



H. Wayne Huizenga
College of Business and Entrepreneurship

Dean, H. Wayne Huizenga College of Business and Entrepreneurship
Nova Southeastern University
Fort Lauderdale, Florida

THE SEARCH

Nova Southeastern University (NSU), a dynamic, thriving, R1 research university and the largest private research institution in Florida, seeks an entrepreneurial, thoughtful, and collaborative innovator to serve as the next dean of the H. Wayne Huizenga College of Business and Entrepreneurship (Huizenga Business College). Reporting directly to Ronald J. Chenail, Ph.D., executive vice president, provost, and chief academic officer, the dean will serve as the college's chief academic and administrative officer and will lead the college to an era of strategic growth, transformation, and national distinction.

NSU is at an important institutional inflection point while facing a dynamic shift in the field of higher education. The university is rapidly expanding its national reputation as a research-intensive, innovation-driven university with deep commitments to student success, community engagement, and economic impact. The next dean will have a significant opportunity to leverage that institutional momentum, elevating Huizenga Business College's regional and national stature while shaping a forward-looking vision for business education rooted in entrepreneurship, applied learning, partnership, and workforce relevance.

Located in South Florida's Broward County, one of the nation's fastest-growing economic and entrepreneurial hubs, Huizenga Business College benefits from proximity to thriving sectors—including healthcare, finance, tourism, analytics, fintech, real estate development, logistics, and emerging AI-enabled industries. The next dean will build upon a foundation of stable operations and a dedicated faculty to sharpen the college's market differentiation, grow strategic partnerships, and position the school as a premier destination for high-quality undergraduate, graduate, and professional business education.

The dean joins NSU at a moment of significant growth and momentum, with an opportunity to shape the future of one of the few business schools in the country that embeds entrepreneurship directly into its identity. The next dean will champion innovation, entrepreneurship, experiential learning, and AI-forward

curricular development while cultivating strong relationships with industry leaders regionally and nationally, empowering the faculty, and supporting students. The dean will engage Huizenga Business College's active alumni network and Hall of Fame to advance its highest ambitions. This leader will have the opportunity to elevate interdisciplinary collaborations across NSU, including partnerships with law, healthcare, technology, and AI-related disciplines, while also expanding the college's visibility and philanthropic support nationally and globally. With a committed faculty, strong administrative leadership, and a student-centered mission focused heavily on career advancement and professional preparation, the college is well-positioned for transformative leadership.

About the H. Wayne Huizenga College of Business and Entrepreneurship

For more than 35 years, the H. Wayne Huizenga College of Business and Entrepreneurship has been committed to innovation, creativity, and applied business education. The college serves nearly 2,000 undergraduate and graduate students and is supported by approximately 118 faculty members with strong academic and industry credentials. Huizenga Business College offers undergraduate degrees, graduate degrees, and certificates across areas including accounting, analytics, business administration, digital marketing, entrepreneurship, finance, human resource management, management, marketing, property management, public administration, and real estate development. The return on investment for a Huizenga degree is an important priority for the college, as reflected in the 94.2 percent of undergraduate students who are employed or enrolled in a graduate program within six months of graduation.

The Huizenga Business College maintains more than 178 corporate partnerships and continues to deepen relationships with employers and industry leaders throughout South Florida and beyond. The college emphasizes practical, career-oriented education designed to support both traditional students and working professionals. Experiential learning, case-based instruction, and strong corporate engagement are hallmarks of the student experience. Recent innovations include the [Huizenga Business Innovation Academy](#), which allows students to earn both a bachelor's degree and an MBA in four years, as well as the [Executives and Entrepreneurs in Residence \(EEiR\) Program](#), which brings top industry professionals to the students for small, group-coaching sessions and educational programs.

The college earned [Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business \(AACSB\)](#) accreditation in February 2023 and is now positioned to build upon that milestone through strategic program development, expanded external engagement, faculty excellence, and continued enrollment growth.

ROLE OF THE DEAN

The ideal candidate will be a strategic, entrepreneurial, and emotionally intelligent leader with a demonstrated capacity to inspire others and lead through growth and transformation. The dean will be an unorthodox thinker with novel ideas who recognizes the value of scholarship and education while also pursuing the transformation of the college's enterprise amid change in higher education. Reporting directly to [Ronald J. Chenail](#), the university's executive vice president, provost, and chief academic officer, the dean will play a critical role in elevating NSU's reputation and stature, not only in the state of Florida but nationally and globally.

KEY OPPORTUNITIES AND CHALLENGES FOR THE DEAN

Shape the Future of Business Education

The dean will articulate and execute a bold, future-focused vision that positions Huizenga Business College as a nationally recognized leader in entrepreneurship, innovation, applied learning, and workforce relevance. At a time when business schools are under increasing pressure to demonstrate clear market value, adapt to technological disruption, and prepare graduates for rapidly evolving industries, this leader will build on the college's distinctive strengths, including AACSB accreditation, our long-standing Entrepreneur and Business [Hall of Fame](#) (which connects the school to influential business leaders), and South Florida's extraordinary economic dynamism. The dean will champion academic excellence, curricular innovation, interdisciplinary collaboration, and continual improvement, sharpening the college's competitive position in one of the nation's most entrepreneurial and fast-changing markets.

