



**Search for the Senior Associate Dean and Executive Director, Office of Research
Jacobs School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences, University at Buffalo
Buffalo, New York**

THE SEARCH

The Jacobs School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences at the University at Buffalo seeks a visionary and strategic leader to serve as the Senior Associate Dean and Executive Director, Office of Research. This is an opportunity for a proven investigator and strong communicator with administrative experience to join a vibrant academic community rapidly building its future success on a strong foundation of research, education, clinical care, and service to the diverse Western New York community. Both the University at Buffalo and the Jacobs School of Medicine have committed – with strong leadership and significant resources – to greatly expanding the research enterprise, and this new Senior Associate Dean will be a central visionary of those efforts.

The University at Buffalo (UB) is a flagship of the State of New York (SUNY) system and is its largest and most comprehensive research university. An R1 institution, UB was also among the first public universities in the Northeast, and the first SUNY school, to join the Association of American Universities (AAU) when it was admitted in 1989. The University is a major employer and economic driver regionally and across New York State. With \$200 million in federally funded research today, the University aims to double this number by FY2030; the Jacobs School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences (JSMBS or the Jacobs School) will be a primary driver of this effort. Growing impactful basic research is at the center of UB's push to join the ranks of the top 25 public research universities. UB is also in the midst of a transformational hiring initiative that will bring at least 180 new tenure-track faculty members to campus in the next two years, including many to Jacobs School. Alongside its community partners, the University at Buffalo is dedicated to reducing health inequities in the Buffalo-Niagara region and creating stronger pathways to health for all.

The recruitment of this key leadership role within the Jacobs School aligns directly with [UB's faculty hiring initiative](#). With historic investment from New York State, UB has committed to substantially grow its tenured and tenure-track faculty over the next two years in areas of great societal importance and university strength. Building on the existing strong foundation of academic excellence, the University's

long-range strategic vision is focused on pursuing academic and research excellence and expanding engagement and impact locally, nationally, and globally. A key component of this effort has been promoting and supporting collaborative, cross-disciplinary research that addresses the most critical issues, ideas, and challenges of our time. UB is also committed to harnessing its education, research, and engagement missions to combat racism, dismantle structural barriers to equality, and make the University a more inclusive place to live, learn and work.

The Senior Associate Dean/Executive Director, Office of Research (SADR) will be pivotal to the Jacobs School realizing its vision of building an impactful research program that improves the health of Western New York and the country. Given its location in downtown Buffalo, broad community support, and reputation for focusing on health equity, the Jacobs School is uniquely positioned to be a leader in solving some of the country's most challenging issues in healthcare. The new SADR will develop and execute an impactful research agenda that advances the Jacob's School's vision.

The next SADR will be a successful researcher with a history of receiving federal funding and will be able to continue their own research in this role. Regardless of their own area of expertise, the SADR will have experience working collaboratively with researchers in the basic, clinical, and translational sciences. This individual will understand the complexities of applying and managing both large individual grants and interdisciplinary, multi-investigator center awards. Along with a proven track record of setting a vision and building the infrastructure to bring it to life, the SADR will bring strong interpersonal skills focused on advancing team science and a commitment to building, working in, and fostering a diverse community of investigators. Candidates who have earned an MD, PhD, or MD/PhD and qualify for a position as a tenured faculty member at the Jacobs School are encouraged to apply.

The Jacobs School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences has retained Isaacson, Miller, a national executive search firm, to assist in the recruitment of the Senior Associate Dean/Executive Director, Office of Research. Please direct all inquiries and applications as indicated at the end of this document.

THE JACOBS SCHOOL OF MEDICINE AND BIOMEDICAL SCIENCES

Established in 1846, the Jacobs School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences is a research-intensive institution that seeks to advance research and discovery to improve health for all in Western New York and beyond. The School's multidisciplinary research advances basic and clinical science and translates those discoveries into clinical care that improves community health. With an eye to the future, the Jacobs School is increasing the number of students and trainees who pursue careers in research, biomedical science, and academic medicine.

