY

Build the next phase of academic neurosurgery at Tulane

- Lead a clear and cohesive strategy that aligns clinical care, research, and education with the School of Medicine priorities and a newly evolving clinical enterprise.
- Establish a shared vision across faculty that defines programmatic focus, leadership roles, and priorities in a distributed, multi-site environment at a moment of significant institutional transition.
- Establish a clear, accountable departmental culture grounded in transparency and trust, while serving as a visible and effective advocate for neurosurgery across the School of Medicine, clinical partners, and the broader New Orleans medical community.

Lead a regionally dominant neurosurgical platform

- Direct a cohesive clinical strategy across Tulane's partnership with LCMC Health and affiliated institutions, strengthening subspecialty expertise and neurosurgery's role as a tertiary and quaternary referral resource for the Gulf South.
- Expand on established strengths in cerebrovascular care, stroke, tele stroke, and complex cranial neurosurgery while building targeted subspecialty programs aligned with clinical demand and long-term growth, including thoughtful engagement with industry partners where it supports innovation and program development.
- Partner closely with Neurology to strengthen alignment across the neurosciences, building on existing clinical and research strengths while advancing more integrated, multidisciplinary programs.
- Strengthen regional partnerships and internal operations to improve access, coordination, throughput, and patient experience, supporting sustainable growth.

Advance excellence in education and training

- Provide strategic oversight of the Tulane–Ochsner Neurosurgery Residency Program, ensuring consistent, high-quality training across clinical sites.
- Partner with Ochsner and program leadership to evolve the residency in line with advances in neurosurgical practice and the strengths of both institutions.
- Support faculty educators with clear expectations, resources, and opportunities for leadership and development.

Strengthen and scale the department's research enterprise

- Advance a pragmatic, infrastructure-enabled research strategy aligned with Tulane's institutional focus in neuroscience, including growth in clinical trials, translational research, and selective industry-sponsored studies.
- Expand focused areas of research strength to achieve national visibility, including opportunities to partner with device, data, and digital health collaborators aligned with faculty interests and clinical priorities.
- Improve clinical trials activation and execution to support greater competitiveness for extramural funding.
- Foster interdisciplinary collaboration across the School of Medicine, the Tulane Center for Clinical Neurosciences, the Clinical Neuroscience Research Center, and other university partners including the School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine, the Tulane National Primate Center, Tulane University Translational Science Institute, and the School of Science and Engineering to amplify impact and visibility.

Champion mentorship, recruitment, and faculty retention

- Build a cohesive, engaged faculty culture across sites by strengthening communication, trust, and shared purpose.
- Recruit, retain, and develop outstanding faculty by supporting academic advancement, leadership growth, and long-term career satisfaction.
- Mentor faculty and trainees while building a durable leadership pipeline for the department.

Ensure strong financial stewardship and operational alignment

- Provide responsible oversight of departmental resources, navigating complex funds-flow and shared governance arrangements with transparency and discipline.
- Advocate effectively for space, capital, staffing, and infrastructure needed to support clinical, educational, and research priorities.
- Align financial planning with long-term departmental strategy to ensure stability and flexibility in a changing health system environment.

QUALIFICATIONS AND CHARACTERISTICS

The successful candidate must hold an MD, MD/PhD, DO or comparable degree, be board-certified in Neurological Surgery, and be eligible for medical licensure in the state of Louisiana. They should possess a record of accomplishment that warrants appointment at the rank of Associate Professor or Professor in the Tulane School of Medicine. The ideal Chair will demonstrate the following qualities and characteristics:

- National or international recognition in neurological surgery

- Proven ability to develop and expand clinical programs while maintaining high standards of quality, safety, and patient-centered care.
- Progressive leadership experience in an academic medical setting with evidence of mentorship, recruitment, program design, and the highest level of patient care.
- A strong dedication to mentoring and developing junior faculty and trainees, supporting their career growth and academic advancement.
- Demonstrated success advancing departmental or institutional goals and leading multidisciplinary teams across clinical care, research, and education.
- A demonstrated ability to support, advocate for, and advance a research enterprise, including fostering external funding from federal agencies, foundations, and industry.
- Strong fiscal management skills, including experience overseeing complex budgets and aligning resources with strategic priorities.
- Outstanding communication and interpersonal skills, with the ability to engage effectively with faculty, learners, staff, patients, donors, and external partners.
- A collaborative, relationship-driven leadership style that builds trust, unity, and alignment across departments, institutions, and health system entities.
- Professionalism, judgment, high EQ, and organizational savvy, with the capacity to build strong relationships, advocate effectively for the department, and navigate a complex academic health system with integrity and ease.

NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA

Famed for its history, music, and cuisine, New Orleans is one of the world's most extraordinary cities. Iconic events such as Mardi Gras and Jazz Fest draw thousands of visitors each year, while the city's distinctive neighborhoods reflect its French, Spanish, African, and Caribbean influences. The Tulane experience is deeply interwoven with this rich cultural tapestry, and many students choose to remain in New Orleans after graduation.

Tulane has long been deeply engaged with its home city. Students, faculty, and staff contribute thousands of hours of service annually, strengthening the fabric of the New Orleans community. This shared commitment to the region attracts students and faculty across disciplines who are eager to connect scholarship with impact. Tulane also maintains a strong and enduring partnership with the State of Louisiana. The university is recognized annually during Tulane Day at the Capitol and through legislative resolutions commending its research and educational contributions. The Louisiana Legislature has consistently affirmed Tulane's role as an economic engine and innovation hub, citing its \$5.2 billion annual impact (2024), leadership in the health sciences, and commitment to advancing lifesaving research through state-supported initiatives and scholarships.

APPLICATIONS, INQUIRIES, AND NOMINATIONS

Screening of complete applications will begin immediately and continue until the search process is complete. Inquiries, nominations, referrals, and CVs with cover letters should be sent via the Isaacson, Miller website: <https://www.imsearch.com/open-searches/tulane-university-school-medicine/chair-department-neurosurgery>

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Tulane University is an equal opportunity educator and employer committed to providing an education and employment environment free of unlawful discrimination, harassment, and retaliation. Legally protected demographic classifications (such as a person's race, color, religion, age, sex, national origin, shared ancestry, disability, genetics, veteran status, or any other characteristic protected by federal, state, or local laws) are not relied upon as eligibility, selection, or participation criteria for Tulane's employment or educational programs or activities.

APPENDIX

TULANE UNIVERSITY

Tulane University traces its origins back to 1834 and today is recognized as one of the most respected educational and research institutions in the country. Tulane is known for its deeply collaborative culture and for its innovative, interdisciplinary research and educational programs that bridge disciplines across the university. It attracts exceptional students who are both intellectually curious and driven by community engagement, taking part in research at all levels of the university and providing thousands of hours of public service to the greater New Orleans community.

The university has an operating budget of just over \$1 billion and an endowment of \$2.3 billion. Tulane enrolls approximately 8,600 undergraduate and 5,200 graduate and professional students from every state in the U.S. and more than 85 nations worldwide. Tulane is the largest private employer in New Orleans with over 4,600 full-time personnel.

RESEARCH AND INNOVATION AT TULANE

Over the past decade, Tulane has experienced historic growth, investing heavily in research, innovation, and entrepreneurship. Nearly half of the \$1.5 billion raised through the *Only the Audacious* campaign (2017–2022) supported research—funding infrastructure improvements, endowed faculty positions, and Presidential Chairs. Building on this success, the next campaign, *Always the Audacious*, will drive advances in climate science, infectious diseases, brain health, healthy aging, and health equity, while expanding lab space and translational research capacity.

The University continues to make major investments in infrastructure to keep up with the extraordinary growth in research activity and the ambitions of Tulane’s faculty. This includes efforts like the [Tulane University Translational Science Institute \(TUTSI\)](#), which brings together researchers from Tulane School of Medicine, School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine, School of Science and Engineering, and School of Social Work to find better ways to diagnose, treat, and prevent disease and translate scientific discoveries into medical practices that improve patient care and public health. In 2023, longtime Tulane supporters Libby and Robert Alexander donated more than [\\$12 million to advance a university-wide data science initiative](#) with the goal of transforming teaching and research across all disciplines at Tulane and positioning the university as a leader in data pedagogy.

Tulane also supports a robust network of core facilities that enable cutting-edge investigation across disciplines. These include the [Tulane Center for Translational Research in Infection & Inflammation](#), [NextGen Sequencing Core](#), [Brain Institute Cell and Tissue Imaging Core](#), and [Tulane Transgenic Core Facility](#), among others. Additionally, the School of Medicine recently installed a new MRI machine research facility, the [Tulane Advanced Imaging Center \(TAIC\)](#), expanding the university's capabilities in neuroimaging and translational research.

Steadfast in its commitment to innovation, Tulane's downtown campus is home to the [Tulane Innovation Institute \(TUII\)](#), which acts as a combined technology and startup accelerator for faculty, researchers, staff, students, and community members. Furthering Tulane's entrepreneurial spirit is the University's dedicated investment and startup platform, [Tulane Ventures](#), which provides early-stage capital and strategic support to help translate Tulane research innovations into scalable commercial ventures that drive economic growth across New Orleans and beyond.

This document has been prepared based on the information provided by Tulane University, School of Medicine. The material presented in this leadership profile should be relied on for informational purposes only. While every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of this information, the original source documents and information provided by Tulane University, School of Medicine would supersede any conflicting information in this document.