Lead Innovation, Growth, and Market Distinction

The next dean will lead a compelling growth agenda that expands academic offerings, strengthens executive and professional education, increases enrollment, and positions NSU's Huizenga Business College at the leading edge of business innovation. Fort Lauderdale offers an especially powerful platform for that ambition: it has emerged as one of the fastest-growing markets for global trade, with more than 40 percent of local businesses engaged in, or supporting, international commerce, and it sits at the center of South Florida's rising "Internet Coast," a region home to more than 6,000 high-technology firms. The dean's ability to translate those market dynamics into new, distinctive programs; varied program delivery; stronger external partnerships; and AI-informed curricular innovation will be central to elevating the college's profile and extending its reach regionally, nationally, and globally.

Leverage Strengths to Integrate Innovation Across NSU

The dean will lead the college with high emotional intelligence, cultivating a transparent, collaborative, and high-performing culture that empowers faculty and staff members to thrive, innovate, and connect. This new leader will recruit, develop, and retain outstanding talent, fostering excellence in core competencies and leveraging the college's capacities and original approaches to infuse innovation across disciplines. The college is a critical connection point to NSU's professional schools and its rapidly expanding research enterprise. The dean will build a culture that values originality and experimentation, pushing faculty members to expand beyond disciplinary boundaries and to craft novel approaches to external partnerships, pedagogy, and student outcomes.

Expand Influence, Partnerships, and Economic Impact

As the college's chief ambassador, the dean will deepen relationships with alumni, donors, employers, and corporate and community partners to strengthen philanthropic support, expand experiential learning opportunities, and elevate the college's external profile. The college's Hall of Fame and [Board of Advisors](#) will provide important connections, insights, and engagement as the dean pursues new opportunities for growth and partnership. The dean will also forge interdisciplinary collaborations across NSU and help position the college as a major driver of entrepreneurship, innovation, and economic growth throughout South Florida. The university's location gives it a unique position in the global market. There are opportunities in the blue economy, tourism, healthcare, finance, and countless other industries that the dean will leverage to generate new partnerships and bring to the campus.

QUALIFICATIONS AND CHARACTERISTICS

NSU seeks a leader with substantial executive, entrepreneurial, academic, or industry experience who understands the evolving future of business education and possesses a strong commitment to student success and professional advancement.

The successful candidate will bring many of the following qualifications and characteristics:

- a record of visionary and collaborative leadership in complex organizations
- strong executive presence and exceptional interpersonal and communication skills
- demonstrated commitment to innovation, entrepreneurship, and experiential learning
- understanding of undergraduate, graduate, and professional business education
- experience leading or supporting strategic planning, program development, and operational growth
- appreciation for faculty scholarship, academic governance, and accreditation expectations
- a reputation for high emotional intelligence and strong interpersonal skills
- experience building relationships with employers, donors, and external stakeholders
- the ability to foster interdisciplinary collaboration and organizational alignment
- familiarity with AI, analytics, digital transformation, and the emerging technologies shaping business and higher education
- commitment to student outcomes, career advancement, and workforce preparation
- demonstrated effectiveness in fundraising, external engagement, or resource generation
- a transparent, service-oriented leadership style
- a record of skillful change management
- strong fiscal and operational management capabilities

Nova Southeastern University is open to candidates from both academic and industry backgrounds. A combination of education, leadership accomplishments, and demonstrated impact will be considered when evaluating qualifications.

ABOUT NOVA SOUTHEASTERN UNIVERSITY

Founded in 1964, Nova Southeastern University is a private, nonprofit Carnegie R1 research university headquartered in Fort Lauderdale, Florida. The largest private research university in the state, NSU enrolls more than 20,000 students across its undergraduate, graduate, and professional programs.

The university's colleges span business, law, healthcare, education, psychology, computing and AI, sciences, and the arts. NSU operates across 11 locations in Florida, Colorado, Nevada, and Puerto Rico and has 220,000+ alumni from all 50 U.S. states and more than 115 other countries.

NSU has emerged as a national leader in professional education, interdisciplinary collaboration, innovation, and community engagement. In addition to recently achieving Carnegie R1 status, the university also holds Carnegie designations for Community Engagement and Opportunity University status. It is 1 of only 11 U.S. universities to hold all three rankings.

The university has experienced rapid growth in research activity and institutional impact in recent years. Research expenditures have more than doubled over the last five years, and NSU continues to expand investments in healthcare, biotechnology, marine science, behavioral health, AI, data analytics, and translational research.

Under the leadership of Harry K. Moon, M.D., FACS, FRCSEd, NSU president and chief executive officer, the university is pursuing an ambitious vision centered on innovation, interdisciplinary collaboration, accelerated academic pathways, and economic development.

COMPENSATION

Compensation is competitive and commensurate with experience.

APPLICATIONS, INQUIRIES, AND NOMINATIONS

Screening of complete applications will begin immediately and continue until the completion of the search process. Inquiries, nominations, referrals, and CVs with cover letters should be sent via the Isaacson, Miller website: <https://www.imsearch.com/open-searches/nova-southeastern-university-h-wayne-huizenga-school-business-and-entrepreneurship>

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