As a part of the [University at Buffalo Academic Health Center](#), the Jacobs School sits alongside the UB Schools of Dental Medicine, Nursing, Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences, Public Health and Health Professions, and Social Work. Additionally, the School benefits from a consortium of affiliated teaching hospitals and healthcare systems that offer a wide range of clinical and training environments. The consortium includes Erie County Medical Center, Kaleida Health, Catholic Health, Roswell Park

Comprehensive Cancer Center, Great Lakes Health System, and the VA Medical Center. Researchers from JSMBS and its affiliated institutions share state-of-the-art [core instrumentation and transgenic animal facilities](#).

The UBMD Physicians' Group is the largest multi-specialty group in Western New York. With over 550 physicians across 92 specialties, UBMD provides high-quality, comprehensive care for the region's population.

The Jacobs School moved to its new building at 955 Main Street on UB's downtown campus in 2018. This state-of-the-art, LEED Gold-certified facility was designed to facilitate collaboration between physicians and researchers from UB's Clinical and Translational Research Center, the Kaleida Health Gates Vascular Institute, Roswell Park Cancer Institute, John R. Oishei Children's Hospital, Buffalo General Medical Center, and the Hauptman-Woodward Medical Research Institute. The building is also one of the largest medical education buildings in the US.

Funded by the NIH since 2015, UB's [Clinical and Translational Science Institute \(CTSI\)](#) is the hub of the Buffalo Translational Consortium (BTC). The BTC includes the leading academic, healthcare, and research institutions in Buffalo, alongside key community partners. Its vision is to perform research across the entire translational spectrum to improve health and reduce health disparities in the greater Buffalo region. Over the last eight years, the CTSI has received \$37.6 million in NIH funding; the next grant renewal is in 2024.

The [Community Health Equity Research Institute](#) is another key example of UB's commitment to eliminating health inequities. Founded on the principles of community-based participatory research, the multi-disciplinary institute engages faculty from all 12 of UB's schools. One major aim of the institute is to apply for large center grants from the NIH and other sponsors.

Under the leadership of the Vice President of Health Sciences and Dean of the Jacobs School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences, Dr. Allison Brashear, the Jacobs School started a new strategic planning process in late 2022 which has resulted in a well-defined vision for research infrastructure in the School. Expanding research of all kinds is a core goal of this new plan, alongside educational and clinical components. Additionally, the Jacobs School is committed to increasing diversity at every level, with a particular focus on recruiting faculty, staff, and students from underrepresented backgrounds.

THE SENIOR ASSOCIATE DEAN/EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF RESEARCH

In FY2022, UB set a new school record with \$200 million of federal research expenditures, up 7% from FY2021. By FY2030, the University aims to double this number to \$400 million, and the JSMBS will be a primary driver of this effort. Growing research is core to UB being a top 25 public research university. The new SADR will be key to ensuring that a comprehensive vision and infrastructure are in place to support this expansion. The SADR will work with the JSMBS research community to strengthen and streamline all

key functional areas that support individual researchers and departments; increase and enhance research activity within the School; and grow both external and internal grant funding opportunities.

Reporting to the Dean of the Jacobs School, the SADR leads the Office of Research, which includes the Director of Research Administration, Associate Dean of Research and Graduate Education, Associate Dean of Cancer Research and Integrative Oncology, and Senior Associate Dean of Research Integration. This individual will also work closely with aligned leaders across UB and the Jacobs School, including the University's Research and Economic Development Office.

KEY OPPORTUNITIES AND CHALLENGES FOR THE SENIOR ASSOCIATE DEAN/EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF RESEARCH

The successful SADR will address the following key opportunities and challenges:

Advance the Jacobs School's national and international research prominence by providing transformational and strategic leadership of the School's research enterprise.

The SADR will bring together clinical and basic science researchers and create an environment that stokes the application of lab-based discoveries to clinical practice at the front lines of patient care to improve health outcomes. In partnership with colleagues across the University, the SADR will develop both a strategic vision for where research is headed and the operational infrastructure to make it possible.

Connect researchers across disciplines and mobilize for large, interdisciplinary funding opportunities.

As a part of the University's push to expand the research enterprise, the SADR will grow the overall number of federally funded investigators and the size of their grants and increase the number of interdisciplinary, multi-investigator center awards at the Jacobs School and UB. To make this happen, the SADR will collaborate with school and departmental leadership to provide input and information related to available funding opportunities and alignment with Jacobs School faculty capabilities. This individual will also direct the communication of both internal funding and limited submission opportunities. Finally, they will promote meaningful and lasting connections between basic scientists and clinicians so that ideas flow across the entire research continuum.

Provide effective and meaningful administration of the Jacobs Schools research infrastructure.

A core component of the SADR's role is reducing barriers for investigators and their teams at every stage of the research lifecycle. This includes standardizing departmental processes and procedures, improving internal compliance practices, and ensuring all research-related data is up-to-date and accurate. As the Executive Director of the Office of Research, the SADR will lead and manage the staff team that supports faculty in submitting proposals to external sponsors and provides proposal management support (interpreting sponsor requirements, grant development, and various document management). The Office of Research will continue to streamline practices as much as possible and be a clearinghouse for

communication and technical assistance to allow researchers to focus more time and energy on innovation and less on bureaucracy.

Build and enhance partnerships across the University and the community that expand and enhance research.

As a connector and builder, the SADR will ensure the Jacobs School maintains and builds upon strong relationships with university and community stakeholders. These partnerships are at the heart of expanding the interdisciplinary research enterprise to benefit lives across the region. Key linkages include the other UB schools, clinical partners, members of the Buffalo Translational Consortium, and the Community Health Equity Research Institute. Additionally, the SADR will work closely with the University's Office of the Vice President for Research & Economic Development (VPRED), Sponsored Project Services (SPS), and the Offices of Research Advancement, Compliance, and Tech Transfer.

Work with Jacobs School and departmental leaders to attract and retain critical talent.

For the JSMBS to deepen and broaden its research enterprise, the School will need to both promote the research currently happening across campus and recruit and mentor talented new investigators. Under the auspices of UB's transformational hiring initiative that seeks to bring over 180-265 new tenure-track faculty members to campus in the next two years, including many at the Jacobs School, the SADR will work alongside school leadership to attract researchers to UB and ensure they have the tools and support to be successful. The SADR's recruitment and retention efforts will be guided by the School's planned cluster hires and a deep commitment to increasing faculty and staff diversity.

QUALIFICATIONS AND CHARACTERISTICS

The successful candidate will possess a PhD, MD, or MD/PhD, with a distinguished record of professional and scholarly accomplishments and contributions that justify an appointment as a faculty member with tenure in the Jacobs School. In addition, this individual will bring most of the following qualifications:

- Demonstrated understanding of the mission of a major research university and experience growing research in ways that support the clinical and educational missions of academic medicine.
- Awareness of and personal experience with the needs of faculty performing basic science, translational, clinical, and health services research.
- Significant current or previous federal funding, preferably from the NIH.
- Experience with sponsored funding mechanisms and federal, state, and private funding agencies' missions and expectations.
- Experience with interdisciplinary, multi-investigator center awards preferred.
- Comfort with the concepts and principles of intellectual property, research subjects' protection, disclosure of financial conflicts of interest, export controls, and other areas of research compliance.

- Thorough knowledge of state and federal research guidelines and regulations, and the ability to continuously adapt in an ever-changing research environment.
- Proficiency in utilizing academic research databases to collect, interpret, and report on research-related data, including proposals, awards, and research expenditures.
- Tactful and effective communication skills and the ability to operate in a fast-paced environment.
- Track record of working with diverse teams and constituents.
- Commitment to promoting diversity and inclusion and building pathways for underrepresented groups to engage in research.

THE UNIVERSITY AT BUFFALO

The University at Buffalo was founded in 1846 as a private medical college in downtown Buffalo and joined the SUNY network – the largest state university system in the country – in 1962. The University was named one of two SUNY flagship campuses in 2022 and is the system’s largest and most comprehensive public research university. In 1989, UB was among the first public universities in the Northeast, and the first SUNY school, to be admitted into the AAU.

UB enrolls more than 32,000 students – approximately two-thirds undergraduate and one-third graduate and professional students – and offers 450+ degree programs at the baccalaureate, master’s, professional, and doctoral levels across its [12 decanal units](#). Racially and ethnically diverse students make up 38% of the total number, while nearly a fifth – 18% - are the first in their families to go to college. UB is also a global community of scholars, ranking among the nation’s top 30 universities for the enrollment of international students in the [Open Doors census](#) for nearly two decades. International students currently represent 18% of the total enrollment at UB.

The University has a distinguished faculty of over 1,500 full-time and 970 part-time members and is home to more than 100 research centers and institutes. UB is engaged in a robust hiring initiative to continue to bring the best and brightest faculty to the University. Over the next two years, UB aims to hire 180-265 new tenure-track faculty members.

Its current annual research expenditures, including those in affiliated institutions, exceed \$422 million. The University Libraries hold more than four million volumes and provide access to an exceptionally wide array of digital information resources.

UB’s academic programs and facilities are located on three distinct campuses in the Buffalo metropolitan area. North Campus, located in the Buffalo suburb of Amherst, is the University’s main undergraduate campus and home to the University’s primary athletics and cultural facilities. Three miles to the south, on the northern edge of the City of Buffalo, is the historic South Campus, home to many of the University’s professional schools. The focal point of UB’s downtown campus center is the [Buffalo Niagara Medical Campus and the Jacobs School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences](#).

With an annual operating revenue of \$810 million, UB and its affiliated entities generate an estimated economic impact of \$2.1 billion annually in New York State. The University's total workforce of over 7,400 full-time equivalent employees makes it one of the region's largest employers. UB is also a leader and an active partner with more than 20 public and private colleges and universities in the Buffalo-Niagara region.

Building on these impactful achievements, UB is aiming to be among the nation's top 25 public research universities. UB's [Top 25 Ambition](#) is dedicated to achieving greater societal impact by enhancing the University's scholarly productivity and growing its research portfolio; providing students with innovative, research-grounded educational experiences; building upon UB's university-wide culture of equity and inclusion; and deepening the University's engagement in the region by strengthening partnerships, with the goal of contributing to positive health outcomes and economic vitality.

LEADERSHIP

Satish K. Tripathi, President

Internationally recognized as an accomplished researcher and transformative higher education leader, [Satish K. Tripathi](#) was appointed the 15th president of the University at Buffalo on April 18, 2011.

Dr. Tripathi served as UB's Provost and Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs from 2004-2011 and was one of the principal creators of UB's long-range strategic plan, which led the University to achieve significant growth in research and scholarly activity, improved the caliber and diversity of students, transformed the University's living-learning environment, and greatly expanded its international presence.

Prior to coming to UB, Dr. Tripathi served as Dean of the Bourns College of Engineering at the University of California-Riverside. Previously, he was a professor in the Department of Computer Science at the University of Maryland. Dr. Tripathi graduated from Banaras Hindu University (BHU) in India and holds a doctorate in computer science from the University of Toronto along with three master's degrees—one in computer science from the University of Toronto and two in statistics from the University of Alberta and BHU. He is also a fellow of the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers and the American Association for the Advancement of Science.

A. Scott Weber, Provost and Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs

As Provost and Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs, [A. Scott Weber](#) serves as the University's Chief Academic Officer, responsible for leading the development and implementation of the University's academic vision.

A member of UB's faculty since 1983, Dr. Weber is an innovative scholar and teacher and former chair of UB's Department of Civil, Structural, and Environmental Engineering. He has held progressively responsible administrative roles at UB, including Senior Vice Provost for Academic Affairs and Vice President for Student Life.

Dr. Weber's research focuses on biodegradation of chemicals in water and soil and the reclamation of environmentally impacted sites known as brownfields. He earned bachelor's and master's of science degrees in civil engineering from Virginia Tech and a PhD in civil engineering from the University of California, Davis.

Allison Brashear, Vice President for Health Sciences and Dean, Jacobs School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences

[Allison Brashear, MD, MBA](#) is the Vice President for Health Sciences and Dean of the Jacobs School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences. As Dean, she oversees more than 913 faculty and staff, 2,079 students, 845 trainees in graduate medical education, and 27 departments and 25 centers within the Jacobs School. As Vice President for Health Sciences, she has administrative responsibility for the other four schools within UB's Academic Health Center: Dental Medicine, Nursing, Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences, and Public Health and Health Professions.

Dr. Brashear is an internationally known neurologist and researcher in movement disorders. Before joining UB, Dr. Brashear was Dean of the UC Davis School of Medicine and Chair of Neurology at Wake Forest School of Medicine.

She earned her medical degree and did her neurology residency at Indiana University School of Medicine. Dr. Brashear has an MBA from the Fuqua School of Business at Duke University and completed the Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC) Council of Deans fellowship in 2014 and the Executive Leadership Program in Academic Medicine (ELAM) in 2007.

Dr. Brashear is a trustee to the McKnight Brain Research Foundation and Vice Chair of the American Board of Psychiatry and Neurology Board of Directors, the organization responsible for board accreditation for psychiatrists and neurologists. She was recently elected to the AAMC Council of Deans Administrative Board. While at UC Davis, she served on the California Institute for Regenerative Medicine's Independent Citizens' Oversight Committee. Additionally, she has served on the boards of the American Neurological Association and the American Academy of Neurology, where she was instrumental in crafting a leadership program for women.

The State University of New York (SUNY)

The State University of New York is the nation's largest and most comprehensive state university system, consisting of 64 campuses, including major research universities, health science centers, comprehensive and technical colleges, and community colleges, all committed to providing a broad range of outstanding academic programs for students within New York and from around the world. It enrolls more than 394,000 students annually, employs more than 67,000 faculty and staff, and connects more than three million alumni around the world.

The Buffalo-Niagara Region

Home to one of the nation's fastest-growing populations of college graduates, the [Buffalo-Niagara region](#), with 1.2 million residents, is the state's second-largest major metropolitan area after New York City. Buffalo's strong sense of community, easy lifestyle, and affordability regularly place it on top ten lists from a variety of national publications for its overall quality of life.

UB has played a central role in the creation of the strong, sustainable knowledge economy and thriving entrepreneurial culture that are driving Buffalo's revitalization. Exemplified and driven by the centrally located Buffalo Niagara Medical Campus, UB's Jacobs School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences, and the New York State Center of Excellence in Bioinformatics and Life Sciences, Buffalo is experiencing a period of tremendous progress and momentum, as well as unprecedented regional investments in the industries of the future and in the assets that ensure a satisfying quality of life for all its citizens.

Land Acknowledgement

UB acknowledges that our campuses operate on land that is the traditional territory of the Seneca Nation, a member of the Haudenosaunee Confederacy, and the region remains the home of the Haudenosaunee people. Further, we responsibly acknowledge the continuing impact of settler colonialism on the Haudenosaunee and their territories.

Our scholarly community values Indigenous cultures, histories, traditions, knowledge systems, and political entities and deeply appreciates the important role of Indigenous people in the history, the present, and the future of our region, this country, and the world.

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 for the search: <https://www.imsearch.com/open-searches/university-buffalo/senior-associate-deanexecutive-director-office-research>. Electronic submission of materials is strongly encouraged.

Natalie Leonhard, Caitlin Barrett, and Kendra Moleé
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The University at Buffalo is an equal opportunity/affirmative action employer dedicated to the goal of building a culturally diverse and pluralistic university community committed to teaching and working in a multicultural environment. Potential applicants who share this goal, including veterans and individuals with disabilities, are encouraged to apply.